

Creston, Union County, Iowa 6K and 11K McKinley Park – 546-560 Lake Shore Drive

Smart phone location phrase: McKinley Park, Creston, Iowa

Driving into Creston on Hwy 34, on the west side of town, turn N onto Patriotic Drive (you'll see the Freedom Rock and the Visitor's Center). Turn R onto Park St and follow E and N through rail road underpass, then veer L onto McKinley St. Just past Stone St and to your left you'll see the "Bear Cage" parking area and the shelter house with outdoor start box.

Please use either the Online Start Box (OSB) or Physical Start Box (PSB) to register and complete the event. Do NOT mix and match, for example, by registering using the OSB then completing your event using the PSB nor signing the PSB log sheet. The sponsoring club only receives credit for an OSB participation when an OSB registration has been completed online by entering your participation date, distances, and any special programs using the OSB."

Start/End McKinley Park. From Lake Shore Drive enter the park near the south east end, turning into the parking area with the carved wooden bear.

McKinley Park offers an eleven acre pond for fishing, memorial garden, 18-hole disc golf course, band shell, skate park, swimming pool and a campground. The park is the beginning of an eight mile paved walking/biking trail that extends to the campground at Green Valley State Park north of Creston.

1. Trail begins at west end of the parking area. Proceed toward the green maintenance building (rest rooms here), following the trail as it turns south (left), crosses the road, and enters the Union County Historical Village.

2. Follow the trail as it takes you through the historical village and the walnut woods.

This village depicts a rural community in the 1800's. Note the depot, watch tower and caboose representing Creston's railroad heritage. The village is open for visitors Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend.

3. Cross Lake Shore Drive and find the trail just to the left of the road (alternatively stay on the road, watching for traffic). Merge with the road and continue to follow road, then trail as it circles the lake in a clockwise direction. Trail continues across bridge and crosses Adams Street at McKinley Street.

4. Cross Adams Street to join trail and follow as it proceeds north, turns left.

Taylor Park is located just north of McKinley Park and offers a shelter house, playground equipment and green space.

Improving McKinley Lake water quality has been a multi-year project. On your left you will see a series of filter ponds built for this purpose. The next step is to dredge the lake and restore it for fishing and swimming.

5. Cross Prairie Street and continue into Arboretum. Veer to the left and arrive at gazebo.

6. 6K Return to start. 11 K go to step 8.

Follow trail as it exits gazebo, veer to left, through Kuhl Arboretum. Retrace steps to Adams Street.

7. Cross Adams Street and continue on trail up the hill and into McKinley Park to Start/Finish parking area.

A Veterans Memorial Statuary Garden is located in McKinley Park to the immediate L of the trail on the return to the start. AVA Special Programs: Walking with America's Veterans

McKinley Lake was built in 1874 by the C.B. & Q Railroad for the purpose of creating a waterworks for the Round Houses, Machine Shops and downtown businesses. It is now owned by the City of Creston.

Creston Parks and Recreation and Friends of McKinley Park offer several festivals throughout the year,

These walk directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited
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In Case of Emergency Call 911
For information contact Jan Knock POC 641.340.0114

Special Programs: Honoring America's Veterans
www.iowaswalkingclub.org
Look for us on FB @ Iowa's Walking Club

including a Fourth of July Celebration attended by thousands of people. Go to www.unioncountyiowatourism.com for more information.

8. 11K Continue N on trail.

9. Cross Prairie Street and follow the trail as it heads E.

10. Cross Highway 25/Townline Road and continue N.

Southwestern Community College (SWCC) and the Creston Family Fitness Center is on the left.

11. Continue on trail out of town to gazebo at the top of the hill. Turn around here and retrace steps. Follow from step 7 to start/finish.

From the gazebo looking N is Mitchell Marsh and then Green Valley State Park and Lake. The trail continues to the Green Valley State Park campground.

