

For Immediate Release
September 22, 2020

Annual AthSav 2020 Bike Ride Coming to Washington & Johnson Counties

Athens to Savannah bike ride to shine light on rural communities.

Warthen, Sandersville, Tennille, Harrison, Donovan, Wrightsville & Kite, GA—

September 21, 2020 — The Athens to Savannah Bike Ride (AthSav) is an annual fundraiser designed to raise support and awareness for the construction of the Georgia Hi-Lo Trail. The proposed trail, when built and connected to the Firefly Trail, will be the longest paved multi-use trail in America at 250-miles. The AthSav 2020 Ride, which will take place on October 23rd and 24th, will also offer a virtual component this year. Both experiences will closely align with the Firefly Trail (Athens to Union Point, 39 miles) and planned Georgia Hi-Lo Trail (Union Point to Savannah, 211 miles).

The 2020 AthSav Ride will come through Washington & Johnson Counties. Riding through Warthen, Sandersville & stopping on downtown Tennille on the afternoon of Friday, October 23rd, with the completion of 101 miles in one day from Athens to Tennille. The Washington County Chamber of Commerce will host the group for dinner on the patio of the historic Tennille Depot. Cyclists will overnight in Sandersville before starting their next day riding 134 miles from downtown Tennille to the coast. On Saturday, October 24th riders will ride through Harrison, Donovan & arrive in Wrightsville around 9am where they will be welcomed by the mayor and community at the historic Wrightsville & Tennille Railroad Depot for refreshments before continuing their bicycle journey to Kite and beyond.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the AthSav 2020 Bike Ride has limited in-person participants to 50. In-person participants will be responsible for fundraising \$378.00. There is no fundraising requirement for virtual riders. Virtual riders will also get to explore the towns along the route through short, memorable videos that offer a local's perspective.

When a rider participates virtually, they have the flexibility of deciding when they want to participate, how much mileage they want to cover, and if they want to run, walk, or bike. Riders can participate in their living room while touring over 230 miles of beautiful rural Georgia. Each time a participant completes the mileage it would take to get to each town, these videos will be released to them. This provides the rider with incentive and also provides the town with the exposure it deserves. The following towns and counties will be highlighted during the ride:

- Athens
- Winterville
- Sparta
- Washington County
- Wrightsville
- Statesboro
- Effingham County
- Savannah

At the end of the 2020 ride, videos will be released for each town, county, and the state to help promote our rural communities and the Georgia Hi-Lo Trail ecosystem. The Georgia Hi-Lo Trail takes pride in igniting opportunities among rural communities in health and connectivity.

The importance of a healthy and thriving community is more evident than ever in the current times. Creating a safe space for Georgians to use for recreation will help develop a strong local population of empowered people with diverse interests. Participation in this fundraiser will

help ensure the project stays on track to benefit rural communities and their citizens for decades to come.

Thanks to those in Washington & Johnson Counties already committed to be Champion or Corporate Sponsors of the Georgia Hi-Lo Trail and Athens to Savannah Ride:

B-H Transfer, Burgess Pigment, Citizens Bank, George D. Warthen Bank, Howard Sheppard, Inc., City of Wrightsville, Bulk Chemical Services, the Development Authority of Washington County and the Washington County Chamber of Commerce.

For general and sponsorship information:

Contact: Mary Charles Howard

Phone: 706-338-8054

E-mail: hello@GeorgiaHiLo.com

For more information on the AthSav Ride 2020 visit:

Website: www.my.georgiahilo.com/ride

Support the Ride with a purchase of AthSav gear:

Website: www.gahilo.satisfactoryprinting.com