



**Westchester Emergency Communications Association**  
PO Box 831, Sleepy Hollow, NY 10509-0831  
<http://www.weca.org>

## **Press Release**

### **WECA rolls with Westchester Cycle Club for 2008 Golden Apple Bike Tour.**

Westchester Cycle Club (WCC) calls on Westchester Emergency Communications Association (WECA) to assist with communications for this year's 2008 Golden Apple. This is WECA's fifth year assisting WCC with this event. WECA's Amateur radio operators will deploy across the 25, 50, 75, 100, and 125 mile routes in scenic Westchester and Putnam Counties to maintain communications; along the route, at rest stops, and chase vehicles, that are used to assist the approximately one thousand riders that turn out for this event. Beginning and ending at Goldens Bridge Railroad Station, this year's event kicks off at 7:00am on Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup>.

The WECA Amateur Radio operators, also known as Hams or Ham radio operators, are all volunteers belonging to Westchester Emergency Communication Association with approximately 150 active members from Westchester and the surrounding area. Throughout the year WECA members volunteer to assist with events like this one. The WECA Hams use these events as "training" missions to help polish their communication skills, and to experiment with new equipment and technologies. WECA members also feel pride in supporting the WCC's Golden Apple event that benefits "Friends of Karen" a local charity for terminally ill children. (See [www.westchestercycleclub.org](http://www.westchestercycleclub.org) for more details on their event).

Will Austen, WECA's Publicity Director, said "We use events like this as training in case we are called on for a real emergency. In the past our members have assisted Westchester County Government with communications during severe weather emergencies like Hurricane Floyd. We also have assisted the Westchester Red Cross with their events and our members were deployed with them on 9/11. We try to do what ever we can to help."

Robert Kantor, WECA's Public Service Director, will be available to answer any questions about this event and he will be at the Goldens Bridge Railroad Station from 6:30am till the event concludes. Robert Kantor can also be reached at 914-949-4231.

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For further information please contact Will Austen by email at [n2uxj@weca.org](mailto:n2uxj@weca.org) or call 914-762-8161