

PLEDGE FORM

Please turn in all monies collected (cash, or checks made out to DESK) on ride day at time of registration. Copies of this form may be made.

Cyclist's Name Address Group affiliation (optional)

Sponsor's Name Address Amount collected

Total: _____



RIDE THE 1ST ANNUAL
BICYCLE LEG
OF

**THE RIDE TO
END HUNGER**

SUNDAY SEPT. 13, 2009

A CHARITY RIDE FOR THE
DOWNTOWN EVENING SOUP
KITCHEN

SPONSORED BY B.P.O.E. LODGE
#25, NEW HAVEN

THE NEED

In 2008, the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen served over 100,000 free daily evening meals, gave away 24,199 bags of groceries at our weekly pantry, and handed out 8,700 bag lunches for the working poor. In 2009, the economic downturn has increased our cost of business and decreased funding resources, at the same time the number of guests accessing all of our food programs continues to rise.

THE THEME

In 2008 DESK launched a “green campaign” towards making our operations more sustainable. We're recycling packaging waste generated at the kitchen, setting aside vegetable waste for composters, and have switched entirely to plastic trays and tumblers after investing in a dishwasher system with ecologically-friendly detergent. DESK has always had a unique commitment to basing evening menus around fresh, organic ingredients with the help of our chef, Jeanne May.

THE RIDE

In celebration of the Green Campaign, DESK is organizing a special **bicycles-only leg of our annual Ride to End Hunger**. Bicyclists will join motorcyclists at the event start for registration (**Sports Haven**, 600 Long Wharf Dr.), but head off on their own ride featuring some of New Haven's finest green spaces along city-endorsed cycling routes.

We'll cruise alongside the **Quinnipiac River** all the way to **Dover Beach**, wind our way past **trail heads** through the base of **East Rock Park**, take a left at the **canoe launch** down the **bicycle lane** on Orange St., tour through the leafy St. Ronan Street/Yale Divinity School neighborhood (and past the **dog park** there), and then continue past a group of **community gardens** into the entrance of New Haven's stretch of the **Farmington Canal Trail**.

After completing the canal trail, we'll head on back to the **Elks Lodge** (524 State St.) and join the entire group--motorcyclists, bicyclists, and supporters--for the **BBQ lunch (free for all registered riders, with cash bar; \$10 for other guests)**.

The entire ride--including a brief rest stop--should take about 70-90 minutes...just long enough to work up an appetite, but still accessible to novice riders. If you've never explored New Haven by bike before, this will be a great introduction to urban cycling via the safety and fun of a group ride.

HOW TO JOIN US

Register on the day of the ride at Sports Haven from 9am to 11am (music by Sounds Unlimited, and FREE coffee and donuts!). Ride starts at 11am.

Entry Fee: \$25 for single rider, \$35 for double rider (tandems and child seats). Entry fee includes \$10 BBQ lunch with music and raffle.

Please consider collecting ride pledges of \$5 and up to donate at the time of registration (see back). This is a great way to raise donations for a critical New Haven lifeline.

PARKING

Cyclists who arrive by car will have the option of either parking at the route start at Sports Haven (600 Long Wharf Dr.), or just yards away from our finish point at the **AT&T parking lot** (State and Grove Sts.). Cyclists who park at AT&T can guide themselves down the **Vision Trail cycling route** (see our website for map) to Sports Haven in time for registration, or **arrive at AT&T by 10am to cycle down with a group**.

For more information:

<http://www.ridetoendhunger.com>