Triathletes take to county roads for annual event Sunday

Drivers should practice extra caution along route

For the eighth year in a row, athletes from across the United States and around the world will gather in Snohomish County to compete in the Ironman 70.3 Lake Stevens Triathlon.

The event will take place throughout the day on Sunday, July 21, beginning at 6:30 a.m. when the first swimmers enter the northeast corner of the lake in Lake Stevens.

The first cyclists are expected to be on the road by 7 a.m., with the last finishing by 4 p.m. The bicycle course this year is a 56-mile, single loop that stretches as far north as Granite Falls, east along Lake Roesiger, south to Woods Creek Road, and north back through downtown Lake Stevens.

While all county and city roads along the course will be open to the public, drivers may experience slowdowns in some areas. Snohomish County Sheriff’s deputies and local police, as well as event staff, will be stationed at key points along the route to maintain the flow of traffic and to guide the athletes.

Signs will be posted in advance along the routes. For a map of the course and a list of roads, go to www.snoco.org and search “marathons.”