

LOUISIANA BUCKET BRIGADE DOWN BY THE RIVER BIKE RIDE

I learned so much on the bike ride — it was informative and powerful, and helped me see the connections between history and ongoing injustices.

— Participant

Down by the River (DBTR) is a 7-mile guided bike ride along the Mississippi River levee in St. Charles Parish, part of the 85-mile stretch of river known as “Cancer Alley.” More than a bike ride, it is an exploration that connects America’s largest slave revolt to today’s work for environmental justice, weaving Black history, present-day organizing, and storytelling into an unforgettable experience.

THE ROUTE TELLS THE STORY

- **Environmental Justice in Action:** Hear personal testimony from community co-leaders about current industrial pollution challenges and how local residents continue the region’s long tradition of resistance.
- **The Diamond community and the bittersweet victory:** Pedal through the Diamond community of Norco and learn how Margie Richard and the Concerned Citizens of Norco won a landmark campaign against Shell— a blueprint for community power.
- **1811 Slave Revolt:** Ride the same river road where over 500 enslaved people organized the largest uprising in U.S. history. This revolution inspired the Diamond residents into action.

“ If my ancestors could stand up to slavery, I can surely stand up to Shell.”

— Margie Richard, Former President of Concerned Citizens of Norco

LOGISTICS & DETAILS

Starting point: Norco, Louisiana (St. Charles Parish)

Distance: ~7 miles round-trip (mostly flat, levee-top terrain)

Duration: 2.5–3 hours

Provided: Bicycles and helmets; (please bring a filled water bottle)

Group Size: 5–25 riders (larger groups available)

Guides: Co-led by Louisiana Bucket Brigade and Rural Roots Louisiana

This is so important and brings home all the connections to what is still happening in the region. Everyone should take this ride.

— Participant



Contact us to schedule a group ride, discuss curriculum integration, or explore sponsorship.

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📷 [@labuckets](https://www.instagram.com/labuckets)

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