



DELAWARE BICYCLE COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER



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Bicycle-Friendly Rumble Strips on SR1

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DelDOT has installed 11.5 miles of bicycle-friendly rumble strips throughout a 17-mile corridor from just south of Dewey Beach to just north of Fenwick Island. While the department has installed rumble strips in other locations that warrant it, these are the first bicycle-friendly rumble strips installed in Delaware. The type of rumble strip installed is what is recognized nationally as bicycle-friendly, due to the unique mix of vehicle traffic as well as cyclist and pedestrian use. A typical rumble strip is 12 inches from the edge of the white shoulder line, 1/2 inches deep and 16 inches wide. These rumble strips will be 8 inches from the white line, 3/8ths inches deep and 12 inches wide. Also, these rumble strips have 10-foot gaps every 30 feet to allow cyclists to more easily traverse the roadway. This design gives more room for cyclists along the shoulders while not sacrificing safety. Rumble strips are not appropriate in developed areas of this corridor because it would require too many breaks for driveways, intersections, and other entrances.



Map showing placement of Rumble Strips on SR1

DelDOT's review of this corridor indicates that of the 179 crashes between January 2004 and December 2006, 60 were Run-Off-The-Road crashes, resulting in one fatality. However, nine of 60 crashes involved a vehicle striking a cyclist that was outside the travel lane. Not included in the above statistics was a July 2007 crash one mile north of the Indian River Inlet Bridge where a motorist apparently fell asleep, drifted onto the shoulder and struck and killed a cyclist.

When it became clear rumble strips were appropriate for this corridor, DelDOT immediately reached out to the cycling community – including the Delaware Bicycle Council and Sussex Cyclists – for input. The result is a design that is functional without compromising safety.

Delaware Bicycle Council's Website has a new look! Check it out at:

www.bike.deldot.gov

Check back often!

If you are interested in submitting an article for the newsletter, Contact:

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Bicycle Recycle Program by Anthony Aglio

2008 is shaping up to be a great year for the Transportation Management Association's Summer Bicycle Recycle Program! Due to TMA Delaware and DeIDOT staff, there were about 80 bicycle's collected this winter. Of those collected, some were scrap, some were repaired by Sussex Cyclists and DeIDOT staff, and others were sent to Bethany Cyclists for repairs. Mike Herrmann and his staff does a great job repairing the bikes for us in a timely fashion! The plan is to get the bicycles back on the road in May. Roger Roy, the Executive Director of TMA Delaware, says "Last year almost 100 bicycles were collected and recycled back to the public. We hope to top that number this year." The program is certainly off to a great start!



Anthony Aglio, DeIDOT's Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator, picking up refurbished bikes from Mike Herrmann at Bethany Cycle.

Doug's Column

- Cost for gas per gallon to drive car anywhere:
\$3.30
- Cost for gas per gallon to drive bicycle:
\$0.00
- Creating a cleaner, greener Delaware:
PRICELESS

As the price of petroleum continues to climb it almost seems we are just accepting this as we continue to drive our cars and produce more emissions. Have we forgotten the simple things...that before the automobile...there was the bicycle? Taking the bicycle instead of the car could be the little thing that goes a long way to helping our environment, while also improving our health.

Now, I realize this won't work for everyone....for some it is not possible to commute to and from work because the distance between home and work is too great. And to all the riders who already commute, my hat is off to you! But there are more of you out there who don't choose the bike instead of the car because it sounds impossible...think again....it might be difficult to ride those 10 or 15 miles at first...but in the long run, it will benefit your health and the environment.

To all the drivers out there who see a commuter in the mornings as you pass by, remember they are helping you and your family by reducing emissions for a cleaner, greener Delaware. The Delaware Bicycle Council is pleased to announce that we will be recognizing Delawareans who are giving "Green Power" back to its citizens. Our website will have details and sign-up information soon for a rider recognition award to be given in December 2008.

Whether you are an avid road rider or the trail blazer or a casual rider strolling along the beach...we all enjoy the sport...and we want you to be safe. Our number one priority is safety and education for our state and to be advocates for all cyclists. We need to be aware of your questions in order to respond to your concerns. So we invite all groups, advocates, clubs and teams to our bi-monthly meetings to bring topics and concerns to our attention. We can then discuss them and direct them to the attention of the appropriate channels towards a resolution on a local, state or legislative level. Remember, **The Delaware Bicycle Council is here for YOU.**



Doug Mills
Chair , DBC



Urban Bike Project by Sarah Green

Keep your eyes open for bikes in the city! Urban Bike Project is a new presence in Wilmington dedicated to getting more people on bikes and providing resources for cyclists. These resources include weekly open workshops, which provide the tools and mechanical expertise to help members of the public learn how to maintain their own bicycle. And for those who do not have a bike of their own, UBP has a large fleet of used bicycles, available to be fixed up and made new. By teaching basic maintenance skills and re-using discarded bicycles and parts, UBP aims to create a community that is more self-sufficient in transportation. Located at 1908 N. Market Street (entrance around back), UBP now has a large shop space which will soon host two workshops per week. Visit our website at www.urbanbikeproject.org for more information!



UBP now has a new shop on N. Market Street will be opening on March 8th, 2008

Winterthur Banning Bikes on Premises by Amy Wilburn



Winterthur, an American country estate museum and 60-acre naturalistic garden.

Winterthur, the former home of Francis Henry Du Pont, is now a museum transporting visitors to life on an Eighteenth Century country estate. During 2007, Winterthur began to enforce a ban on bicycles from the entire property. Because bicycles are classified as vehicles under Delaware law and are utilized for transportation, it is of concern that Winterthur prohibits cyclists from using the roads and parking lots available to other visitors. Bike Delaware, with support from representatives of the Delaware bicycling community, is undertaking a campaign to reverse this ban, and hopes to work with Winterthur to develop a policy that is mutually satisfactory. Because Winterthur is a valuable local resource located along a major bike route, the ultimate goal is to build an alliance that will benefit all parties and promote bike tourism for years to come. If you would like to lend your support in this cause, please contact Bikedelaware@gmail.com for more information.

Safe Routes to School Program Update by Sarah Coakley

Exciting movement has taken place over the past few months in the Delaware Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program. Four individual elementary schools in New Castle and Kent counties, and Seaford School District in Sussex County, are participating in the program and have active SRTS committees.

Several initiatives are bicycle oriented. Nellie Hughes Stokes Elementary received SRTS funding for a new, secure bike rack as well as a Bicycle Rodeo event planned for May 2008. The school also has a student safety patrol that assists pedestrians and bicyclists traveling to and from the Newell's Creek subdivision. Clayton Elementary School has identified a long-term need for a multi-use path on the west side of School Lane, to provide bicycling facilities for those living in the Wheatley's Pond neighborhood.



Safe Routes to School programs make it safe, convenient and fun for kids to walk and bike to school.



March

March Schedule of Events

- **3/2,3/9,3/16,3/23,3/30**— Two rides leaving from Handloff Park on the corner of Casho Mill & Barksdale Rd at 10:00am for a somewhat hilly ride.
- **3/8/08**— Tour the Octoraro Valley on this 52 or so mile ride leaving from the Elementary School in Unionville at 8:30am.
- **3/9/08**—Leave White Clay Creek SP at 9:00am. Need a mountain bike or cyclocross bike, not a hybrid to bike on mostly off-road trails. Travel to 2 parks in DE, 1 in PA and 1 in MD.
- **3/15/08**—Leave Paper Mill Park at 8:00am for a 60-65 mile, rolling to hilly ride at 14 mph.
- **3/22/08**— Leave Paper Mill Park at 8:00am to find Easter Eggs; 14mph.
- **3/29/08**—Choose either 22,31, or 62 mile rides covering moderately hilly terrain. Starts at 7:30am at the Hollingsworth parking Lot, UD. Pre-registration required.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 <i>Icicle Warm-up III</i>	3	4	5	6	7	8 <i>Octoraro Valley Ride</i>
9 <i>Four Parks in Three States Ride</i>	10	11	12	13	14	15 <i>Ides of March Break-fast ride</i>
16 <i>Icicle warm-up V</i>	17	18	19	20	21	22 <i>Hunting for Easter Eggs</i>
23 <i>Icicle warm-up VI</i>	24	25	26	27	28	29 <i>WCBC Icicle Metric Century</i>
30 <i>Icicle Cool Down</i>	31					

For more information on these events, check out www.whiteclaybicycleclub.org

April

April Schedule of Events

- **4/19/08**— Safe Kids Day 10-2pm at Bellevue State Park.
- **4/19/08**—Ocean to Bay Bike Tour 20, 30, or 50 mile route, starting at the Bethany/Fenwick Chamber of Commerce. Pre-registration required Bethany-Fenwick.org
- **4/26/08**—10-2pm at Blue Ball Barn, Alapocas State Park. Bike ride on the greenway trails in the area.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 <i>Ocean – Bay Bike Tour</i>
						20 <i>Safe Kids Day</i>
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 <i>Go Green @ Blue Ball Barn</i>
27	28	29	30	31		

Dates to Remember!

- ⇒ Crankin' for a Cure (MS) 5/3
- ⇒ Bike Week 5/12 – 5/18
- ⇒ Legislators Ride May 14, 2008
- ⇒ Ride Silence May 14, 2008

Don't forget to keep checking our Calendar page on the website for upcoming events:
www.bike.deldot.gov

