



Green Bike Tour Kicks Off in Waterloo, Iowa

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At 10:30 yesterday morning, a group of cyclists gathered in Waterloo, Iowa's Washington Park to begin a week-long tour of the upper Midwest in support of renewable energy. Over the week, the Green Bike Tour will make stops in five states at universities, environmental education centers, wind farms, and LEED-certified buildings. Riders hope to spread the word throughout this region of the country that renewable energy makes sense for the Midwestern environment and economy:

“The Green Bike Tour gives us an opportunity to highlight solutions that will move the Midwest into a new energy economy,” said David Osterberg of the nonpartisan [Iowa Policy Project](#) (IPP), which has researched the economic potential of renewable energy.

“There are plenty of people demonstrating how they can securely produce energy and save money,” Osterberg said.

A schedule of tour stops is available on [the event's blog](#); riders will also publish daily posts about their progress and experiences. In addition to promoting renewable generation and pointing out installations around the region, the cyclists will also demonstrate the use of solar power by attaching panels to their bikes to help with uphill rides or to play music.

This is the fourth Green Bike Tour; others took place in 1999, 2002, and 2004. This year's tour is sponsored by The [Iowa Policy Project](#), the University of Iowa's Environmental Health Sciences Research Center, [Fresh Energy](#), [The League of Rural Voters](#), and The Fred & Charlotte Hubbell Foundation. [.:The Green Bike Tour](#)