



Ride for the Reserve
FALL FARM BIKE TOUR
Sept. 30, 2018 9:00 am
Lunch Served at Kingsbury Orchard
BROUGHT TO YOU BY
MONTGOMERY COUNTRYSIDE
ALLIANCE

MoCoAlliance.org

Working to Protect Farmland and Open Space

Dear Riders for the Reserve,

On behalf of everyone at Montgomery Countryside Alliance and all of our partners, we thank you for registering for the September 30, 2018, Ride for the Reserve Bike Tour. Kingsbury's Orchard, Rocklands Farm and Winery, RB Savage and Sons Market and St. Paul's Community Church generously open their grounds to hosting this wonderful event this year. The proceeds all benefit the Montgomery Countryside Alliance's work to Preserve the Reserve and keep it as a cyclist's paradise for generations to come.

We have attempted to cover all possible FAQs in this memo. Please take a few moments to read it. Some items will be familiar to experienced riders, but not all, so please at least skim the entire list. If you still have questions -> kristina@mocoalliance.org.

Safety Alert – The weather looks gorgeous for Sunday and we are doing test rides to check all routes – BUT! With all the rain there may be standing water or gravel at the bottom of hills, please use caution – besides, the scenery is worth slowing down for.

PARKING, REGISTRATION, AND CHECK-IN

All rides start from the Poolesville Golf Course, 16601 West Willard Rd, Poolesville, MD 20837- (approximately one mile past Poolesville High School on West Willard Road). There will be parking attendants to assist. (Note: The picnic is five miles from the parking at the end.) The Registration Table will open **at 8:30 a.m.**

A WRISTBAND IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE PICNIC

Check in at the Registration Table at the Golf course Parking area to pick up your Wristband for the Picnic and to partake in the well-stocked Rest Stop at Rockland's Farm and RB Savage & Sons Market.

You are welcome to change your route from what you registered for – just let our registration volunteers know. You are encouraged to start your ride at the suggested ride start time in order to get to the picnic on time, but you are welcome to start earlier. The picnic runs from 12 noon till 4 p.m.

- 58 miles - 9:00 AM (All farm stops)
- 40 miles - 10:00 AM (All Farm Stops)
- 26 miles- 10:30 AM (Stop at Rocklands Farm; Kingsbury's Orchard; slightly less hilly than 28-miler and does not include Sugarloaf Mountain).
- 28 miles - 10:30 AM (Sugarloaf view, Savage Farm; Kingsbury's)
- 18 miles- 11:00 AM (No rest stop, but the picnic is at mile 13.)
- 10 miles: 11:00 AM (this route start and ends at the golf course, and includes a stop at HISTORIC St. Paul's Church, where you can learn about the history of the Sugarland community of freed slaves. After your ride, you will drive from the Golf Course to the picnic at Kingsbury's Orchard).

THE RIDES

We have designed these routes to avoid heavy traffic. The majority of your tour will be on lightly traveled, rural roads. All routes have a mile or two where traffic is slightly heavier, such as Route 28 and Comus Road where it approaches Sugarloaf Mountain, but even there, the traffic is not overwhelming. There are no bike paths or trails on these routes.

The terrain is neither extremely hilly nor extremely flat. It is best described as rolling. Most routes have a few short, but strenuous hills. You'll get a workout no matter which route you choose. New riders: there's no shame in taking frequent breaks or walking when you need to. Just get rolling a little earlier if you feel the need to.

Cue sheets with detailed routes will be provided at the Registration Table. [You can download the cue sheets and GPS files in advance. They can be found here. There are no signs and only minimal spraypainted marks.](#)

ROCKLANDS WINERY AND MARKET REST STOP: 9:30 - noon

The 58, 40 and 26-mile route stop at Rocklands Farm, providing breakfast snack items, fruit, as well as Gatorade. We encourage you to check out Rocklands Winery and Farm Market and consider purchasing eggs, meat, produce and award winning wine from the market. Your purchases which will be transported to the Golf Course parking area.

RB SAVAGE & SONS MARKET 11:00-1:30

A lightly stocked rest stop with water, a few snacks and a great opportunity to check out this wonderful market full of local products and a freezer full of wonderful meats.

KINGSBURY ORCHARD PICNIC 12:00 to 4:00

YOU MUST PICK UP YOUR PICNIC WRISTBAND AT REGISTRATION

Enjoy talented local bluegrass artists, Peace Run, while dining on delicious sandwiches (including vegetarian options), salads, lemonade, iced tea, and apple cider from [Geppetto Catering](#)

DO PURCHASE FRESH PRODUCE, WINE and MEAT AT THE FARMS!

We invite you to shop at Rocklands Farm, RB Savage & Sons Market, and Kingsbury's Orchard. You'll find a delicious cornucopia of fresh produce, jams and honey, fresh meats, award winning wine and even the Halloween pumpkin for your doorstep. Volunteers will deliver your purchases back to Poolesville Golf Course at intervals, the first being delivered there at noon. Please bring cash or credit cards.

WEATHER

The forecast looks great but in case of rain, we'll have the picnic in the covered area at Kingsbury Farm at noon. If necessary, we will send you a status update by Sunday morning and will also post a note on the mca website, www.mocoalliance.org.

RIDER BEHAVIOR

*We'll be sharing the road with local residents as well as farm customers. Stay aware of motorists at all times. The default position for cyclists riding in groups is single file.

*Bicyclists are expected to obey the same traffic laws as motorists. Do it. The police have been known to ticket cyclists in this area for running stop signs.

*Do not cross the center line into the oncoming lane under any circumstances.

*Bicycles can startle horses. Before passing a horse and rider, slow down and ask if it's okay to pass.

*Be mindful of the fact that drivers pulling horse trailers cannot stop abruptly. There's a one-ton animal in there! If you find yourself in a match-up with a trailer on a one-lane bridge, let the horse trailer go first.

SAG

We also have four SAG (support and gear) vehicles in case you need a ride or assistance. Drivers' numbers will be printed on the cue sheets. But they are:

Cathy Hall - 301-538-4262 Tom Hartsock 301-253-9528

Jim O'Connell - 301-775-0860

Kristina Bostick - 301-602-4013

MECHANICAL SUPPORT

[Bike Doctor of Frederick](#) will be at the ride start if you need help with minor fixes and last-minute adjustments. Rest stops will not have the ability to fix bikes. Call SAG if mechanical problems arise.

WHAT TO BRING

Please leave your animals at home. These venues are working farms that do not allow dogs.

Please test your bike to see if it's fit for a tour before the ride. You might consider taking it to your local bike shop in advance. Regardless, please show up with a bike that not only fits you, but is fit to be ridden. Please also bring a spare tube, a pump or CO2 cartridge and water bottles. **Helmets are required.** Aside for assistance at the golf course, there will be no one to fix your bike at any of the rest stops or at the picnic.

Please carry ID and the phone number of at least one person we can contact should you have an accident. And if an accident occurs, please call 911, and then notify the Montgomery Countryside Alliance's staff: Caroline Taylor 301-461-9831, or Kristina Bostick, 301-602-4013. Have a safe and happy Farm Tour!

Please bring cash or credit cards to purchase from the Farms, as we hope to support them!

All routes also include one or more country markets where you can replenish if needed. Bring some pocket money to buy food and refreshments just in case. Thanks so much!

THE AG RESERVE

You will be biking in Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve. Protected by statute in 1980, the Ag Reserve is home to more than 500 working farms, including our four hosts, [Kingsbury's Orchard](#), [Rocklands Farm](#), [RB Savage & Sons Market](#), and [St. Paul's Community Church](#). All six routes offer quiet roads, beautiful open spaces and minimal development. While riding, keep in mind that there is, in fact, enormous pressure to develop in this cycling paradise, regardless of the statute. Montgomery Countryside Alliance advocates tirelessly for maintaining the rural character of the Ag Reserve, and fights against recurring threats such as having a highway bisecting this beautiful open space. When you have a moment, please learn more by visiting www.mocoalliance.org.

Thanks again!

The Ride for the Reserve Team and Montgomery Countryside Alliance

