

TreeWheelin' Austin 2009 Bicycle Tour

October 24, 2009

Advanced Route -- 40 miles

Intermediate Option -- 14 miles

Map Key

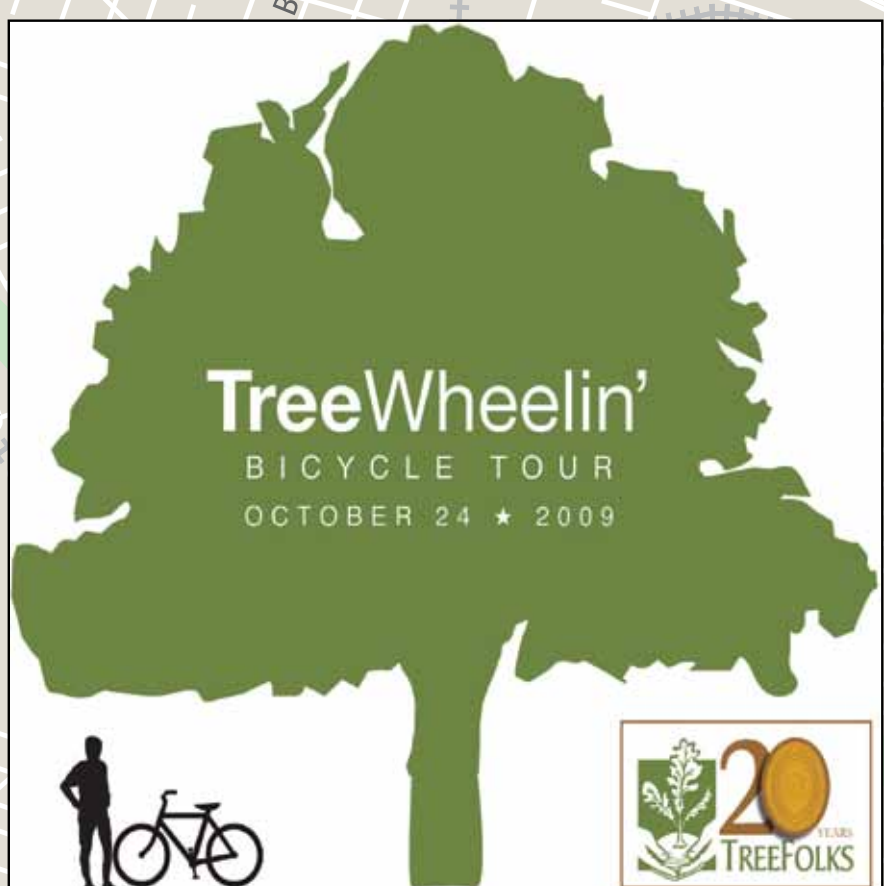
- Advanced/Intermediate Routes
- Intermediate Cut-Off Option
- Off-street paths/trails
- Featured Trees (see key below)
- Schools
- Points of Interest

scale 0 .25 .5 miles

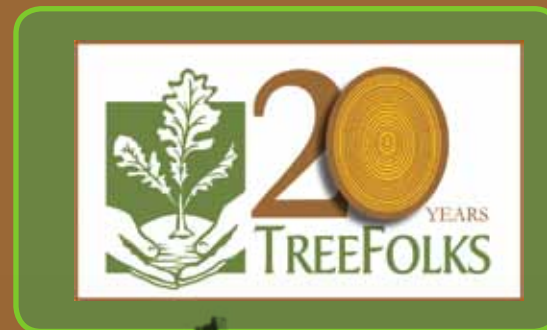


TreeWheelin' Austin – 2009 Bicycle Tour Key to Trees

1 2019 Encino Circle.....Advanced Live Oak	16 South Bank of Lady Bird Lake.....Advanced, Intermediate Cypress	31 4300 Speedway St.....All routes Pecan
2 1302 Nueces Street.....Intermediate, Bunny Live Oak	17 503 Baylor Street.....Advanced, Intermediate Treaty Oak	32 1621 West 5th St (George).....Advanced Live Oak
3 1303 Lorrain Street.....Advanced, Intermediate Live Oak	18 2800 Hancock Drive.....Advanced Live Oak	33 Lou Neff Point (Zilker Park).....Advanced, Intermediate Cypress
4 2815 Wooldridge Drive.....All routes Live Oak	19 1206 Garner Avenue.....Advanced Live Oak	34 4400 Avenue G (Shipe Park).....All routes Live Oak
5 2810 Oak Springs Drive.....Advanced Live Oak	20 2201 W 1st Street (American Legion).....Advanced, Intermediate Live Oak	35 2613 South Lamar Live Oak "The Hanging Tree"
6 4808 Shoalwood Avenue.....Advanced Live Oak	21 Corner of W 9 1/2 Street & Blanco Street.....Advanced, Intermediate Live Oak	36 4400 Avenue H (Elisabet Ney Museum).....All routes Post Oaks
7 1001 Garner Avenue.....Advanced Live Oak	22 611 West 5th Street (behind Citibank).....Advanced, Intermediate Live Oak	37 St. Edward's University Main Building.....Advanced Soren Oak
8 2203 Delcrest Drive.....Advanced Live Oak	23 501 Bastrop Highway.....Advanced "Gateway Oaks" Grove of Live Oaks	38 800 Montopolis.....Advanced "Kissing Trees"
9 1112 W 31st Street (St. Andrews School).....All routes Live Oak	24 1100 Shady Lane (in Govalle Park).....Advanced Pecan	39 1500 Summit St.....Advanced World's Largest Shin Oak
10 903 Jessie Street.....Advanced Live Oak	25 303 W Johanna St (Boys and Girls Club).....Advanced 2 Live Oaks	40 South End of Pease Park Persimmon "Tree of the Year"
11 1004 Garner Avenue.....Advanced Live Oak	26 W 4th St & San Antonio (Republic Square).....Advanced, Intermediate Auction Oak	41 1601 Navasota Street (Oakwood Cemetery).....Advanced Pecan "Governor Hogg"
12 3014 Washington Square.....Advanced, Intermediate Post Oak	27 Bolm Road Retention Pond.....Advanced Burr Oak	42 West Side of Shoal Creek Path.....All routes Seider's Oaks
13 514 Fort McGruder Lane.....Advanced Live Oak	28 Littlefield House (UT Campus).....All routes Deodar Cedar	
14 2201 Post Road.....Advanced Live Oak "Tree House Tree"	29 SE Corner of W. 24th & Guadalupe St.....All routes Battle Oaks	
15 South Bank of Lady Bird Lake.....Advanced, Intermediate Cottonwood	30 4001 North Lamar (Central Market Pond).....Intermediate, Bunny Live Oak "Tree of the Year"	



Austin TreeWheelin' Bicycle Tour



Austin's Tree of the Year Award (ATYA) recognizes outstanding trees within the city limits of Austin. This recognition of beautiful, healthy trees provides Austinites with examples of the benefits of proper tree selection, care and placement. Pictured above, the Escarpment Live Oak, located at Central Park (3900 Guadalupe St.), was one of the 2008 ATYA winners. This magnificent tree, with furrowed bark and tapered acorns, grows up to 50-feet tall with branches sweeping up to 150-feet wide. A remarkably hardy native tree, it can measure its lifetime in centuries, if properly nurtured. To view the 2009 ATYA winners, go to www.ci.austin.tx.us/treeoftheyear/awards.htm.



TreeFolks History

For over 20 years, TreeFolks, Inc., Central Texas' non-profit urban forestry organization, has provided trees, tools, publications and expertise toward our goal of growing the urban forest. For information about how we can help you keep Austin shady, visit us at www.treefolks.org.

Tree Tour History

The first Tree Tour, held in 1976, featured over 30 of Austin's largest trees nominated by citizens around Austin. These trees were inducted into the Bicentennial Registry of Trees and were graced with bicentennial plaques, many of which remain today.



The Tree Tour of Austin was inspired by Margret Hofmann's "Think Trees" week, an event that began when she challenged the removal of an ancient Live Oak for a single parking space on South First Street in 1973. These activities earned her the nickname of "The Tree Lady" and a seat on the City Council for her environmental advocacy.

Today, over 30 years later, the Tree Tour celebrates the significant contribution that trees make to the health and well being of our communities, as well as recognizing the impact our transportation choices make on the livability of our city.

Tree Benefits

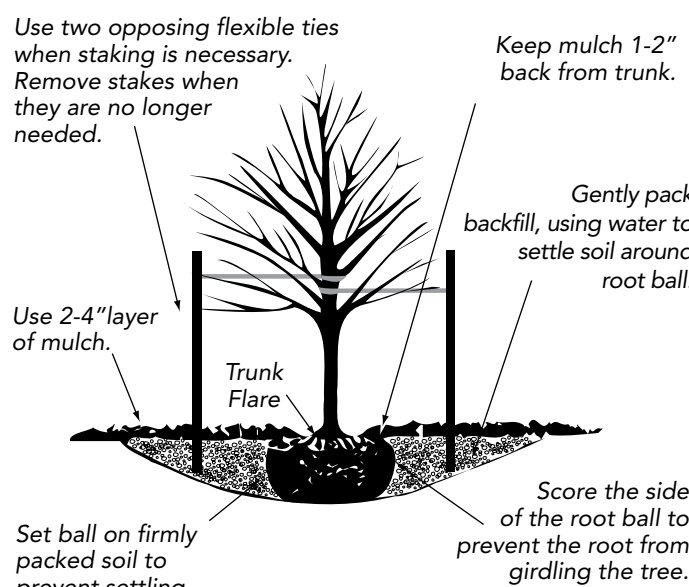
- Trees are our biggest defense against the heat, providing shade and absorbing solar energy. It is estimated that Austin is losing as many as nine trees for every one planted.
- Trees cool the air by evaporating moisture through their leaves. Daytime air temperatures can be three to six degrees cooler in tree-shaded neighborhoods.
- Trees shading the south and west sides of a building block the summer sun and reduce the amount of heat absorbed.
- Air conditioning units in a tree-shaded area are more efficient, using up to 10 percent less electricity.
- Trees clean pollutants from the air and water, offer flood protection, reduce soil erosion and provide food for wildlife and people.

How to Plant a Tree

- Dig a hole that is two to five times wider and no deeper than the root ball. Roughen the soil about eight inches around the edges of the hole.
- Plant just as deep and no deeper than the root ball. The place on the tree where the trunk flares into the roots should be partially visible when the tree is planted.
- While still in the container, place the tree in the hole. Work the container gently away from the root ball and loosen any bound roots.
- With the tree sitting up straight, backfill the hole halfway with the original soil and then drip water into it while tamping down the soil. Repeat once more until hole is filled.

How to Care for Trees

- Regular watering is the single most important factor in the success of new trees. Whether native or drought-tolerant, new trees need about one inch of water per week for about two years. Be careful not to drown the roots; they need air as well as water to grow.
 - Use two opposing flexible ties when staking is necessary. Remove stakes when they are no longer needed.
 - Keep mulch 1-2" back from trunk.
 - Gently pack backfill, using water to settle soil around root ball.
 - Use 2-4" layer of mulch.
 - Trunk Flare
 - Set ball on firmly packed soil to prevent settling.
 - Score the side of the root ball to prevent the root from girdling the tree.
- Watering slowly by hand gives you a great opportunity to monitor your trees for problems such as disease, insects and broken or dead limbs.
- Try this watering method:* Place the end of the hose at the edge of the tree canopy drip line and allow it to trickle slowly for about half an hour. This allows the water to soak deep into the roots. Be sure to set the timer for 30 minutes so you remember to stop watering.



- Maintain a 2 to 4 inch mulch layer within the tree's planting area to provide a natural source of nutrients, cool the soil and conserve moisture. Check the thickness of the mulch mid-summer and renew it as needed. Keep mulch away from the trunk to avoid potential rotting of the bark.
- Build a simple cage out of stakes and wire fencing to protect young trees from grazing deer and bark-damaging weed eaters and place educational signage to caution children about playing on fragile limbs.

What is a Carbon Footprint?



A carbon footprint has nothing to do with your shoe size. It does, however, have to do with the print you leave on the environment. A "carbon footprint" describes the net amount of carbon dioxide an individual or household emits over a year. This takes into account all aspects of your lifestyle, including emissions from energy and water use, waste, transportation and food.

Carbon dioxide is one of the greenhouse gases which are harmful pollutants to the environment. Its emissions have the most powerful impact on climate change. Reducing the amount of these emissions will help slow the progression of climate change in most cases. You can help reduce carbon emissions by driving more fuel-efficient vehicles or using energy-efficient household appliances.

To learn more about what you can do to reduce your carbon footprint, visit www.CoolAustin.org.

BICYCLE SAFETY TIPS

- OBEDY TRAFFIC SIGNS AND SIGNALS**
Bicycles must be driven like other vehicles, by law, and if bicyclists are to be taken seriously by motorists.
- NEVER RIDE WITH HEADPHONES; WEAR A HELMET**
Always wear a helmet. Never wear headphones while riding a bike.
- NEVER RIDE AGAINST TRAFFIC**
Motorists aren't looking for bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road. State law and common sense require that bicycles are driven like other vehicles.
- HAND SIGNALS**
Hand signals tell motorists and pedestrians what you intend to do. Signal as a matter of law, of courtesy, and of self-protection.
- DON'T WEAVE BETWEEN PARKED CARS**
Don't ride out to the curb between parked cars unless they are far apart. Motorists may not see you when you try to move back into traffic.
- RIDE IN MIDDLE OF LANE IN SLOW TRAFFIC**
Get in the middle of the lane at busy intersections and whenever you are moving at the same speed as traffic.
- FOLLOW LANE MARKINGS**
Don't turn left from the right lane. Don't go straight in a lane marked "right-turn only."
- DON'T PASS ON THE RIGHT**
Motorists may not look for or see a bicycle passing on the right. Learn to scan the road behind you while riding. Look back over your shoulder without swerving to the left, or use a rear view mirror.
- MAKE EYE CONTACT WITH DRIVERS**
Assume that other drivers don't see you until you are sure that they do. Eye contact is important with any driver who might pose a threat to your safety.
- SCAN THE ROAD BEHIND**
Learn to look back over your shoulder without losing your balance or swerving. Some riders use rear-view mirrors.
- AVOID ROAD HAZARDS**
Watch out for parallel-slat sewer grates, gravel, ice or debris. Cross railroad tracks at right angles.
- CHOOSE THE BEST WAY TO TURN LEFT**
There are two ways to make a left turn. (1) Like an auto: signal, move into the left turn lane and turn left. (2) Like a pedestrian: ride straight to the far-side crosswalk. Walk your bike across.
- KEEP BOTH HANDS READY TO BRAKE**
You may not stop in time if you brake one-handed. Allow extra distance for stopping in the rain, since brakes are less efficient when wet.
- USE LIGHTS AT NIGHT**
The law requires a white headlight (visible from at least 500 feet ahead) and a red rear reflector or taillight (visible up to 300 feet from behind).
- DRESS APPROPRIATELY**
In rain wear a poncho or waterproof suit. Dress in layers to adjust to temperature changes. Wear a helmet. Wear bright colored clothing to be more visible to motorists.
- KEEP BIKE IN GOOD REPAIR**
Adjust your bike to fit you and keep it working properly. Check brakes and tires regularly. Routine maintenance is simple and you can learn to do it yourself.

Riding Tips for Beginners

- Avoid busy roads. Use lesser traveled residential streets whenever possible. Take a bit of extra time and enjoy the ride!
- Watch for turning automobiles. A vehicle turning left across your path may not see you. Be prepared to stop. A vehicle slowing to turn right should never be passed on the right. After checking traffic behind you and signaling, you may pass on the left. Never pass a bus on the right as you may collide with passengers getting off the bus.
- When riding near parked cars, be aware that car doors can suddenly open in front of you. Ride far enough away from parked cars that an open door won't be a problem.

- When riding on a two-lane road, be aware of traffic backing up behind you and allow it to pass whenever possible.
- Be considerate to right-turning motorists when stopped at an intersection by leaving them room to make their turn, especially if it is possible to make a right turn on red. This means getting over to the left side of the lane when going straight.

- Let pedestrians and other cyclists know you are passing them with an audible warning before you pass. Pedestrians always have the right-of-way.

- Use both hands when driving your bicycle. This will give you more balance and control and will allow you to squeeze both brakes evenly for smooth safe stopping.

- Try to select the lowest gear so your feet can spin smoothly, while maintaining pressure on your pedals. This will reduce strain on your knees.

- When riding at night, a front white light that projects at least 500 feet and a red rear reflector are required by law. However, using a red rear light and reflective clothing are also important to remain visible on the roadway.

- It is illegal to ride a bicycle on a sidewalk downtown and in the UT campus area. If you choose to ride on a sidewalk in other areas of the city, ride with traffic. This enables motor vehicle drivers to see you (and not hit you)! Take extreme care at driveways and intersections when riding on a sidewalk.

- Bicycles are considered vehicles and have the same rights and responsibilities as other users of the roadway. Ride with traffic. Obey traffic signs and signals. Let other users of the roadway know your intentions by using hand signals, checking over your shoulder when changing lanes and communicating with your voice when passing pedestrians or other cyclists.

12 Basic Cycling Essentials

- Helmet (ANSI and/or Snell approved)
- Water bottle & cage
- Tire pump
- Compact first aid kit
- Detailed map of the area
- Light & reflectors (for night riding)
- Gloves
- Lock
- Spare tube, patch kit and tire levers
- Tools specific to your bike
- Cell phone or change for a phone call
- Energy replacement food



Sponsors of

