



Peter Roy, Lucas Tree Manager, rides in 2010 STIHL TOUR DES TREES

July 18, 2010 – More than 60 cyclists from around the world took part in the 2010 STIHL Tour des Trees, America's largest fundraiser for tree research, raising more than \$365,000 so far during this year's tour to benefit the Tree Research and Education Endowment (TREE) Fund. Our very own, Peter Roy, Maine Utility Manager, participated in this year event cycling over 500 miles through Northern Illinois during six days and helped raised over \$3,500 for the Tree Fund.



"The hard work from these cyclists and the money raised this week to benefit tree research will not only affect our environment and the trees around the country, but enrich our communities for years to come," said Leavell at the STIHL Tour des Trees benefit.

"We received a warm hometown welcome from Illinois, and we were so pleased that so many here care about the health of America's urban trees," said Janet Bornancin, executive director of the TREE Fund, which is based in Naperville, Ill. "With the money raised from the Tour, we can continue to fund the research needed to maintain and care for our urban forests."

Since its inception in 1992, the Tour has generated more than \$4.8 million and has funded a host of diverse projects to address invasive pests, urban planting challenges, tree biomechanics and worker safety.

Donations to support the STIHL Tour des Trees will continue to be accepted through December 31. For more information, visit www.stihltourdestrees.org.

About the TREE Fund:

The TREE Fund's mission is to identify and fund projects and programs that advance knowledge in the field of arboriculture and urban forestry to benefit people, trees, and the environment.

The TREE Fund has supported research that has led to important developments in:

- Understanding air pollution reduction and carbon sequestration by trees
- Quantifying the costs and benefits of urban trees
- Improving conditions for tree growth in difficult sites
- Strategies to manage diseases and pests that affect urban trees

For more information, visit www.treefund.org.