

THE 3RD BOW TIE RIDE* JOINS

Sunday, October 5th 2008



Organized by the Cambridge Bicycle Committee
 RIDE INFO: www.cambridgebikes.org

At noon, the Bow Tie Ride will stop for the kickoff festivities for the: **Minuteman Bikeway Celebration: Rail-Trail Hall of Fame**



meet: 10:15^{AM} Cambridge Common
 start: 10:30^{AM} ride starts (on the dot)
 end: Cambridge Common

ride length: 14.5 miles
 ride time: about 2.5 hours (with stops)



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★ The Minuteman Bikeway passes through the historic area where the American Revolution began in April 1775. Today, the Minuteman Bikeway is one of the most popular and successful rail-trails in the United States, enjoyed for both healthy recreation and transportation. The bikeway has become a new type of "Main Street" where neighbors and strangers alike come together while riding, walking, or skating on the path.

★ In 2008, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy inducted the Minuteman Bikeway into the national Rail-Trail Hall of Fame.

Built by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on an inactive railroad, the Minuteman Bikeway has become a treasured regional resource, used by local residents and visitors from near and far.

Connecting to the Alewife "T" Station in Cambridge, the bikeway provides an easy way for bicyclists and pedestrians to travel to subway and bus lines, serving to reduce automobile traffic in the area.

The bikeway is collectively managed and maintained by the four communities it passes through: Bedford, Lexington, Arlington, and Cambridge.

Minuteman Milestones!

1775	American Revolution started along the historic corridor where Minuteman Bikeway passes today.
1846	Railroad built, providing both passenger and freight service.
1974	Concept first proposed to convert the rail corridor to a commuter bicycle path.
1977	Regular passenger rail service ended.
1981	Rail service discontinued.
1991	Final plan for rail-trail conversion approved, and construction started on Minuteman Bikeway.
1992	Minuteman Bikeway officially dedicated and named the 500th rail-trail in USA (by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy)
1993	Bikeway construction completed.
1994	Bikeway honored for Urban Design Excellence, Boston Society of Architects.
1998	Bikeway extended from East Arlington to Alewife Station in Cambridge.
2000	Minuteman Bikeway recognized as a Millennium Trail by the White House and Rails-to-Trails Conservancy. (The Millennium Trails program recognizes, promotes, and supports trails as a means to preserve open space, interpret history and culture, and enhance community recreation and tourism.)
2002	Minuteman Bikeway website launched. Bikeway entirely repaved in Arlington.
2003	Minuteman Bikeway named "Trail of the Month" by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) in April. Bikeway tour hosted for attendees of RTC's national conference in June.
2004	Bedford Depot Park enhancement project completed at the west terminus of the Minuteman Bikeway.
2006	More than 1,350 rail-trails now developed across USA, with even more coming soon!
2008	Minuteman Bikeway inducted into the national Rail-Trail Hall of Fame

Bikeway information from www.minutemanbikeway.org



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