

**Hosting Professional Racers
Nature Valley Bicycle Festival
Frequently Asked Questions**

Hosting riders in individual homes is a huge factor in recruiting these teams and directly supports Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota, the benefiting Charity.

Q: What type of sleeping arrangements are you looking for?

A: Most often beds, airbeds or futons in guest rooms or on a recreation room floor.

Q: Will the riders want to be in my home when I'm not there?

A: Possibly. They are looking for a place to sleep at night. If you're willing to let them use your home during the day, that would be nice, but it isn't required. However, due to the race schedules and two remote race venues they most likely will arrive home past 10:00p.m.

Q: Will I have to feed them?

A: No. Hosts often invite riders to join them for a meal but it is not expected. They will need the use of the kitchen, (they will clean up after themselves). They will need the use of your refrigerator and counter space. Some may ask permission to use your washer and dryer.

Q: Will I have to provide them with transportation?

A: No.

Q: Will my home be treated like a Holiday Inn?

A: No. Riders stay in many different homes and they very much want to be invited back. They know how to be good guests. We have been matching some teams to their host families at their request for the past 7 years.

Q: Granted, these are nice people. Do they have any other reason to behave well?

A: You bet. These are all sponsored riders and most are members of teams. They are very aware that they are representing those sponsors and teams for the entire time that they're in town - not just when they're racing. They want those sponsors and teams to only hear good things about them.

Q: Will I have to have an uncomfortable conversation with the riders when I define the limits of what I'm willing to do?

A: No. The Host Housing coordinator is an advocate for both the riders and the hosts. You tell us your limits and we will pass it on to the riders. These riders are very flexible and gracious guests.

Q: Will this help Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota financially?

A: Absolutely. As stated above, Children's Hospitals and Clinics is our benefiting charity. The funds raised through the sponsors support the programs at Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota.

Q: How are the assignments made?

A: Assignments are made to those homes that are geographically closest to each other.

Q: How will I know if I have been assigned riders?

A: We will email you once you have signed up, either through the website or the Housing Coordinator and notify you after host assignments have been made, by email and/or by phone. Your guest(s) will also contact you shortly after the assignments have been distributed.