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**The following how-to guide explains why we use latitude/longitude to describe our ride starting locations, and how to use Google Maps to create driving instructions.**

Can you post an actual address of the place where we will meet and start the ride? Most of the people here will use GPS or other map software to figure out their own route to get there, and an actual address will be handy for us. Reading the direction instruction is not easy to visualize the route.

All of the different mapping sites handle addresses and building names differently, so we started using latitude and longitude this year. For example, those riders who typed in Royal Elementary School to an Internet map site might have been given bad directions. The same thing happens when riders type in the official address to the Montgomery ISD Athletics Complex when we do rides in Montgomery.

The correct way to visualize the start location if you don't want to read the directions in Steve's email :- ) is to either use Google maps to view the start location from the calendar entry, or to type the coordinates into your GPS. (You can also use latitude/longitude in ANY Web mapping Website/program). I'm including several screen shots using the Columbus start location as an example:

Go to the CoPTS Website. If you've been paying attention to Steve's emails, this should already be bookmarked in your Web browser.

Click on the 'Training Calendar' link on the left.



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## ConocoPhillips Bike Club

### 2010 BP MS-150 Training Series



Katy, TX  
Clear  
Humidity: 58%  
Visibility: 10 miles  
Wind: Calm



Updated: 10:30 PM  
**49 °F**  
[click for forecast](#)

#### In case of bad weather check the Bike Club Hotline @ 281-293-2931

If you use webmail (Yahoo, gMail, Hotmail, etc.) to receive your cycling (Steve.E.Moskowitz@ConocoPhillips.com) is marked as "safe" in your junk mail filter. The providers will block the email unless you notify them. If you don't know how to configure your old) to do it for you.

#### 2010 Training Series Calendar is Online!

First - The exact start times, directions, and route notes will be added as we get closer. I'm also adding in links to three of the main weather sites for each ride. Many of the their details, but I plan to have most of the Recommended Ride detail added to our more about any ride. click [here](#) to go to the BP MS150 web site and see if there is more i

The Training Calendar will open. CoPTS events are in **BOLD RED**  
Click on this Saturday's ride.



The event detail will open. You can either take the latitude/longitude numbers and enter them into your GPS or click (map) and continue with my instructions.

**CoP(07) - Columbus (50/60 Miles)**

When

Sat, March 6, 8am – 12pm

Where

29.704614,-96.533647 ([map](#))

Description

Training Ride #7 – (50/60 Miles)

Route Maps:

[Paper Map](#)  
[GPS Map – 59.9 Mile](#)  
[GPS Map – 50.5 Mile](#)

Weather Links:

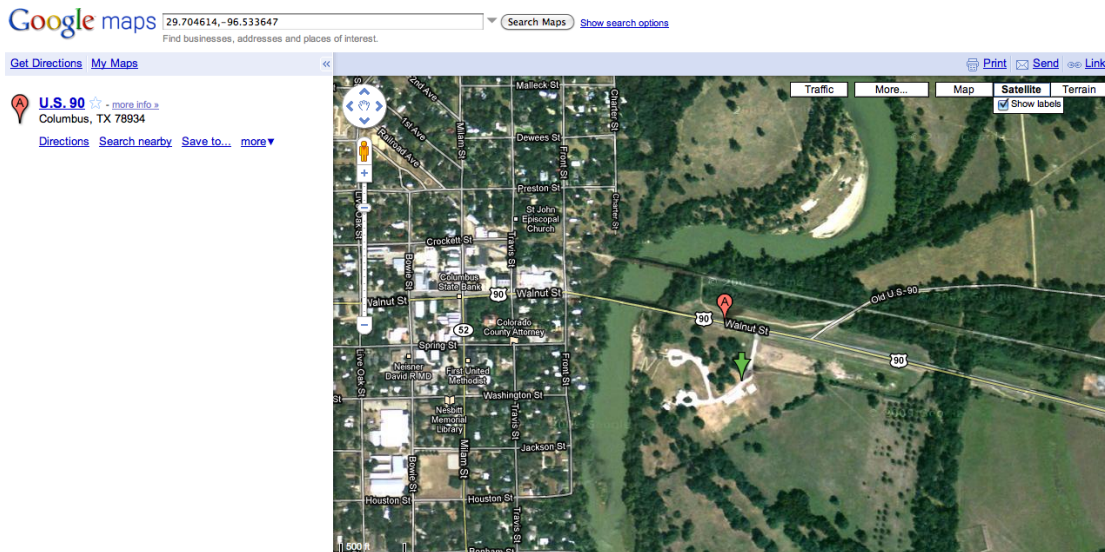
[Weather.com](#)  
[NOAA.gov](#)  
[Wunderground.com](#)

Steve's Email Messages:

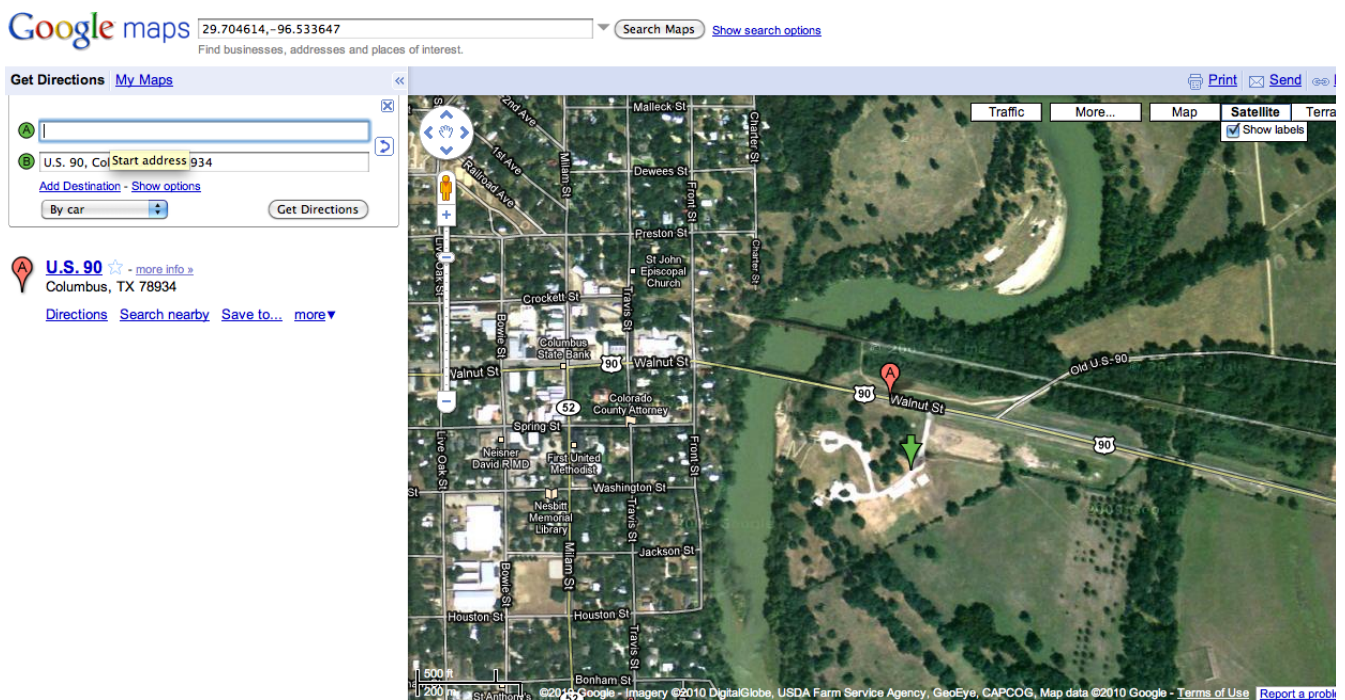
[Wednesday Email](#)

[more details»](#) [copy to my calendar»](#)

The Google Maps page will open with the parking location centered on screen.  
If you need directions, click 'Directions'.



In the empty box, type a start location. For this example, I used Katy Mills Mall.  
 You can use an actual address if you need precise directions and a physical address is available.  
 If you have a Gmail account, your computer will probably remember the addresses you type often.



You can see in the following picture that there are exact driving directions and a map to show you exactly where to drive.  
 If you need to print the directions, click 'Print' in the top-right corner and choose whatever printing options you want.



Google maps 29.704614, -96.533647 Find businesses, addresses and places of interest. Search Maps Show search options

**Get Directions My Maps**

5000 Katy Mills Circle, Katy, TX 77494-4402 (Katy Mills Mall)  
 U.S. 90, Columbus, TX 78934  
 Add Destination - Show options  
 By car Get Directions

**Driving directions to U.S. 90, Columbus, TX 78934**  
 45.2 mi - about 50 mins

Katy Mills Mall  
 5000 Katy Mills Circle  
 Katy, TX 77494-4402

1. Head south on Katy Mills Cir toward Heritage Ln 0.2 mi
2. Take the 1st right onto Heritage Ln 374 ft
3. Take the 1st right onto Kingsland Blvd 0.3 mi
4. Take the 2nd right onto Old Katy Rd/Pin Oak Rd 0.4 mi
5. Turn left onto the ramp to I-10 W 0.2 mi
6. Merge onto Katy Fwy 0.7 mi
7. Take the ramp on the left onto I-10 W 40.9 mi
8. Take exit 698 to merge onto US-90 W toward Columbus 2.6 mi

U.S. 90  
 Columbus, TX 78934

Save to My Maps

**Sponsored Links**  
**Columbus Texas**  
 Photos, customer ratings & reviews.  
 Save on hotels in Columbus, TX  
[www.Expedia.com](http://www.Expedia.com)

These directions are for planning purposes only. You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather, or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly. You must obey all signs or notices regarding your route.

29.704614, -96.533647

Aaron Jacks

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<http://BandAgainstMS.org>

*Become Part of the Band™*

**Band Against MS Bike Team**

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