



TREE Fund Announces 2009 Tour des Trees Route

by Laura Wyatt, TREE Fund Liaison

Since its inception seventeen years ago, Tour des Trees has become the signature fundraising event of the Tree Research & Education Endowment Fund (TREE Fund) raising over \$3.5 million since 1992. It has become known for its fun-loving, supportive group of men and women of all ages and professions who enjoy road biking, great scenery, and making a difference in the future health and beauty of community trees.

The 2009 Tour des Trees promises to be nothing less than spectacular beginning with a public tree planting ceremony send-off from New York City's Central Park on

July 19, followed by five days of some of the best cycling through six northeastern states and culminating at the ISA annual conference host city of Providence, Rhode Island. A special "challenge ride" is offered to those riders wanting to venture into a seventh state of Maine. Visit the Tour des Trees website to view a map of the tour route and learn more about the event, <http://www.tourdestrees.org/>.

Over the years, Dick Rideout has served as the "Team Wisconsin" anchor and for some years as our only rider. Dick, with the support of hundreds of Wisconsin

arborists, has raised thousands of dollars for tree research. In 2008, "Team Wisconsin" raised over \$14,200! If you like cycling and want to ride with a purpose, consider joining "Team Wisconsin" for the 2009 Tour des Trees, July 19-25. Each rider commits to raising \$3,500, but don't let this be a barrier to your participation. "Team Wisconsin" has plenty of experience and support in making this goal achievable. For more information contact Dick Rideout at Richard.Rideout@wisconsin.gov or 608-267-0843.