



# The Green Bike Tour News

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***For Immediate Release — Friday, Sept. 21, 2007***

## **Solar-Powered Bicyclists to Show Off Renewables**

MOUNT VERNON, Iowa (Sept. 21, 2007) — Next stop: a sustainable energy future. And that means visits to Waterloo, Cedar Falls and Waverly.

Renewable-energy enthusiasts will ride bicycles in those areas Saturday, with stops at clean-energy facilities and college campuses, to illustrate how the Midwest can benefit from such technology.

“We can’t wait to talk to people about this. There is such passion and understanding for this issue now — we’ve seen a lot of movement since our first Green Bike Tour in 1999,” said David Osterberg, executive director of the nonpartisan Iowa Policy Project (IPP).

“This is a more geographically focused Tour than we’ve done in the past. But there’s a lot happening in northeast Iowa, and a lot of interest,” added Osterberg, who has led five previous Green Bike Tours, including one in Europe in 2002. The others have been in the Midwest, often multistate events.

“Our goal has remained constant: to help people understand that global climate change is real, that renewable energy strategies can help us cope with it, that small businesses and farmers can make money doing so, and that public policy plays a role,” said Tom Cook, professor in occupational and environmental health at the University of Iowa.

Riders in Saturday’s Tour will include farmers, elected officials, energy producers, and renewable energy policy activists. Andrew Snow, regional representative of the Sierra Club, said his environmental organization is proud to be a part of the 2007 Green Bike Tour.

“The tour has highlighted the innovation of Iowans and the creation of a renewable energy future,” Snow said.

### **Green Bike Tour 2007**

**Saturday, Sept. 22: Waterloo to Waverly**

**8 a.m.:** Hawkeye Community College  
Kickoff event with speakers.

**10 a.m.:** Arrive at UNI-CEEE  
Speakers: potential for more renewable energy on UNI campus; global warming; wind power in Iowa.

**Afternoon:** Arrive at Waverly Light & Power  
Discuss activities at WLP

**2 p.m.:** Arrive at Wartburg College  
Report on new community wind turbine; rally for renewable energy.

**For updates, visit:**

[www.greenbiketour.blogspot.com](http://www.greenbiketour.blogspot.com)  
or [www.greenbike.org](http://www.greenbike.org)

An innovative element in every Green Bike Tour has been the inclusion of solar-powered bicycles. Solar panels affixed to the bikes charge a battery for an electric motor that powers a bicycle up hills. Also part of this Tour is the University of Iowa's solar-powered racing bike, ridden by engineering student Scott Nielsen.

"The solar bike has been a fun part of our Tours, but it does illustrate that there are many practical uses of renewable energy," Cook said.

The tour begins Saturday at 8 a.m. at Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo and winds up at 2 p.m. at Wartburg College in Waverly. The schedule and the actual route of the tour are below. Material also is available on the web at [www.greenbiketour.blogspot.com](http://www.greenbiketour.blogspot.com).

For more information, call the IPP office at (319) 338-0773, or email Kristi Lohmeier at [klohmeier@iowapolicyproject.org](mailto:klohmeier@iowapolicyproject.org).

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### **Official Route:**

#### **From Hawkeye Community College to UNI – Center on Environmental and Energy Education (CEEE)**

- We will begin at the Hess Road Trail leaving Hawkeye Community College
- Traveling west on Shalius Road we will hook up with the Shalius Road Trail
- At the intersection of Shalius Road, Sergeant Road and Cedar Prairie Trails we will head on the Cedar Prairie Trail, which winds around the Cedar Valley Youth Soccer Complex then follows Highway 58 past the Green Hill Trail.
- We will travel west on University Avenue at the intersection of College and University on UNI's campus.

#### **From CEEE to Finchford**

- We will pick up the Hudson Road Trail in front of the UNI Dome and follow that north to the 12th Street Trail, where we will head west to Union Road (T75).
- At Union Road (T75) we will head north until Winslow Road, which will take us west into Finchford (water/snack break).

#### **From Finchford to Shellrock**

- At Finchford, we will head north out of town on (C55) until we hit W. Marquis Road.
- We continue on W Marquis Road as it changes to 280th Street and will turn right, heading north on (T63).
- At Butler Center Road (C45) we will head north east towards Shellrock to the Kwikstar in town for a water/snack break.

#### **From Shellrock to Waverly**

- Head out of town on (T63) turning east on (C33) past Isle of the Saints. We will head south into town using (T77) which turns into 12th Street in Waverly.
- Once we are in Waverly, we will take 5th Avenue NW east to 1st St NW — Waverly Light and Power.
- Then continue down 1st NW on to Wartburg College.

### **Sponsors of the 2007 Green Bike Tour**

The Iowa Policy Project — Center for Environmental and Energy Education, UNI — Environmental Health Sciences Research Center, U of Iowa — Bike Iowa — Bike Tech — Europa — Waverly Light and Power — Sierra Club, Iowa Chapter — Hawkeye Community College — Wartburg College — Fred and Charlotte Hubbell Foundation — Raddish