



Algona RAGBRAI® announces campground details

Housing volunteer forms available online

The Algona RAGBRAI® committee announced campground information for registered riders who will be participating in the annual bike ride and spending the night in Algona on July 24. Housing volunteers are also being recruited for both yard camping and home stays.

According to Dustin Trunkhill, a campground co-chair for the Algona RAGBRAI committee, the main campground will be hosted at Algona High School, with additional campgrounds at Bishop Garrigan High School, the Algona Family YMCA and the Kossuth County Fairgrounds.

"There is no fee for the campgrounds, but all campers must be registered riders," said Trunkhill. "Each campground will have extra showers and restrooms available for campers. The main campground is primarily for riders utilizing the RAGBRAI luggage service, and will be available on a first come, first serve basis."

Trunkhill said the campground committee is currently working with charters and bike teams to place groups in additional camping spaces around the community.

Meanwhile co-chairs Mike and Anne Nerison are looking for volunteers to house or provide tenting space for riders and support teams. Housing volunteer forms are available online at www.algonaragbrai.org as well as in paper form at the Algona Chamber of Commerce office.

"Hosting a RAGBRAI rider is a great way to get involved with this event, in a smaller and more personal way," Anne Nerison said. "Riders don't expect much beyond a place to pitch a tent, use of your bathroom or shower and maybe some advice on where to go while they're in town."

Housing volunteers may choose to provide tent space or bed space, depending on their preferences. The housing form allows volunteers to be clear about what is and isn't allowed while guests are in and around their home.

"Many riders are just looking for a quiet, clean place to rest up for the night day's ride," Nerison said. "It's a fun experience to host a rider."

With an estimated 20,000 people taking part in RAGBRAI as either riders or support staff, finding a place to put everyone is always a challenge.

"Managing this many people is a challenge, but with careful planning and help from members of the community we know we can make the overnight visit a success," Trunkhill said.

For more RAGBRAI news and updates, visit www.algonaragbrai.org or follow Algona RAGBRAI on Facebook and Twitter.