

*It's not too early to think about spring*

# Environment Ride staff signing up riders this weekend

**Bridget Wingert**

As winter rolls in, bicyclists are already planning for spring events. One of them is the Environment Ride, a fund-raiser for the Pennsylvania Environment Council planned for May.

The Pennsylvania Environment Ride will host an in-store event Saturday, Dec. 17, at Eastern Mountain Sports in Warrington to share information about next spring's event.

Eric Epstein of Upper Black Eddy, a longtime rider, is the ride director. He will be at the information session.

"Solve two problems at the same time," he suggests. "You can sign up to ride – and get a head start on your New Year's resolution – and then check items off your holiday shopping list by picking up your training supplies at EMS."

Once registered, riders are assigned a coach who will help them plan a training schedule to get ready for the ride in four months. The Environment Ride accommodates experienced riders and novices.

A former science teacher, Epstein owns Global Impact Productions, an agency that set up rides, walks and runs to raise funds for nonprofits. Although he lives in Bucks County and has participated in local events like Tour de Tinicum, he can arrange events throughout the country and beyond. His office is in New York but he spends time between that city and the Philadelphia area.

Pennsylvania Environment Ride is a three-day cycling adventure from the Susquehanna to the Schuylkill. Set for May 18-20, it features a historic, culture-filled and scenic route.



*Eric Epstein prepared to ride in last summer's Tourtinicum in August. He is directing the three-day Environment Ride in May.*

Highlights include a covered bridge tour of Lancaster County, a multitude of 18th-century historic sites, cycling through wildlife preserves, Reading's Skyline Drive and the PEC-supported Schuylkill River Trail. A full description of the

ride is at the Environment Ride web site.

Ride staff will be available from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. this Saturday at Eastern Mountain Sports, 1700 Valley Square Boulevard at Route 611 in Warrington.

## Stockburger car dealership site eyed for development

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the condos, and six on-street parking spots.

Gone from previous proposals are a piazza, a smaller square with a fountain and auto rotary, a walkway along the adjacent Newtown Creek, an amphitheatre and 100,000 square feet of office space. Plan B, as it was known, would have involved a turning lane off Centre Avenue and two shuttles

get done what he wants done."

Smith sent out an e-mail blast Dec. 3 to inform Newtown residents of his intentions.

"Seeing our community change is difficult, and indeed having been here for the past 51 years, I've seen a lot of it, and unfortunately it's not all been good. Perhaps because Newtown is my hometown, I have been careful to make sure my projects have improved the quality of