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In case of Emergency: Dial 911
Event related assistance:
Pat Astill: 301-526-6705
Yvonne Pennington: 571-217-9851

These walk directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.

YRE Description

The land for Greenbelt Park was acquired by the National Park Service in 1950. The park is an eastern woodland system with 1,176 acres. It was originally part of the green belt surrounding the city of Greenbelt. It has 9 miles of trails and 3 picnic areas. It is also the closest National Park campground to Washington DC.

Currently the campground, picnic areas and Park Central Road have reopened after being closed for construction. The trails have been re-opened after being closed due to severe damage after a windstorm in July 2022, except for part of the Perimeter Trail.

The walk has 5, 8, and 10k trails.

The 10km walk uses the Azalia Trail, the opened sections of the Perimeter Trail, the complete figure of eight Dogwood Trail for distance, and the Blueberry Trail to connect the opened sections of the Perimeter Trail via the campground.

The 8km walk uses the Azalia Trail, the opened sections of the Perimeter Trail linked by a part of the Blueberry Trail through the campground.

The 5km walk uses the Azalia Trail, the Park Central Road, a section of the Dogwood Trail, part of the Perimeter Trail.

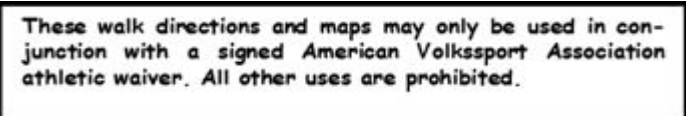
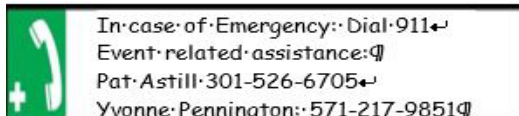
The event is rated 2B. It is on natural paths with some tree roots and has some small hills. The event is mostly through the woods and shaded.

Restroom Information: Restrooms are available at the start and campground when open.

Water Availability: There is no water available at the start. Please carry water on the trail.

How to read instructions

- Numbered instructions give directions
- Small alphabet instructions give information such as what you are passing or crossing before the next number instruction.

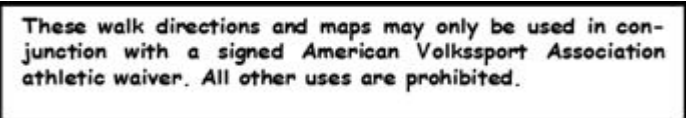
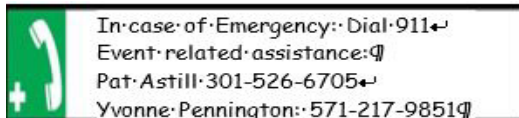


Registering for the walk

The Great Greenbelt Volksmarchers charges all participants over 12 a \$4 fee. When you register for your walk event, please DO NOT check the “No Credit” checkbox for any participant over 12 years of age. When you register for the walk you can download the PDF file with walk information. The PDF includes directions to the walk start and walk instructions. The fee for the download is \$2. You will be credited for this fee if you complete the walk and pay the walk participant fee within 60 days.

After you have completed the walk

Once you have physically completed the walk, please login to your Online Start Box account click on the “My Start Box” tab, then the “Finish Table” tab, then click on “Go to Finish Table” button for the event you have completed. Use the displayed entry form to submit the date and distance of your walk as well as select applicable AVA Special Programs to generate stamped “virtual” insert cards that you may choose to print out.



GREAT GREENBELT VOLKSMARCH CLUB
GREENBELT PARK Y24/0296

Starting Point Location:

Greenbelt Park Sweetgum Picnic Area Parking Lot
6565 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
(38.9946458608092, -76.89502572360439)

Driving Directions:

From I-95/495 North

Take Exit 23 Route 201 Kenilworth Ave., S towards Bladensburg.
Turn LEFT on Route 201 Kenilworth Ave.,
CROSS I-95/495 veer RIGHT toward Greenbelt Rd., Route 193. Stay in 3rd lane from the left.
Turn LEFT on Greenbelt Rd., to 2nd traffic light.
Turn RIGHT into the Park past Sub-Police Station on the right. to STOP sign at Park Central Rd.
Turn RIGHT to Sweetgum Picnic Area

From I-95/495 South

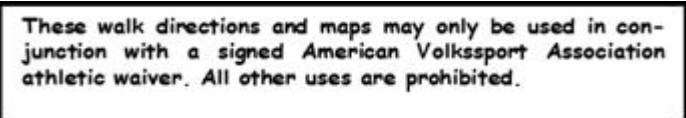
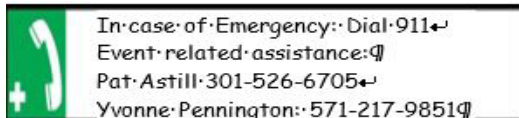
Take EXIT 23 Route 201 Kenilworth Ave., S towards Bladensburg.
Take RIGHT on Route 201 Kenilworth Ave.
Veer RIGHT toward Route 193, Greenbelt Rd. Stay in 3rd lane from the left.
Turn LEFT on Greenbelt Rd., to 2nd traffic light.
Turn RIGHT into the Park past Sub-Police Station on the right. to STOP sign at Park Central Rd.
Turn RIGHT to Sweetgum Picnic Area

From Washington, DC

Take Route 295, Baltimore-Washington Parkway North.
Take exit Greenbelt Road West (the exit after I-95 exit).
Veer RIGHT onto Greenbelt Road West to traffic lights at Walker Drive/Greenbelt Park.
Turn LEFT into the Park past Sub-Police Station on the right. to STOP sign at Park Central Rd.
Turn RIGHT to Sweetgum Picnic Area.

From Baltimore, MD

Take Route 295, Baltimore-Washington Parkway South.
Take exit Greenbelt Road West (the exit after Goddard Employees only).
Turn LEFT at traffic lights on to Southway
Veer RIGHT onto Greenbelt Road West to traffic lights at Walker Drive/Greenbelt Park.
Turn LEFT into the Park past Sub-Police Station on the right. to STOP sign at Park Central Rd.
Turn RIGHT to Sweetgum Picnic Area.



Greater Greenbelt Volksmarchers
Greenbelt Park 10km,8km & 5km Walks - YRE0296

Walk instructions start at the sidewalk by the restrooms in Sweetgum Picnic Area in Greenbelt Park.

All trails are natural surfaces mainly with numerous tree roots.

Abbreviations: (L) – on the left; (R) – on the right, (FOW) –facing other way

Numbered instructions give directions, bullets under them indicate items that are passed or crossed before the next numbered instruction.


SPECIAL PROGRAM: Par for the Course – 20 station Fit Trail.

1. **WALK** towards Park Central Road to Azalea Trail Notice Board (L)after parking area.
 - a. **PASS** rest rooms (R).
 - b. **PASS** picnic area and playground (R).
 - c. Turn **LEFT** at access road.
2. **STRAIGHT** to follow Azalea Trail to Fit Trail sign (L) at Fit station 15 (R).
 - d. **PASS** Azalea Trail Notice Board (L) Mile 0.0 (R).
 - e. **PASS** Fit station 20 (L).
 - f. **PASS** Fit stations 19, 18, and 17 (R).
 - g. **PASS** Fit station 16 (L).
 - h. **PASS** bench (L).
3. Turn **LEFT** to follow Fit Trail to Fit Trail→ sign (L) at open field.
 - a. **PASS** FIT TRAIL → sign (R).
 - b. **PASS** between Fit stations 14 (L) & 13 (R).
 - c. **PASS** Fit station 12 (R).
 - d. **PASS** between Fit stations 10 (L) & 11 (R).
 - e. **PASS** Fit station 9 (L).
4. Turn **RIGHT** to follow Fit Trail around the edge of the field to trail (R), almost opposite Restrooms in Sweet Gum Picnic area. (R).
 - a. **PASS** Fit stations 8 (R) at bottom of hill.
 - b. **PASS** unmarked trail (R).
 - c. **PASS** Fit station 7 (R).
5. Turn **RIGHT** on gravel/dirt Fit Trail to Fit Trail Notice Boards (L).
 - a. **PASS** Perimeter Trail ↑ (L) pointing in wrong direction.
 - b. **PASS** Fit station 6 (R).
 - d. **PASS** Fit station 5 (L) and station 4 (R).
 - e. **PASS** Fit stations 3 & 2 (L).
 - f. **PASS** Mile 1.0 marker (R).
 - g. **PASS** Calf Stretch station (L).
6. Turn sharp **RIGHT** past Exercise Trail Begins Here sign (R) to Holly Picnic Area ← sign (L).

7. **Bear RIGHT** before the sign to road and Azalea Trail sign → (R).
 - a. **PASS** Holly Picnic Area ←sign (L).
 - b. **PASS** Mile 0.8 marker (L), propped against tree.
8. Turn **LEFT** on road to wooden ← Azalea Trail sign (R).

DECISION POINT

5KM WALKERS

- ❖ Turn **RIGHT** to follow Azalea Trail to trail (L) just before bridge.
 - **PASS** bench (R).
 - **PASS** Laurel → Picnic Area sign (R).
 - **CROSS** sewer lid in trail before runoff.
 - **CROSS** a 2nd runoff stream.
- ❖ Turn **LEFT** to road.
 - **PASS** downed tree and log pile (R).
 - **PASS** gravel piles (R).
- ❖ **CROSS** turn **RIGHT** on road to T-junction.
 - **PASS** Speed Limit 25 sign (R) (FOW).
 - **CROSS** stream.
- ❖ Turn **LEFT** on Park Central Rd to Dogwood Trail Sign→ (L) in parking area.
- ❖ Turn **RIGHT CROSS** parking area **STRAIGHT** on the trail to Y-junction at Parking Area → sign (R).
 - **PASS** 2 Notice Boards (R) at start of trail.
 - **PASS** Mile 0.0 1.4 Marker (R).
- ❖ Bear **LEFT** on Dogwood Trail to ↑ Longer Route Shorter Route→ sign.
 - **PASS** bench (L).
 - **PASS** Mile 0.2  by log (L).after right turn and before uprooted tree at left turn.








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Greenbelt Park 10km,8km & 5km Walks - YRE0296

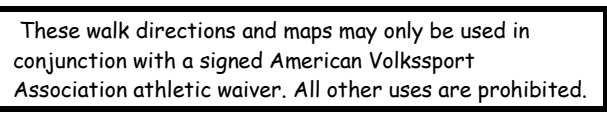
- ❖ Turn **LEFT** on Longer Trail to trail (R) and Longer Route →←Shorter Route Trail sign propped against a tree (R).
 - **PASS** ↑Longer Route Shorter Route → sign (R).
 - **PASS** unmarked trail and broken bench (L).
- ❖ **PASS** Shorter Route Trail (R).
- ❖ **GOTO** instruction # 29

8km & 10KM WALKERS

9. **STRAIGHT** on road to Park Central Rd (no sign).
 - a. **PASS** gate if road closed.
 - b. **PASS** Laurel Picnic Area Reserved Picnic Area sign (R).
10. **CROSS** road diagonally **RIGHT**, turn **LEFT** on trail up slope to T-Junction.
 - a. **PASS** through open gate (R) near road.
11. Turn **RIGHT** on Perimeter Trail (no sign) to Dogwood Parking Area ↑ sign ahead (R).
 - a. **HEAR** busy road (L).
 - b. **PASS** Mile 0.8  marker (L).
12. Turn **LEFT** to stay on Perimeter Trail to start of 2-sided bridge below the BW Pkwy.
 - a. **PASS** Perimeter Trail → sign (L).
 - b. **PASS** bench (L).
 - c. **PASS** Mile 1.0  marker (R).
 - d. **CROSS** culvert.
 - e. **CROSS** short boardwalk, **PASS** Mile 1.2  marker (L).
 - f. **PASS** bench (R) at top of slope.
 - g. **CROSS** 1-sided bridge below BW Pkwy.

Old Check Point; Underneath the bridge railing (L) at start of bridge is a wooden punch. Lift the lid insert start card or instructions then lower the lid to punch a hole.
13. **CROSS** 2-sided bridge and **FOLLOW** Perimeter Trail to road, 2 wooden post and 2 metal posts(R).
 - a. **CROSS** short boardwalk.
 - b. **PASS** bench (R).
 - c. **PASS** Mile 1.6  (R).
 - d. **PASS** bench (R).
 - e. **PASS** sloping bench (R) before 2 trunk tree.
 - f. **PASS** bench (L).
 - g. **PASS** Mile 1.8  (R).

14. **CROSS** road **STRAIGHT** on trail to campground road.
 - a. **PASS** ← Perimeter Trail sign (L).
 - b. **PASS** camp site (L).
15. Turn **LEFT** to follow Loop B campground road to entrance road (L).
 - a. **PASS** camp sites 79 to 35 (L).
 - b. **PASS** bathrooms (R) opposite camp sites 69(L).
 - c. **PASS** bathroom (R) camp circle (L).
 - d. **PASS** Campground Host sign (R).
16. Turn **LEFT** and **LEFT** at cross-roads to Blueberry Nature Trail sign (R).
 - a. **PASS** barrier if road is closed.
 - b. **PASS** ↑ Dump Station C & D Loops sign (R).
17. Turn **RIGHT** on Blueberry Nature Trail to ←Blueberry Trail →  sign.
 - a. **PASS** Mile 0.8  marker (R).
18. Bear **RIGHT** at sign on Blueberry Trail to Eagle Project(L) at trail intersection.
 - a. **PASS** bench (R).
 - b. **PASS** Mile 0.2  marker (R).
 - c. **Step** over log.
 - d. **PASS** Mile 0.4  marker (R).
 - e. **PASS** Blueberry Trail → sign(R).
19. Turn **RIGHT** on Perimeter Trail to Y-junction with temporary sign (R), Perimeter Trail ← Dogwood Trail →.
 - a. **USE** stepping stones or bushwack right or left to reach bridge.
 - b. **CROSS** stream.
20. Bear **LEFT** to stay on Perimeter Trail to Y-junction and temporary sign (R), Perimeter Trail → Dogwood Trail ←.
 - a. **PASS** Mile 4.2  marker (L).
 - b. **PASS** Mile 4.4  marker (L).
 - c. **PASS** purple blazed trail and Mile 4.6  marker (L).
21. Bear **LEFT** to stay on Perimeter Trail to wooden sign Connect to Dogwood Trail →
 - a. **PASS** path (L) to apartment complex.
 - b. **PASS** apartment building (L).





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Greenbelt Park 10km,8km & 5km Walks - YRE0296

DECISION POINT



8km WALKERS

GO TO instruction #32




10km WALKERS

- 22.** Turn **RIGHT** on connector trail to T-junction at Dogwood Trail.
- a. **PASS** Connect to Dogwood Trail → (L).
 - b. **PASS** Connect to Perimeter Trail → (R).
- 23.** Turn **LEFT** on Dogwood Trail to T-junction at Dogwood Parking Area → sign (L).
- a. **PASS** Mile 0.8  (L).
 - b. **CROSS** long boardwalk.
 - c. **PASS** between benches.
 - d. **CROSS** short boardwalk.
 - e. **CROSS** medium boardwalk and **PASS** bench (L).
- 24.** At parking sign turn **RIGHT** to follow Dogwood trail to ↑ Longer Route Shorter Route → sign.
- a. **PASS** bench (L).
 - b. **PASS** Mile 0.2  marker by log (L) after a hard right turn and before an uprooted tree at left turn.
- 25.** **STRAIGHT** on Shorter Route to T-junction and Longer Route → ← Shorter Route sign (L) propped against tree.
- a. **PASS** Shorter Route → sign (L).
 - b. **STEP** over downed tree.
- 26.** Turn **LEFT** on Longer Trail back to original ↑ Longer Route Shorter Route → sign (L) (FOW).
- a. **PASS** broken bench and unmarked trail (R).
- 27.** Turn **LEFT** on shorter trail to T-junction and Longer Route → ← Shorter Route sign (L) propped against tree.
- 28.** Turn **RIGHT**

5km & 10km TRAILS RE-JOIN

- 29.** **FOLLOW** Dogwood Trail to wooden Connect to Perimeter Trail → sign (L) (FOW).
- a. **PASS** Mile 0.4  (L) at 1st bend.
 - b. **PASS** 2 benches (R).
 - c. **PASS** Mile 0.6  (R).
 - d. **STEP** over downed tree.
 - e. **PASS** bench before unmarked trail (L).
- 30.** Turn **LEFT** on connector trail to T-junction at Perimeter Trail.
- a. **PASS** Connect to Perimeter Trail → (L).
 - b. **PASS** Connect to Dogwood Trail → (R).
- 31.** Turn **RIGHT**.

ALL WALKERS

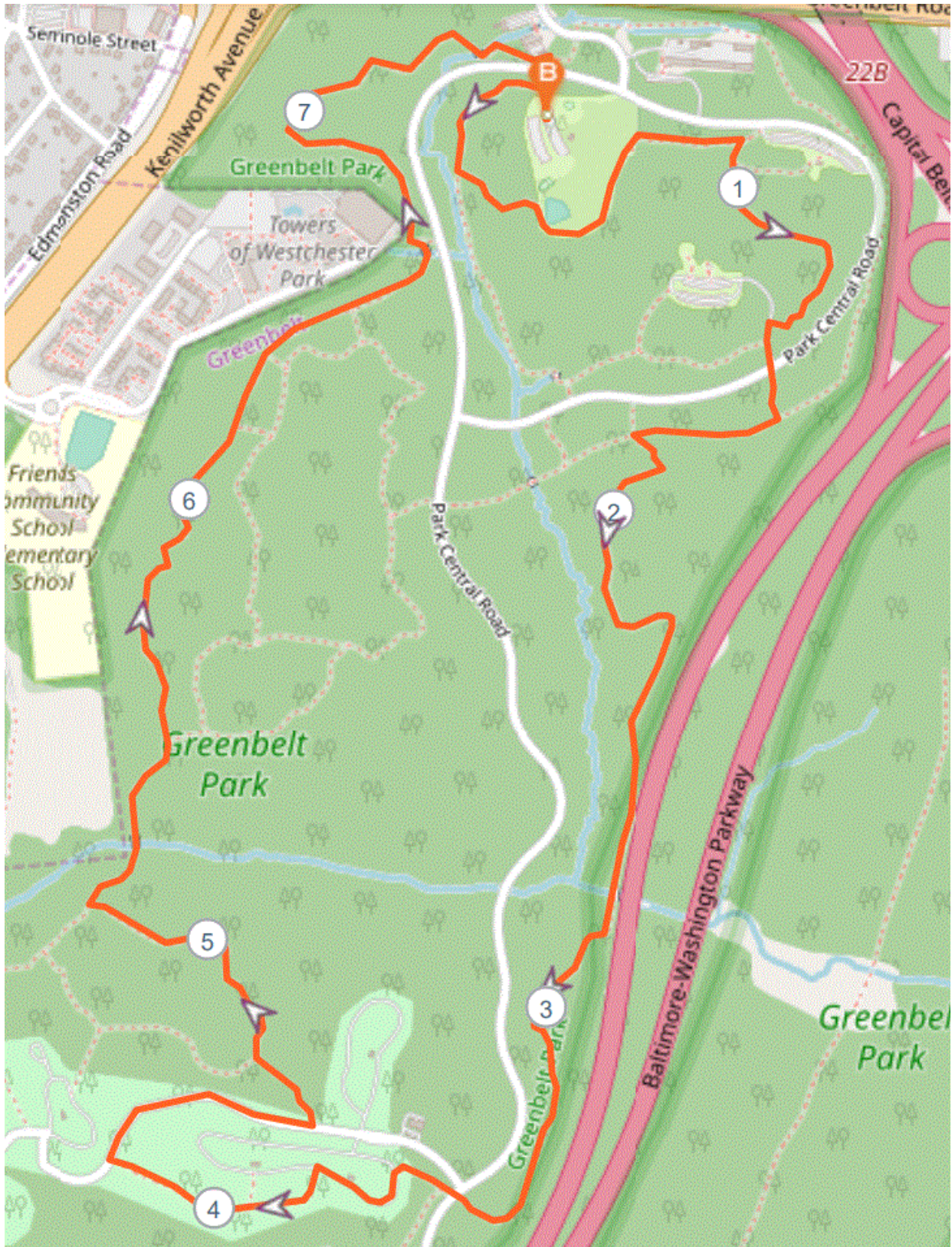
- 32.** **STRAIGHT** on Perimeter trail to Y-junction after bench (L).
- a. **PASS** end of apartment building (L).
 - b. **CROSS** 2-sided bridge.
- 33.** Turn **LEFT** towards Apartments in 10m turn **RIGHT** on Perimeter Trail to GENERAC Industrial Power generator behind fence (L).
- a. **PASS** Mile 4.8  marker (R).
 - b. **PASS** Mile 5.0  marker (R).
 - c. **CROSS** 2-sided bridge.
 - d. **PASS** bench (L).
 - e. **PASS** Mile 5.2  marker (L).
 - f. **CROSS** 2-sided bridge.
 - g. **PASS** original Mile 5.2 marker (L).
 - h. **CROSS** 2-sided bridge.
 - i. **PASS** 2 benches (R).
- 34.** At generator bear **RIGHT** up slope to road.
- a. **PASS** fire hydrant (R).
- 35.** Diagonally **CROSS** road to access road to Sweetgum Picnic Area.
- 36.** Turn **RIGHT** into Sweetgum Picnic area to **FINISH** at car.



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8km Walk



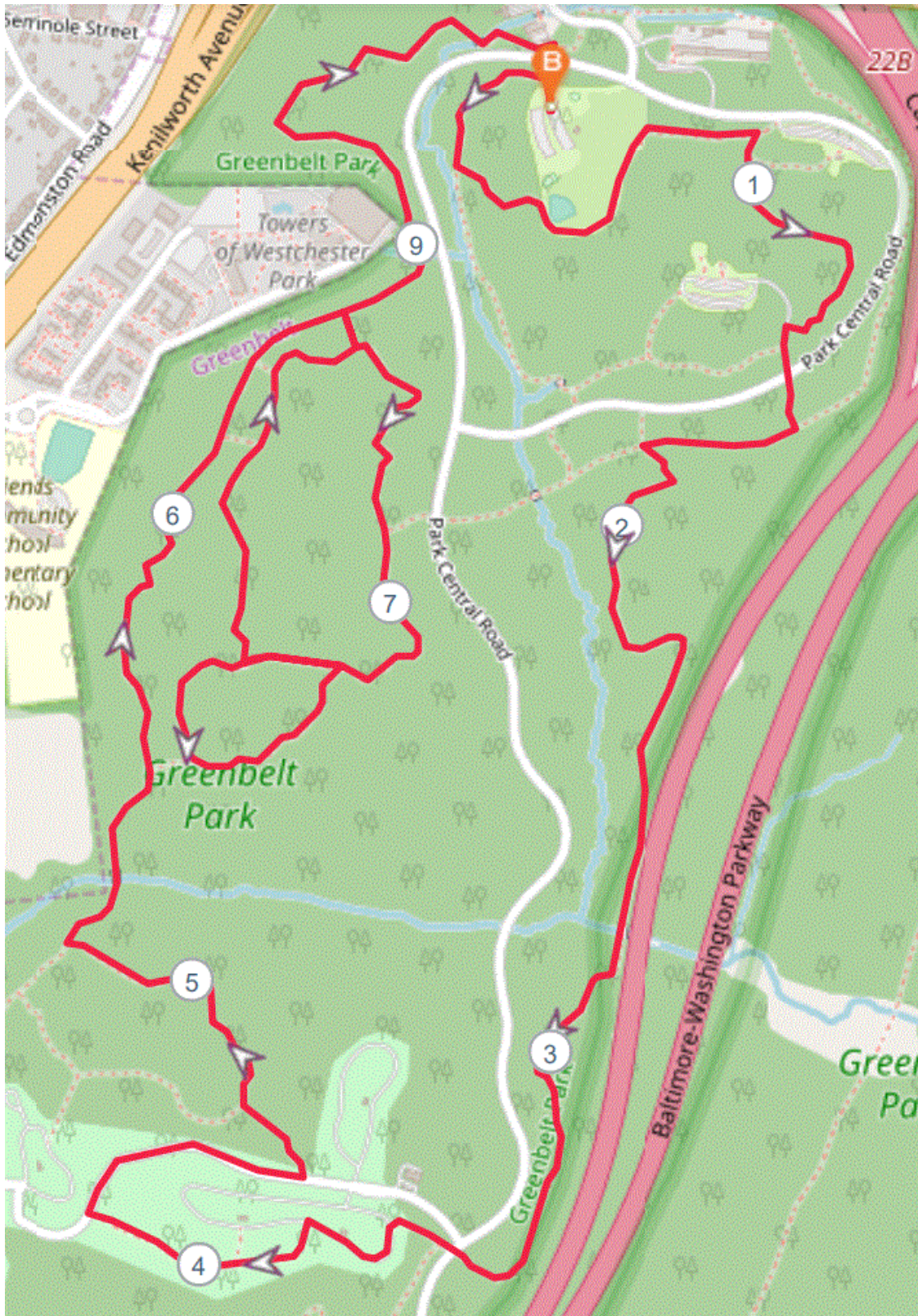
Trail plotted using plotaroute.com

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10km Walk



Trail plotted using plotaroute.com

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Internet Resources

National Park Service Website: <https://www.nps.gov/gree/index.htm>

Food and Attractions Nearby

TGI Fridays across from the park entrance
Restaurants in Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt.
Restaurants in Beltway Plaza on Greenbelt Road.

Greenbelt City YRE: <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=124988>

College Park YRE: <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=124987>

College Park Bike YRE: <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=124988>

Photo Album



Trail Map



Along the Trail



Park Information Board

