

The Roots Pursuit – The Most Non Serious Bicycle Event of the Season

Korrine Rothrock, event coordinator

COEUR D'ALENE, ID. – Since 2011, The Roots Pursuit bicycle event has brought cycling madness, environmental awareness, and 12 lively challenges to downtown Coeur d'Alene. In the most non-serious bike event of the season, two or three person teams start from the Shared Harvest Community Garden and pedal to one of four “hubs”, where they have to complete physical, mental, and/or creative challenges and get to the next hub. Points are awarded based on team performance and completion within a two-hour time limit...and the creativity of your costume, optional. But don't sweat it. This is a fairly laid back event – unless you're fiercely competitive! Just bring a bicycle, some teammates, and a willingness to have some fun!

The Roots Pursuit bicycle event will take place on Sunday, June 5th, from 10AM – 12PM. After the race an awards ceremony and after party will continue until 2PM with New Belgium brews, Bare Culture kombucha, Lucid Roots craft salads, DOMA coffee, and Sweet Peaks ice cream. On-site screen printing will also be available by the Traveling T. Pre-register your team to ensure a spot in the race by calling (208) 660-6033. More information about the event can be found at <https://kealliance.givezooks.com/events/roots-pursuit-16>

“I think it is healthy to have a good laugh at yourself every now and again,” says Roots Pursuit Coordinator, Korrine Rothrock. “The Roots Pursuit is a family friendly event designed to lighten people up, recruit volunteers for the Local Food Share program, and raise a few bucks for a good cause.”

The Roots Pursuit benefits the Community Roots Local Food Share, a program of the Kootenai Environmental Alliance. Throughout the summer Local Food Share volunteers collect surplus produce from backyard gardeners and growers at the farmers market using bicycle carts. The program then invites food assistance facility representatives to a market-style pickup location at the Roots processing shed located at the Shared Harvest Community Garden. (1004 E. Foster Ave.) There, facility representatives have an opportunity to choose which fresh fruits and vegetables they would like to incorporate into their weekly free meal programs. Any leftovers are delivered to local food banks or are utilized in food preservation classes. So far the program has distributed over 50,000 lbs. of produce for local food assistance facilities.

“Our market-style pickup option creates a tailored food donation and helps ensure that more of the fresh food is being utilized by facilities,” says Local Food Share Coordinator Chandra Paton. “Plus, it connects volunteers and facilities with the places and faces where food is being grown.”

Running from July 6th until Oct., gardeners are invited to donate their surplus harvest to the Local Food Share every Wed. evening from 5:30—7:30PM at the Shared Harvest Community Garden located at 1004 East Foster Ave downtown Cd'A. Facilities that would like to receive donations of fresh produce, can either come pick up at the market or contact Chandra directly at chandra.iona@gmail.com.