



Tour des Trees Ride Guide

Volume 4, Issue 2

APRIL 2020



Welcome!

We are so glad you are joining us for the 2020 Tour des Trees. This monthly e-newsletter contains Tour updates and highlights what you need to know as you prepare for your ride.

Checking In

Typically this month I would publish the arrival logistics for the Tour des Trees, but given the amount of uncertainty regarding our ability to travel currently, I thought I would speak to some broader issues. But just know, yes our Denver/Aurora [hotel](#) is going to extend our event rate 3 days prior to the Tour so you can arrive early to acclimate, and yes you will be able to ship your bike to the hotel. Details for all of this will follow soon, but for now...

I have been delaying my contribution to the Ride Guide this month in hope that the delay would give me greater insight and clarity into our current environment and how that may affect the Tour. Well, I am sorry to say that the delay hasn't revealed very much insight. There are however some positive trends coming from countries affected earlier than us, like [Germany](#), and most states Stay at Home orders seem to be working to reduce the [Rt](#) values (R_t is the effective reproduction rate). And for the Tour specifically, Colorado's R_t has been hovering around 1 for the past two weeks, so this trend is good news for the state and us. Those trends coupled with some of the southern states loosening their Stay at Home stances, should provide us with that visibility we are all seeking so we can move forward with planning our futures, including Tour des Trees—*Rollin' the Rockies!*

Surreal ("marked by the intense irrational reality of a dream" says Merriam-Webster), is one of most frequent thoughts or words running through my brain these days. An article I read recently summed it up well "The surreal part, I think, comes when you're thrown into a situation that you've never been in before. It's extremely disorienting," said psychiatrist Fredrick Matzner. We humans, after all, are built to look for patterns. right now, many of the patterns we know and love have been obliterated. We can't go to happy hour, we can't get toilet paper when we want it, we can't plan our annual trip. "My wife said this to me just a couple of days ago: 'It's like there's no future,' What she meant was we can't plan for the future, because in the age of the coronavirus, we don't know what we'll be doing in six months, or even tomorrow. We're stuck in a new kind of everlasting present. And so everything seems completely otherworldly," Matzner says. The upending of our normal lives also obliterated the routines "Our routine is the scaffolding of life," says Adrienne Heinz, a clinical research psychologist at the Veterans Affairs National Center for PTSD. Heinz continued, "It's how we organize information and our time. And without it, we can feel really lost."

Checking In cont.

So we hope and put our faith in science and our leaders. As I mentioned above there are positive trends and countless very smart and committed people dedicated to helping put our worlds back together. And just maybe we'll come out the other side with a greater appreciation for the value of all lives, a better understanding of just how tenuous the lives of so many of our fellow beings are and hopefully this forced slower pace will give us a renewed sense of value for time spent with those we love.

Another very positive note, is that the Tour des France was recently rescheduled to take place beginning in late August and maybe more importantly for us, the **Colorado Classic** which is scheduled to be conducted during the same time as the Tour de Trees, over some of the same roads we will be using, is moving forward as planned. So I'd say if these two large multi-day cycling events are confident enough to move forward then I'm banking we will be able to do so too!

I'll end with this. Here is one of my favorite sources of "news" these days - John Krasinski's **Some Good News**.

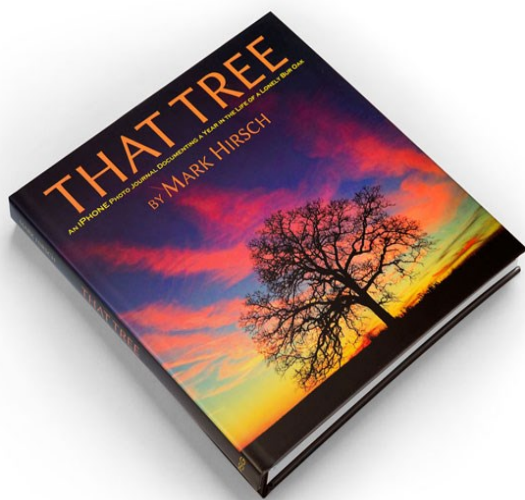
I hope that you and your families are safe and have all that they need.

Please feel free to reach out to me, I would love to hear from you. I am here to answer your questions about the Tour and to be a friend through these challenging times!



Ride On!
Paul Wood - Tour Director

A Fundraising Opportunity in Honor of Arbor Day and Spring!



We have decided to extend the most exciting fundraising promotion of the year!

Have you heard of **That Tree**: a photo compilation of a year in the life of a Bur oak tree by Mark Hirsch? Well we have great news!

For every donation of \$50 or greater between April 15 through May 15, you and your donors will be entered into a drawing to each win a copy of That Tree, signed by (and donated by) Mark Hirsch himself!

Easy enough, right? Happy fundraising!

EXTENDED!





Welcome First-Time Riders!

Please help us in welcoming the following first-time Tour des Trees riders who have registered so far:

Lance Anderson, UT
Tami Byler-Geer, TX
Al De Reu, IL
Cyrus DeVeres, UT
Konstanze Fabian, CO
Clayton Geer, TX
Mino Griego, TX
Jen Grimes, CO
Peter Harrington, CO
Korey Lofy, CO

Laura Rich, OH
Dough Schoch, CO
Jacob Seletsky, MA
Donald Staruk, MA
Roland Sweeney, CA
Kevin Tierney, CO
Timothy Walsh, OH
Lisa Williams, CO
Theresa Wolanin, OH
Keil Zornow, IL



**Tour des Trees to Benefit
 Tree Research and Education Endowment
 (TREE) Fund**

552 S. Washington Street
 Suite 109
 Naperville, IL 60540

Phone: 630-369-8300 ext. 204
 Email: mharthoorn@treefund.org

Cultivating Innovation

Get more Tour des Trees information at
treefund.org/tourdestrees



Fundraising Minimums Due
 Mon., Aug. 17

Opening Check-In and Dinner
 Sat., Aug. 29
 (mandatory)

Ride Dates
 Sun., Aug. 30 - Thurs., Sept. 3

Closing Breakfast and Bike Shipping
 Fri., Sept. 4

TREE FUND IS A 501(C)3 NONPROFIT WHOSE MISSION IS TO SUPPORT SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY AND
 DISSEMINATION OF NEW KNOWLEDGE IN THE FIELDS OF ARBORICULTURE AND URBAN FORESTRY



CHECKLIST



Order your jersey
before July 5th.



Set up your fundraising
page.



Make travel
arrangements.



Join a team.



Join the Facebook
Event page.



Join the Strava Club.



Fundraising minimums
due August 17th.

