

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

For emergencies, dial 911. For Event-only related assistance, contact the Point of Contact, Joe DiMichele,

Josephvwc@aol.com. Walk in daylight hours only, and consider walking in groups.

About the Walk:

Welcome to the 5k (Pick either one of two trails, the “5k Riverfront Walk” walk or the “5k Uptown/Waterfalls”) or a 10k Walk (which combines both). The walk is a



figure ‘8’ where both the top and bottom circles are the 5k’s, and the Starting Point is right in the middle where the two paths cross. The

distances in the walk instructions are for the 10k walk. You receive the full distance credit (5k or 10k) depending on which route you take.

The numbers on the map tabs indicate kilometers walked. Please stay on the sidewalks, and be careful crossing streets, **ESPECIALLY** Rte. 9D. Use the walk lights and/or crosswalks. If you must walk on the street, the general walking rule is to stay on the left side facing oncoming traffic.

Directions and Parking:

US I-84 to NY State 9D South (Exit 41). Drive 3.5 miles south to left on Verplank Avenue, right on Fishkill Avenue, Cross Main Street (becomes Teller Ave), right on Henry Street.

Park in the public lot across from 37 Henry Street, behind the Yankee Clipper Diner that is on Main Street.
{GPS: 41.5032, -73.9682}

Restrooms:

There are porta-potties (perhaps seasonal) in Riverfront Park and in Mt. Beacon Park. There are real bathrooms at the Visitors Center (Main St. & Wolcott Ave. (Rte. 9D) and at the library (Main & Cedar) along with retail stores on Main Street.

Abbreviations used:

(ns) - No Sign. This is no street sign at this intersection.

(C&P) - Cross and/or Pass. For example, (C&P: 2nd St, 3rd St, and 4th St.)

Special Programs:

See the event information listing on the AVA website: <https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=128977>

*Text in italics are historical and informational comments. **Boldface** in the directions indicate walking actions you must heed. **Underline** indicates a safety reminder.*



An introduction to Beacon:

Beacon is located on the east bank of the Hudson River in Dutchess County, NY. It is 60 miles north of NYC and about 80 miles south of Albany. The city is at the foot of historic Mount Beacon.

The city of Beacon, NY was incorporated in 1913. It was originally settled as the Villages of Fishkill Landing and Matteawan in the early 1700's. This area played an important part during the Revolutionary war period. It served as a Fort and supplies for the war were stored manufactured, and transported across the river here. The city gained its name from the signal fires that were placed at the top of what is now known as Mount Beacon by patriots during the war. These fires notified George Washington and his officers about the movement of British Troops.

In later years, Beacon was the “Hat making capitol of the United States”. There were approximately 50 hat making factories located here.

From approximately 1902 to 1975 the City attracted millions of tourists from all over as they came to take a ride on the Incline Railroad to the top of Mount Beacon. At the time it claimed to be the steepest incline railroad in existence as the average grade was 64 percent on the 1150 foot climb to the top. At one time a hotel and a casino stood at the top of the mountain.

The city of Beacon has being reborn. It is now home to the Dia:Beacon, Riggio Galleries, an art museum comprised of major works of art from the 1960's to present. Many of the old buildings on

Main Street have been refurbished and now serve as art galleries, antique shops, boutiques and quaint restaurants.

The walk route goes down to Riverfront Park and a large wharf for boating. On weekdays, there is a commuter ferry going from Newburgh to Beacon in the morning and from Beacon to Newburgh in the evening.



Let's Walk!

→ 10k walkers!

You will be walking both of the 5k routes, totaling 10k. Start at instruction #1 below.

→ 5k walkers!

The Start and End point of each of the 5k walks is the same, the parking lot behind the Yankee Clipper Diner. Each of these 5k walks is actually ½ of the 10k walk.

If you wish to do the “5k Riverfront” walk, start at instruction #1 below.

If you wish to do the “5k Uptown/Waterfalls” walk, start at instruction #14 on page 5 below.

1. → Note: 10k and “5k Riverfront” walkers start at this point!

WALK TO the front entrance of the Yankee Clipper Diner that faces Main Street from the other side of the parking lot. **TURN LEFT** onto Main St and **WALK** (towards the Hudson River, away from Mt. Beacon on your right).

2. Continue walking (C&P: Veterans Pl, Eliza St, Chestnut St, Cedar St, Brett St, Walnut St, Elm St, Digger Phelps Ct, Willow St, Cliff St, Cross St, and South Ave) to Wolcott Ave (aka: North Ave Rte. 9D) at the end of Main St. (1 km)

At Near Veterans Pl, are the Willard H. Mase Hook and Ladder Co. and the Beacon War Memorial in front of the VFW.

At the corner of Main St. and Cedar Ave., are the Howland Library bathrooms. Notice the mural in front of the library, and if it is open, step inside to see a ceramic mural displaying the history of Beacon at the entrance to the children's room.

Among other interesting stores, are the Beacon Barkery (sic - not a spelling error!), a bakery for pets, (at Main and Willow) and the Hudson Beach Glass studio (at the corner of Main and Cross).

3. On the left at the corner of Main St. and Wolcott Ave (aka: **“North Ave“** or **“Route 9D“**) is a new Visitors Center (limited hours) with a bathroom and lots of information. If you visit it, make sure you walk back to the crosswalk at the corner.

4. **CROSS** carefully using the crosswalk, then turn **LEFT** onto Wolcott Ave (C&P: Beacon St, Rombout Ave, and Stratford Ave) to Beekman St. The Hudson River should be on your right.

As you are walking along there are some nice views to the south of Storm King Mountain.

You will come to the Beacon Dutch Reformed Church that will be on your right. This beautiful brick church was built in 1813 and was the first church in this area. If the church is open take a look inside.

There is a NYS Historic site plaque in front of the church marking this as the burial site of William Few Jr., a signer of the U.S. Constitution for the State of Georgia. He



was born in Maryland in 1748 and was appointed to Congress in 1786. The next year he represented Georgia in the constitutional convention in Philadelphia during which the Constitution was drafted. He later served as a U.S. Senator.

5. **CROSS** then turn **RIGHT** onto Beekman St and **proceed** down the hill (C&P: Bayview Ave) to bridge crossing the railroad and Red Flynn Dr (ns).

As you proceed down the hill on Beekman St the Dia Beacon art museum will be on your left. Dia claims to be the world's largest contemporary art museum with 300,000 square feet of space. The collection located here includes works of some of the most important artists of the 1960 & 1970's, including Andy Warhol, Robert Whitman, Dan Flavin & Richard Serra. The museum is open to the public.

If you think that this building looks like a factory - you are correct. This historic building of steel, concrete and 34,000 square feet of skylights was built in 1929 by Nabisco and used as a factory to produce packaging for their various products. The building has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

6. **LEFT** onto Red Flynn Dr crossing the bridge over the railroad tracks (C&P: Long Dock Rd) **following the curve** to the right and **downhill** to the wharf at the left and the Beacon train station on the right. (3 km)

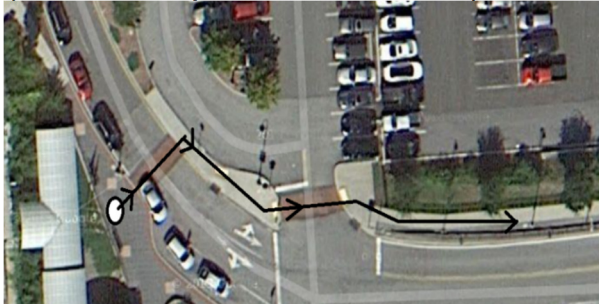
Some notes on the Beacon Waterfront.

- a. Newburgh-Beacon Ferry: On weekdays (rush-hours) for \$5.50, you can take a round trip ferry ride to Newburgh's beautiful waterfront area that has many fine restaurants and fantastic views of the Hudson River. Make sure the boat will take you back according to their schedule!*
- b. Scenic Hudson Long Dock Park: The Scenic Hudson River Center offers arts and environmental educational programs. This beautiful (and new!) park located on the shores of the Hudson River offers a launch site for kayakers, kayak tours and rentals available from a private outfit. Bird wildlife watches are available as well. Hiking trails leave from this area as well.*

→ If you are participating in the "Rails-to-Trails" AVA Special program, use alternative instruction 7 below by jumping to page 9.

7. Turn **RIGHT** towards the train station then go **under** the train station platform via the pedestrian underpass to the other side of the train station and **up the stairs** to the street level.

8. Once at the street level, **turn left to find and take** a set of two reddish-brown bricked crosswalks leading away from the train station. At the end of the second bricked crosswalk, **take the upwards-sloping sidewalk** (with guard rails/fences on both sides) that starts at the STOP SIGN. (This STOP SIGN and sidewalk are located at the corner of one of the parking lots and the main automobile access road.) (4 km, at top of the sidewalk)



9. Near top of the sidewalk (immediately before the white crosswalk), take **left on stairway** up to Beekman Street (ns). **Cross and turn left on** Beekman St., then **continue uphill** on sidewalk on right side of Beekman St. to Rte. 9D (aka: Wolcott Ave, North Ave).

Near the top of Beekman Street, the City of Beacon's Police Station, Municipal Building & Courthouse are on your right.

10. At the intersection of Beekman St and Rte. 9D (aka: Wolcott Ave, North Ave) turn **LEFT** to cross Beekman Street using the crosswalk, and then immediately **RIGHT** to cross Rte. 9D using the crosswalk.

11. **LEFT** on Rte. 9D following the sidewalk (with the Hudson River on your left) (C&P: Ralph St, Mackin Ave, and Lafayette Ave) to Verplanck Ave.

12. **RIGHT** onto Verplanck Ave (C&P: Dutchess Terr, Cross St, Willow St., N. Elm St, N. Walnut St, Mello Bertina Pl, Matteawan Rd, N. Chestnut St, Eliza St) to Fishkill Ave. (6 km)

After crossing Cross St, the St. Joachim Roman Catholic Church will be on the right. Just past the church you will pass the Hudson Fulton Statue.

At the intersection of Verplanck Ave and Matteawan Rd (ns) on the left is Patriot Garden Park with a flag pole. This small park is memorial to the 9/11 victims contains a piece of Tower #2 of the World Trade Center.

13. **RIGHT** onto Fishkill Ave (aka: Rte. 52) to Main St.

On your left is the Beacon Hebrew Alliance, one of two conservative Jewish temples in Dutchess County. On your right is the birthplace of James V. Forrestal, Secretary of the Navy, and the nation's first Secretary of Defense.

14. → **IMPORTANT – TRAILS SPLIT!**

→ **Depending which route** (“5k Riverfront”, “5k Uptown/Waterfalls”, or “10k”), **take the appropriate action below:**

→ **5k Riverfront Walkers:** Your walk ends here at the parking behind the Yankee Clipper Diner at the intersection of



Henry Street and Main Street. Proceed to instruction #31 below.

→ 5k Uptown/Waterfalls Walkers: Your walk starts here): If you are not already at front of the Yankee Clipper Diner that faces Main Street, proceed there (it is behind the parking lot.) Face and turn right on Main Street (towards Mt. Beacon), and turn right on Teller Avenue. **Proceed** to instruction #15 below after reading about Madam Brett Homestead.

→ 10k walkers: **CROSS** Main St after which the name of the road changes to Teller Ave. **At the corner, proceed** to Henry St and Van Nydeck Ave.

At the intersection of Teller Ave and Van Nydeck Ave is the Madam Brett Homestead.

The Madam Brett Homestead was built in 1709 and claims to now be the oldest house in Dutchess County. During the American Revolution this home was a favorite visiting spot of George Washington. The Marquis de Lafayette and the Baron von Steuben also stopped here. It served as a storehouse for supplies and shelter for American soldiers.

The homestead was occupied for almost 250 years by seven generations of the same family. The house is open to the public from May through December on the first Sunday of each month.

15. **→ Note: Only the 10k and 5k “Uptown/Waterfalls“ walkers should be on this instruction!**

Continue on Teller Ave (C&P: Catherine St, Rombout Ave, Vine St, W Center St, Fowler St, and Miller St) to Wolcott Ave (aka Rte. 9D) at the end of Teller Ave). (7 km)
At the end of Teller Ave, the bronze bust is of George Washington to commemorate his visits to the Madame Brett homestead during the Revolution.

16. **LEFT** on Wolcott Ave (aka: Rte. 9D) staying on the left side of the street (C&P: Fulton Ave, Tioronda Ave, Fishkill Creek Bridge, Simmons Ln, Spring Valley St, and Rector St) to Phillips St.

Read the interesting bronze plaque that is located on the walkway as you are crossing the 1933 constructed bridge.

You will pass St. Luke's Church on the left.

17. **LEFT** onto Phillips St (C&P: Madison Ave and Vail Ave) to Union St.

The cemetery behind the church will be on your left.

18. **RIGHT** onto Union St (C&P: Russell Ave) to Prospect St.

19. **RIGHT** onto Prospect Street (C&P: Vail Ave and Madison Ave, ns) to Wolcott Ave (aka Rte 9D).

Notice the large holly (if in bloom) tree on the right.



20. **LEFT** onto Wolcott Ave (aka Rte 9D). C&P Judson St, Bob's Corner Store Deli, and Howland Ave) to Mount Beacon Park. (8.5 km)

Do you see the remains of the Mount Beacon Incline Railway facing you on Mount Beacon?

21. **Walk into** the Mount Beacon Park parking lot and proceed to the trail head kiosk.
22. **TURNAROUND** and **exit** the parking lot of Mt. Beacon Park and head back towards Bob's Corner Store Deli, now on your right, and **walk** initially downhill on Wolcott Ave (C&P: Howland Ave, Judson St, Prospect St, Phillips St, Rector St, Spring Valley St, Simmons Ln, and the Fishkill Creek Bridge) to Tioronda Ave.

You will go past St. Luke's Church on your right.

23. **RIGHT** onto Tioronda Ave. **Walk** on the left side walkway (C&P: Vine St and Van Nydeck Ave) to Main St.

Portions of the 1994 Movie "Nobody's Fool" featuring Paul Newman, Bruce Willis and Jessica Tandy were filmed in this area.

24. **RIGHT** onto Main St. (C&P: Churchill St, South St, North St) to East Main Street.

You will pass on your right the former Matteawan Railroad Station for the New York, New Haven, and

Hartford Railroad. Matteawan is a local Indian tribe name meaning "Trout Stream" and the tribe was a part of the Wappinger Confederacy of tribes.

You will also pass the Electric Windows murals on your right.

25. **RIGHT** on East Main Street at the 'funny' traffic light (it's unusual due to its size).

Stop at the bridge rail on the left side of East Main Street to view water passing below the bridge.

26. After viewing the falls, **continue to walk to end of bridge** (away from the funny traffic light) and turn left on the cement trail/sidewalk. **Walk to end** where you can get a close-up view of the waterfalls from the lookout point.

27. After viewing the falls, **turn around** and **retrace your steps** on the cement trail/sidewalk back to East Main Street.

28. **RIGHT** onto East Main Street to the funny traffic light at the intersection with Main Street.

29. **Cross and turn left** on Main Street at the cross-walk.

30. **Follow** Main Street as it curves around to the right (C&P: North St, South St, Churchill St).

On the corner of Tioronda Ave and Main St is the Howland Cultural Center. This 1872 Victorian building was designed by the American Architect Richard Morris



Hunt. His works included the Marble House in Newport and the pedestal of The

Statue of Liberty. Many people refer to this building as the “Jewel of Beacon”. This former city library now features concerts and art exhibits.

31. At the intersection of Main Street and Teller Avenue, you will **return to your starting point** for both the 10k and 5k Uptown/Waterfalls walkers, the parking lot behind the Yankee Clipper Diner.

You finished!

Thank you for walking with us!
Remember to use the “Finish Table” function of the Online Start Box to complete your walk.



Special Instructions for those participating in the “Rails-to-Trails” AVA Special Program.

WALK UP the stairs to the street level, and **CONTINUE** with instruction #8 on the instructions above on page 5.

These instructions REPLACE instruction #7 in the general text on page 4 above.

7. **FACING** the tracks, **TURN RIGHT** in the parking lot, keeping the tracks to your immediate left. You'll be **walking south**, with the Hudson River to your right.

WALK to the far end of the parking lot, and **enter** the “Klara Sauer” Trail ahead. (Klara was the Scenic Hudson’s Executive Director from 1979-1999)

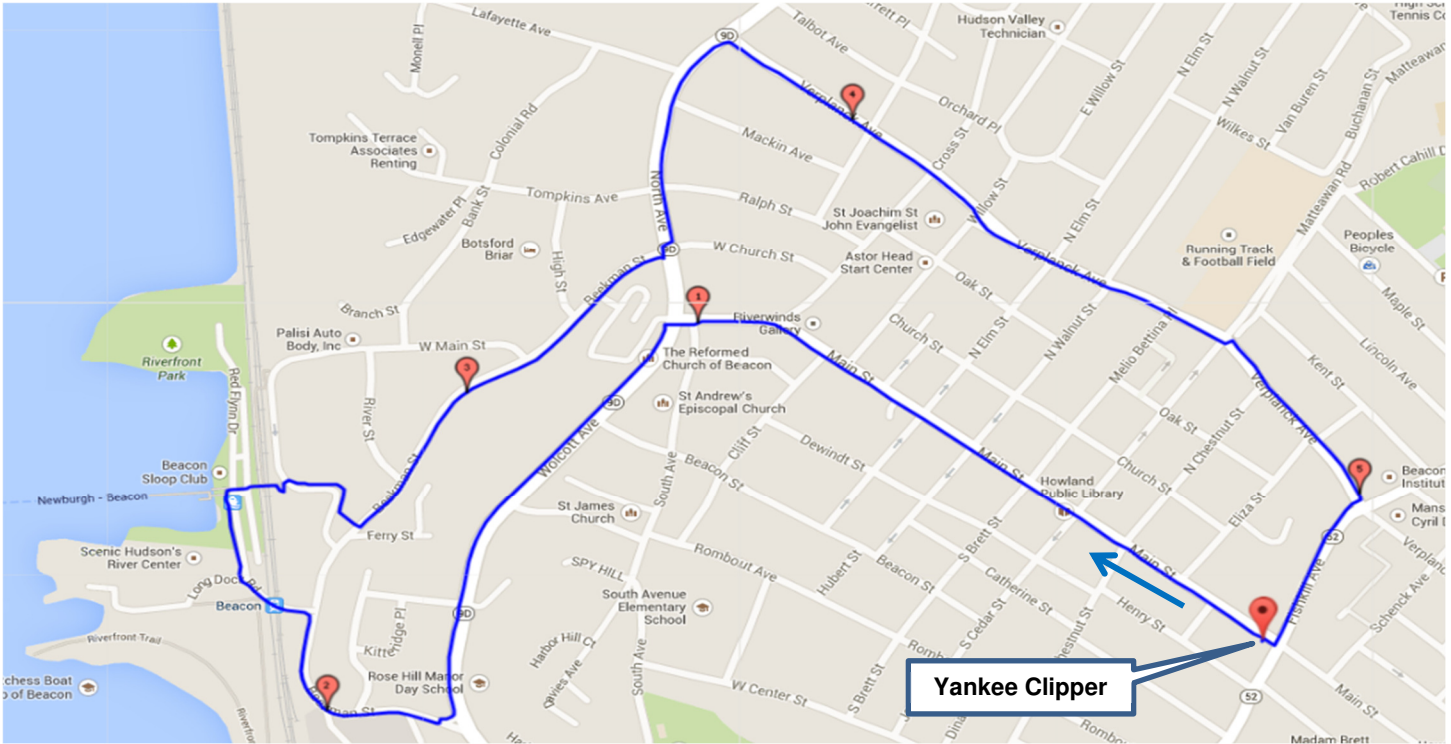
CONTINUE on the trail, keeping the railroad tracks and fence on your left. About ½ km, the tracks will bear off to your left, **continue** on the trail ahead.

CONTINUE to the **END** of the Klara Sauer trail at the “T” intersection. (If open, you might consider **turning right** to visit the “Beacon Institute/Clarkson University” center a short distance away (no extra distance credit, however) and **return** to this location.)

TURN AROUND and **RETRACE YOUR STEPS** of the Klara Sauer trail to the parking lot.

CONTINUE STRAIGHT through this section of the parking lot and at the end, **TURN RIGHT** at the “*TO ALL TRAINS*” sign to **WALK THROUGH** the pedestrian underpass.

MAP A: 5k - 5k Riverfront Walk (and first half of the full 10k route)



MAP B: 5k - 5l Uptown/Waterfalls Walk (and second half of the full 10k route)

