NARRAGANSETT BAY WHEELMEN # 5

Central Massachusetts Spectacular

The Quabbin Reservoir : TWO LOOPS

Loop 1 - Belchertown-Bondsville-Ware

START: Loop 2 - Amherst-Belchertown

Belchertown Green, Rt. 202.

DIRECTIONS TO START: Pick up Mass. Pike in Auburn. Take Pike west to Ludlow exit. Follow Rt. 21 to end. At stop sign, go right at Rt. 202. Follow

straight to traffic light to town green, Beclchertown.

LOOP 1 - EASTERN LOOP TO QUABBIN RESERVOIR 29 miles

This tour is along the south shore of the Quabbin with runs along Goodenough Dike & Winsor Dam which hold the water in place. South is magnificent, rolling farmland. Start from Belchertown, in the Pioneer Valley. Head to Bondsville: along the Swift River, to Ware, a 19th century Industrial Revoution boom town, abounding with mill outlets. Climb the Quabbin next & the lookout

tower. You may see remains of the 5 villages flooded to build the Quabbin. Winsor Dam is the 2nd largest in the east.

STATION

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Helmets are required to prevent serious head injuries.

LOOP 2 - WESTERN LOOP TO AMHERST 18 - cut across Bay road from Belchertown

27 miles: do lower loop along Rt. 202

This ride is slightly more hilly, & tours the eastern edge of the Cn. Valley. Head SW from Belcher-town with its churches, bandstand & wooden homes some built in the 1700's. Next is the farmlands rising upwards with views of the Holyoke Range. You'll explore S. Amherts, Amherst and Hadley then head back to Belchertown via Rt. 9.

NOTE - for 18 mile ride, from town green, take first left, bear left at light onto Rt. 9, then pick up Bay Rd.

RIDF #2 WESTERN LOOP

RIDE #1 P

