

# Greening the Hazon Bike Ride

At every step of planning and designing the Ride, a great deal of thought and effort by the Steering Committee has gone into devising ways to limit the environmental impact of 230 riders and crew gathering in the countryside for an intensive four-day event.

We have taken many steps to minimize our “carbon footprint” – that is, the amount of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases (GHGs) that are created by the Ride. We have transported as many participants as possible by mass transit: buses, trains, and car pools. And by limiting meat meals to free-range, sustainably raised animals, we minimize adding to the huge contribution of industrial meat production to global scorching and environmental degradation.

Our goal is to make the Ride a “carbon-neutral” event, whereby we offset the global-scorching impact of the greenhouse gases it unavoidably produces by financially supporting actions that eliminate the production of an equal amount of GHGs elsewhere.

In other measures to make the ride more sustainable, we have followed the environmentalists’ maxim of “Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.” We have also added a fourth component: “Reinvent.”

## REDUCE

- By working with the Kinder Ring staff we have reduced waste in the dining hall by eliminating individual packets of sugar, butter, and condiments, as well as other disposables.
- Using locally grown produce, we reduce the impact of wasteful transportation.
- We have shrunk the number of pages in the rider pack by 12-16 pages, the size and reduced the number of copies we print. This page is one example of what we have taken out of the program book. We have posted the participant **bios on-line** for you to read.
- While we want to make sure we have enough of the best food for you during the Ride we are working with the kitchen to reduce food waste.
- This year instead of printing t-shirts for everyone, we are embodying the Do-It-Yourself spirit to allow you to print your own shirt. Bring a solid cotton t-shirt (American Apparel has the organic ones everyone

loves) to the ride. We will provide the stencil and ink for you to print your own t-shirt.

- We are able to reduce our waste stream by composting kitchen scraps. The crew that moves your luggage will bring our kitchen waste to Eden Village Camp.
- Knowing that you already have a water bottle for your bike, some of you more than one, we will not be creating a special water bottle for the ride this year.

## REUSE

- We encourage you to bring your own travel mug and refillable water bottles to use during the retreat and the ride, eliminating disposable drinking cups.
- We no longer produce special crew shirts this year, but instead we purchased reusable crew vests, that will make our crew recognizable and safe and will be used for many years to come.
- We have organized a jersey share for participants to give their cycling clothes to riders who need them.
- All signage is mounted on Chloroplast which we reuse every year.
- We marked the route using stencils made from plastic cutting boards allowing us to reuse them each year.

## RECYCLE

- We recycle all glass, plastic, and metal containers that we cannot otherwise eliminate. You will see recycling bins in the dining hall, throughout the camp, and at the rest stops along the ride route.
- All publications related to the ride are printed on 100% recycled paper.
- All safety cones are made out of biodegradable material.

## REINVENT

- TerraCycle will convert our used wrappers into unique accessories and other up-cycled products, such as backpacks and tote bags.

## Do your part:

- Conserve water.
- Take only the food you will eat.
- Return your name tag and we will reuse it.