

Summer Long Walking/Running Challenge  
June 15-July 22

Walk-a-Marathon

Over the course of the six weeks, participants walk eight courses covering 20 miles while touring Ottawa. Participants will submit pictures or answers to questions as proof of completion. Those who complete the entire 20 mile course win a commemorative Ottawa Recreation T-shirt.

Possible Routes are as follows:

Route 1 (approximately 2.2 miles): Ottawa Avenue Walk. Start on Either Clay Street or Boyce Memorial Drive. Walk the entire Avenue and back. Souvenir Photo to share: Colonnade at the west end. Question to answer: How many pillars in the Colonnade?

Route 2 (approximately 3.3 miles): Northwest Side Walk: Begin on the northwest corner of Rigden Park on W. Lafayette Street. Walk west to Boyce Memorial Drive. Turn left and walk south to the corner of Boyce and Ottawa Ave. Return. Souvenir photo to share: Anything from Thornton Park. Question to answer: What is the color of the top of the giant wind vane in the park?

Route 3 (approximately 1.2 miles): Downtown Walk. Start on the Jordan Block. Walk north to the I & M Canal toll house and back. Souvenir photo to share: Picture of Lincoln Douglas statues in Washington Square Park. Question to answer: Which direction do the sculptures of Lincoln and Douglas face?

Route 4 (approximately 1.3 miles): East Side Walk. Start on Main Street across from OHS. Walk east along Main to Grafton, and turn left. Walk north on Grafton to Chapel and turn Left. Walk west on Chapel to Orleans. Turn left. Walk south to Congress and turn right. Walk east on Congress to Shabbona. Turn left. Walk south on Shabbona back to OHS.

Souvenir Picture: Any picture of the Fox River. Question to answer: What color are the street signs in this part of town?

Route 5 (approximately 1.5 miles): Ottawa Y to Fox River Park. Start in the Ottawa Y parking lot. Walk east along the river walk to Fox River Park. Continue through Fox River Park to the public splash pad. Return. Souvenir Photo: Picture of any play equipment in the park. Question to answer: What kind of golf course is in this park?

Route 6 (approximately 3.6 miles): I&M Ottawa Trail Walk. Start either at the Fox River Park access point or at the Boyce Memorial Drive Access point (north end of Boyce). Walk to the other end and return. Souvenir Photo: Toll House. Question to answer: Name one businesses you pass on your walk.

Route 7 (approximately 2 miles): South Side walk. Begin at McKinley School on State Street. Walk north to Route 23 traffic light (Do not cross street). Turn right and walk one block east to Catherine Street. Turn right and walk south along Catherine Street back to McKinley School. Souvenir photo: Either water tower. Question to answer: What park sits across the road at the north end of this walk?

Route 8 (approximately 2.1 miles) Lincoln Douglas Complex Park walk. Begin in the Lincoln Douglas complex. Walk east past Whitney Field to Champlain Street. Turn left and walk north to Bellevue Avenue just across the railroad tracks. Turn Left and walk west along Bellevue to Post Street. Turn Left on Post and head south to East Norris Drive. Turn left and return to the start point. Souvenir photo: Walsh Park. Question to answer: How many baseball/softball fields are in the Lincoln Douglas complex?

Route 9 (approximately 2.7 miles). Dayton Bluffs walk. This walk could be more or less depending on the side trips you take. The perimeter trail begins at the parking area. Find a map of the park at [Dayton Bluffs All Trails](#). Souvenir photo: Any waterfall or water feature. Question to answer: List one of the historical features noted on the walk.

If participants walk every trail, they will cover 20 miles. Participants need to submit proof by Midnight, Wednesday, July 22. Submit proof to any of the following Ottawa Recreation Social Media connections: Twitter, Facebook, [Cityrec@cityofottawa.org](mailto:Cityrec@cityofottawa.org). Links to all our social media platforms can be found on our website: [www.ottawarecreation.org](http://www.ottawarecreation.org). We will contact you for an address to mail the t-shirt! Happy Walking!