


GREAT GREENBELT VOLKSMARCH CLUB  
Aquatic Garden and Anacostia River Trail Y2861

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

YRE Description ..... 2  
How to read instructions ..... 3  
Registering for the walk ..... 3  
After you have completed the walk..... 3  
Driving Directions..... 4  
    Metro ..... 4  
Walk Instructions ..... 5  
6km Map ..... 8  
12km Map ..... 9  
14km Map ..... 10  
5km Map ..... 11  
Internet Resources..... 12  
Photo Album ..... 12

	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

This event explores the trails in Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens and the islands created in the Anacostia River from material dredged from the river in 1916. The Kingman and Heritage Islands were federally owned until 1955. Now they are owned by DC and managed by Living Classrooms of the National Capital Region. The Aquatic Gardens were created by the Shaw family but are now managed by the National Park Service. Due to COVID 19 the visitor center and restrooms are closed, porta potties available, the grounds are open 8a.m.-4p.m. 7 days a week, closed Thanksgiving, December 25 and January 1. Check the website for updated hours. They are open later some days during the summer.

The Anacostia River trails are paved. The trails in the Aquatic Garden are gravel paths except between the lotus and lily ponds. The island trails are mainly natural paths.

**6km TRAIL** is within the Kenilworth Park and Aquatic Gardens. The walk starts along Anacostia Ave NE, the boundary of the park, to access the East Bank Trail NB. This trail initially passes sports facilities but later passes between the Anacostia River and the Kenilworth Tidal Marsh before entering the Aquatic Gardens via the River Trail. In the gardens the trail follows the perimeter trail and the boardwalks which lead to 2 observation decks for the Kenilworth Tidal Marsh. Please enjoy walking between the lotus/lily ponds, distance is allowed.

Occasionally a sign CLOSED DUE TO HIGH WATER is placed across the River Trail at the Anacostia River Trail intersection. Please proceed with caution as normally there are just a few puddles. If the path is under water, please turn around and retrace the 6km instructions back to your car. You can call the park on (202) 692-6080 to find out if the trail is passable.

**12km TRAIL** starts along Anacostia Ave NE then cuts across Kenilworth Park to join the East Bank Trail SB as it returns to follow the Anacostia River to the River Terrace Park. It then uses the Benning St Bridge bike path to cross the river, Kingman Island and Kingman Lake to the West Bank Trail. It crosses back to the East Bank Trail by crossing Heritage Island and Kingman Island to the bike trail. The trail then returns to join the 6km trail near the Kenilworth Tidal Marsh.

**14km TRAIL** follows the 12km trail and explores more trails on both Heritage and Kingman Islands

A 5km walk can be done just in the Aquatic Garden. A map is included showing that it would require walking around each pond, the perimeter trail, the Overlook Trail and the River Trail, however no instructions are included. The following distances might help to design a walk.

Perimeter trail 0.7km

River trail out and back 1.6km

Overlook trail out and back 0.9km



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.

### **Restroom Information**

Porta potties are available to the left of the entrance path at the Aquatic Gardens and on Kingman Island.

### **Water Availability**

Due to COVIG 19 the water fountains are not functional. Please carry your own water and refreshments.

### How to read instructions

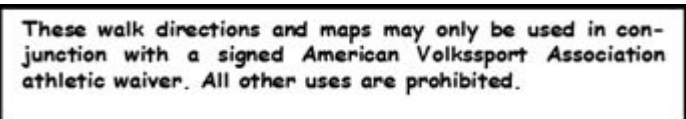
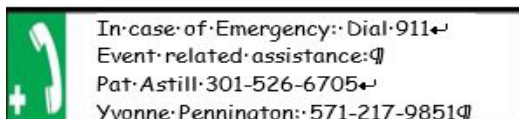
- Numbered instructions or filled bullets give directions.
- Small alphabet instructions or open bullets give information such as what you are passing or crossing before the next direction.

### Registering for the walk

The Great Greenbelt Volkmarshers 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

Please remember to log back into the OSB’s “Finish Table” after completing the walk. Completion information includes the date the event was walked, the distance walked and applicable special programs.



GREAT GREENBELT VOLKSMARCH CLUB  
Aquatic Garden and Anacostia River Trail Y2861

## Driving Directions

START: Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

1550 Anacostia Ave NE

Washington DC 20019

38.912630, -76.941820

///sentence.fact.token

### From Baltimore-Washington Parkway/295

#### **SOUTHBOUND.**

EXIT towards Eastern Ave/Aquatic Gardens.

Keep STRAIGHT at light, right lane, onto Kenilworth Ave NE.

RIGHT on Quarles St NE to end.

LEFT on Anacostia Ave NE to park on right.

#### **NORTHBOUND**

EXIT onto Kenilworth Ave NE

LEFT on Eastern Ave NE

CROSS over 295

LEFT on Kenilworth Ave NE

RIGHT on Quarles St NE to end.

LEFT on Anacostia Ave NE to park on right.

## Metro

**ORANGE LINE:** Deanwood Station.

Exit the station using the lower Polk Street exit.

Walk to end of Polk Street.

Use pedestrian overpass to cross Kenilworth Ave/I-295

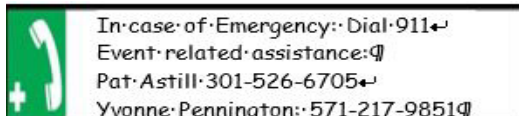
LEFT on Douglas St to end.

RIGHT on Anacostia Ave NE to park on left.

#### **OR**

LEFT on Anacostia Ave NE

GO TO instruction 2a



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

**Greater Greenbelt Volksmarchers**  
**Aquatic Gardens & Anacostia River Trail 6km, 12km & 14m**

SPECIAL PROGRAMS: Little Free Library (LFL) 12km & 14km walks

Abbreviations: (L) on the left, (R) on the right.

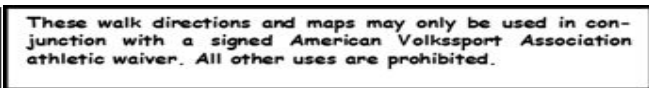
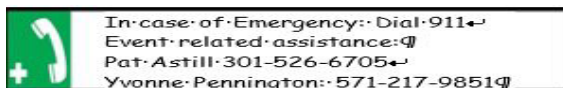
1. From Parking lot walk along entrance road to street.
2. **CROSS** turn **RIGHT** on Anacostia Ave. NE to Polk St NE.
  - a. **CROSS** Douglas St NE.
  - b. **CROSS** creek.
3. Turn **RIGHT CROSS** Anacostia Ave NE turn **LEFT** to walk on right-side of Anacostia Ave NE to East Bank Trail sign opposite 40th St NE.
  - a. **PASS** parking lot (R).
  - b. **PASS** Ode St NE (L).
  - c. **PASS** Nash St NE (L).
  - d. **PASS** 42 St NE (L).
  - e. **PASS** tennis courts (R).
8. Turn **RIGHT** on yellow marked trail to Kingman and Heritage Islands sign(R).
  - a. **WALK** around large building (L).
  - b. **PASS** Flood Area sign and wooden fence (R)
  - c. **PASS** Kenilworth maintenance yard (L) Anacostia River (R).
  - d. **CROSS** bridge over marsh.
  - e. **PASS** under Metro bridge.
  - f. **PASS** under Ethel Kennedy Bridge/Benning Rd Bridge.
  - g. **PASS** River Terrace Park sign (R).
9. Turn **LEFT, LEFT** and **LEFT** uphill to traffic lights at Benning Rd and Anacostia Ave NE.
10. Turn **LEFT CROSS** the Anacostia River using the Benning Road Bike Path to 1st path (L) at end of bridge.
  - a. **CROSS** Anacostia River.
  - b. **CROSS** Kingman Island.
  - c. **CROSS** Kingman Lake.
  - d. **PASS** under Metro bridge.

**6km WALKERS**

- Turn **RIGHT** bear **RIGHT** on yellow marked trail to follow East Bank Trail NB towards Bladensburg Wtrfrt Pk→ to 2nd path (L) and Reduced Speed sign (R).
  - **PASS** handball court (R).
  - **PASS** track and field stadium(R) 1st path(L).
  - **PASS** Kenilworth Marsh Tidal Inlet sign(R).
  - **PASS** football fields (L).
  - **GO TO** instruction 27.

**12km & 14km WALKERS**

4. **STRAIGHT, CROSS** paved circle with stone wall (R) to T-junction with yellow marked trail.
5. Turn **LEFT** on yellow marked trail to STOP sign.
6. Turn **RIGHT** on Deane Avenue to concrete barriers across road. **DO NOT** continue on the marked trail.
  - a. **PASS** parking lot & path (R).
  - b. **PASS** dirt path (R) at the end of the left-hand curve on the road.
  - c. **PASS** football field, soccer field, parking lot and 2nd football field (R).
7. **PASS** around concrete barrier (R), **FOLLOW** trail to T-junction at yellow marked trail.
  - a. **Immediately CROSS** Watts Branch.
  - b. **PASS** through open gates just before marked trail.
11. Turn **LEFT** on yellow marked trail, Anacostia Waterfront Trail, to sign for Kingman and Heritage Islands sign at 4-way intersection.
  - a. **PASS** under Metro Bridge.
  - b. **PASS** parking lot (R).
12. Turn **LEFT** through gate **CROSS** bridge to 1st path (R).
  - a. **PASS** "Welcome to Kingman and Heritage Islands" sign (L).
  - b. **PASS** through gate
  - c. **PASS** Little Free Library #87411(L).



**Greater Greenbelt Volksmarchers**  
**Aquatic Gardens & Anacostia River Trail 6km, 12km & 14m**

**DECISION POINT:**

**12km WALKERS**

- **STRAIGHT** to next bridge.
- **GO TO** instruction 14

**14km WALKERS**

13. Turn **RIGHT** to follow perimeter path around Heritage Island to **T-junction**.
- a. **PASS** “Welcome to Heritage Island” Mile 0.0 (L).
  - b. **PASS** storyboard “TIDAL FRESHWATER WETLANDS of KINGMAN and HERITAGE ISLANDS” (R).
  - c. **CROSS** short boardwalk or bypass by using path (R).
  - d. **PASS** dirt path (L).
  - e. **PASS** 0.1mile post.
  - f. **PASS** dirt path (L).
  - g. Turn **LEFT** at 0.2mile post, view RFK Stadium across Kingman Lake (R).
  - h. **CROSS** boardwalk.
  - i. **CROSS** 2<sup>nd</sup> boardwalk, **PASS** 0.3mile post.
  - j. **CROSS** 3<sup>rd</sup> boardwalk.
  - k. **PASS** dirt path (L).
  - l. Turn **RIGHT** at **T-junction** to bridge.

**12km & 14km WALKERS Join.**

14. **CROSS** bridge to Kingman Island.
- a. Notice steps down to the water and many bird houses attached to the bridge.
  - b. **PASS** storyboards related to Kingman and Heritage Islands. “NATIVE REPTILES”, “NATIVE FISH”, 2 for “NATIVE BIRDS” and NATIVE MAMMALS”.
15. Bear **LEFT** to gravel area (L) after Turtle sculpture (L).

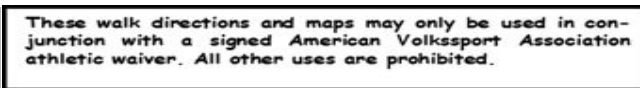
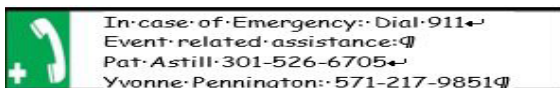
**DECISION POINT**

**12km WALKERS**

- Turn **LEFT CROSS** gravel and field to follow narrow gravel/grass through trees to **T-junction**.
  - **PASS** Chronolog camera stand (R), steep dirt path (L).
- Turn **LEFT** to follow road to concrete path (R).
  - **PASS** “Welcome to Kingman and Heritage Islands” (L).
- **GO TO** instruction 20

**14km WALKERS**

16. **STRAIGHT** to follow path to **T-junction**.
17. Turn **RIGHT** to follow sign to South East Meadow 0.5miles→ to concrete path (R).
- a. **PASS** 0.2mile marker (L).
  - b. **PASS** 0.3mile marker (L) stone area (R).
  - c. **PASS** 0.4mile marker (L).
  - d. **PASS UNDER** Whitney Young Memorial Bridge and **PASS** #TRASHFREEDC sculpture (L).
  - e. **PASS** 0.5mile marker (L).
  - f. **PASS** path (R).
  - g. Turn **RIGHT** to follow concrete path and dirt path to 0.7mile marker at **T-junction**.
  - h. **PASS** chronolog camera stand (L).
  - i. **PASS** storyboard “NATIVE MID-ATLANTIC MEADOW of Kingman and Heritage Islands”.
  - j. **PASS** chronolog camera stand (R).
  - k. **PASS** 0.6mile marker (R).
  - l. **STRAIGHT** on narrow dirt path to 0.7mile marker (R).
18. Turn **AROUND** to follow paths/dirt road to ←Heritage Island sign after 0.2mile marker (R).
19. **STRAIGHT** to follow dirt road to concrete path (R).
- a. **PASS** GottaGo NOW (L).
  - b. **PASS** 0.1mile marker (R).
  - c. **PASS** dirt path (L).
  - d. **PASS** “Welcome to Kingman and Heritage Islands”
  - e. **PASS** 0.0mile marker.



**Greater Greenbelt Volksmarchers**  
**Aquatic Gardens & Anacostia River Trail 6km, 12km & 14m**

**12km & 14km WALKERS Join.**

20. Turn **RIGHT** on the concrete path to blue pavilion.

- a. **PASS** Kingman Island Trail sign (R).

**RESTROOMS: STRAIGHT** ahead through pavilion.

21. **Sharp LEFT under blue pavilion to gate in railing.**

22. **EXIT** through gate turn **RIGHT** to cross Anacostia river to traffic lights at Anacostia Ave NE.

- a. **PASS** over Anacostia River.

23. Turn **RIGHT** to follow path to T-junction at trail by river.

24. Turn **RIGHT** on yellow marked trail, Anacostia River Trail, to gated road (L) after large building (R)

- a. **PASS** Kenilworth Maintenance Yards (R).
- b. **PASS** 2 sides of large building (R)

25. Turn **LEFT** on road to 1st path (L) as road starts to curve right.

- a. **PASS open gate (L)**
- b. **CROSS** Watts Branch & **PASS** concrete barriers.
- c. **PASS** parking lot (L).
- d. **PASS** playing fields (L).

26. Turn **LEFT** on narrow path to cross field to yellow marked East Bank Trail NB.

- a. **PASS** through concrete barriers.
- b. Turn **LEFT** at yellow marked trail.

**12 & 14km WALKERS re-Join 6km WALKERS.**

27. **CONTINUE STRAIGHT** on the yellow marked trail to far side of 1st bridge.

- a. **PASS** National Arboretum across the Anacostia River.
- b. **CROSS** bridge over Kenilworth Marsh Tidal Inlet.

28. Turn **RIGHT** on dirt path to seat at edge of marsh.

29. Turn **AROUND** bear **RIGHT** to marked trail.

30. Turn **RIGHT** on yellow marked trail to walk between the Anacostia River (L) and the Kenilworth Marsh (R) to signpost ←Anacostia River Trail→ (L).

- a. **PASS** Kenilworth Marsh sign (R).
- b. **PASS** between railings.

31. Bear **RIGHT** on gravel path to 1st gravel path (R).  
a. **PASS** “Welcome Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens” sign (L).

- b. **PASS** railing with sign “Trail Closed due to High Water”. (If across the path continue with care. **IF PATH UNDER WATER** turn around turn **LEFT** to follow Anacostia River Trail back to Anacostia Ave NE, turn **LEFT** back to car.)

- c. **PASS** sign to Visitor Center↑ (L).

- d. **PASS** bike racks (L) and (R).

32. Turn **RIGHT** to follow gravel perimeter trail to Overlook sign, walking between Marsh (R) and ponds (L).

- a. **PASS** “Beauty and Business” storyboard (L).
- b. **PASS** “Victoria amazonica” storyboard (L).

33. Turn **RIGHT** on boardwalk, staying right at each turn to circle right round 1st overlook.

- a. **PASS** “Birds, Wetlands and ...” storyboard on upper part of overlook.

34. Turn **RIGHT** on boardwalk to boardwalk on right at bench (R).

35. Turn **RIGHT** on boardwalk to circle right round 2nd overlook.

36. Turn **RIGHT** to return to main boardwalk at bench (L).

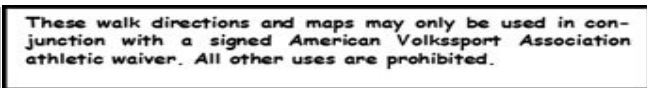
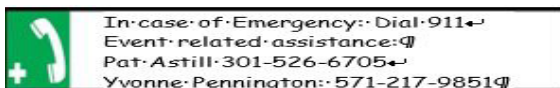
37. Turn **RIGHT** to return to gravel perimeter trail.

- a. **PASS** “Under the Boardwalk” storyboard (R).

38. Turn **RIGHT** on perimeter trail to sign for EXIT.

- a. **PASS** through picnic area.
- b. **PASS** “Preserve and Protect” storyboard (R).
- c. **PASS** Visitor Center Bookstore (R)
- d. **PASS** Restrooms (R)
- e. **PASS** “Helen Shaw Fowler” storyboard (L).
- f. **PASS** “Planting Time” storyboard (L).
- g. **PASS** path to Porta-Johns (R).

39. Bear **RIGHT** to follow **EXIT** sign to parking area and car.



GREAT GREENBELT VOLKSMARCH CLUB  
Aquatic Garden and Anacostia River Trail Y2861

6km Map



Figure 1 6km Map created with Plotaroute

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.

GREAT GREENBELT VOLKSMARCH CLUB  
Aquatic Garden and Anacostia River Trail Y2861

12km Map

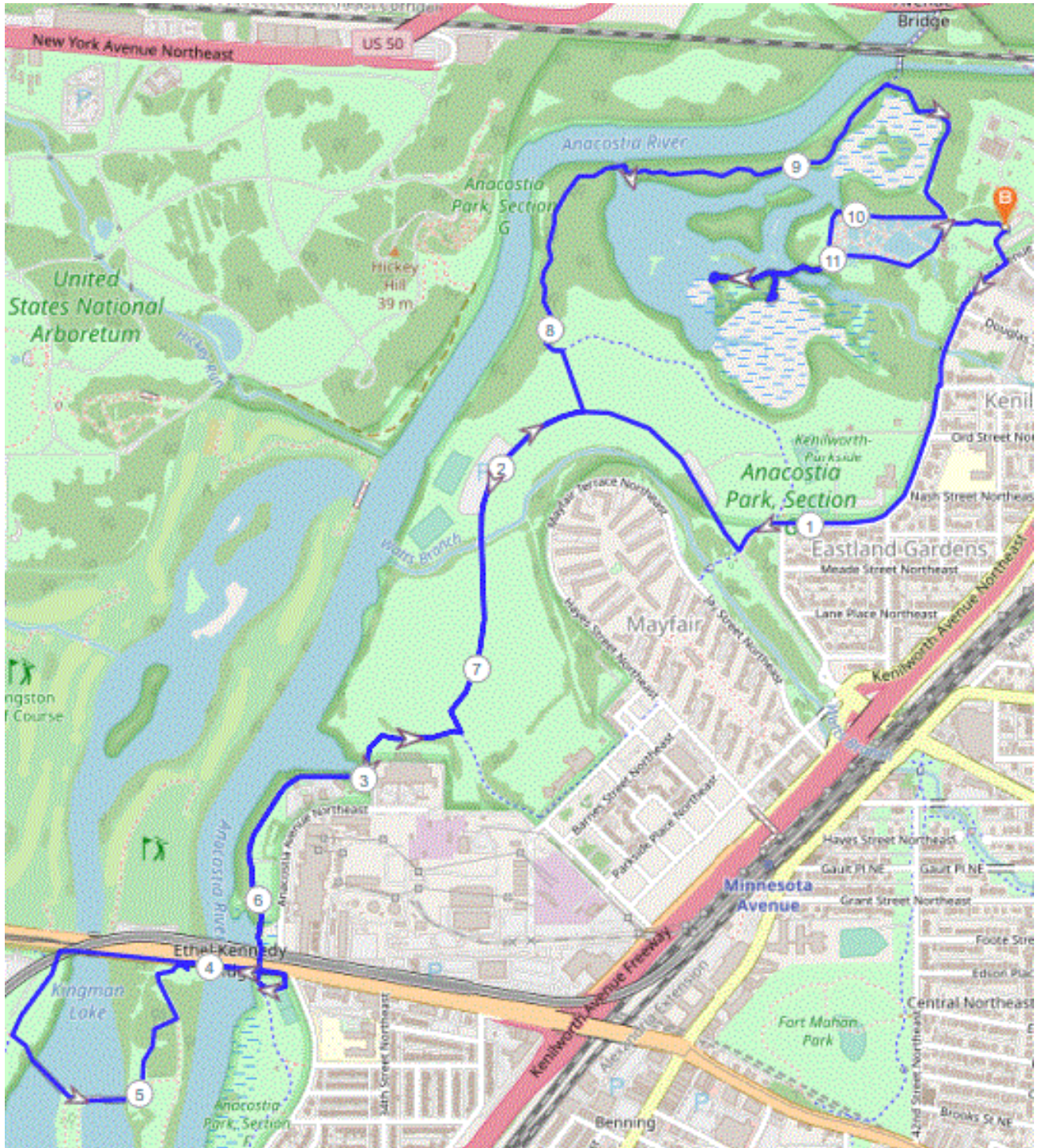


Figure 2 12km Map created with Plotaroute

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.

GREAT GREENBELT VOLKSMARCH CLUB  
 Aquatic Garden and Anacostia River Trail Y2861

14km Map



Figure 3 14km map created with Plotaroute

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.

GREAT GREENBELT VOLKSMARCH CLUB  
Aquatic Garden and Anacostia River Trail Y2861

5km Map

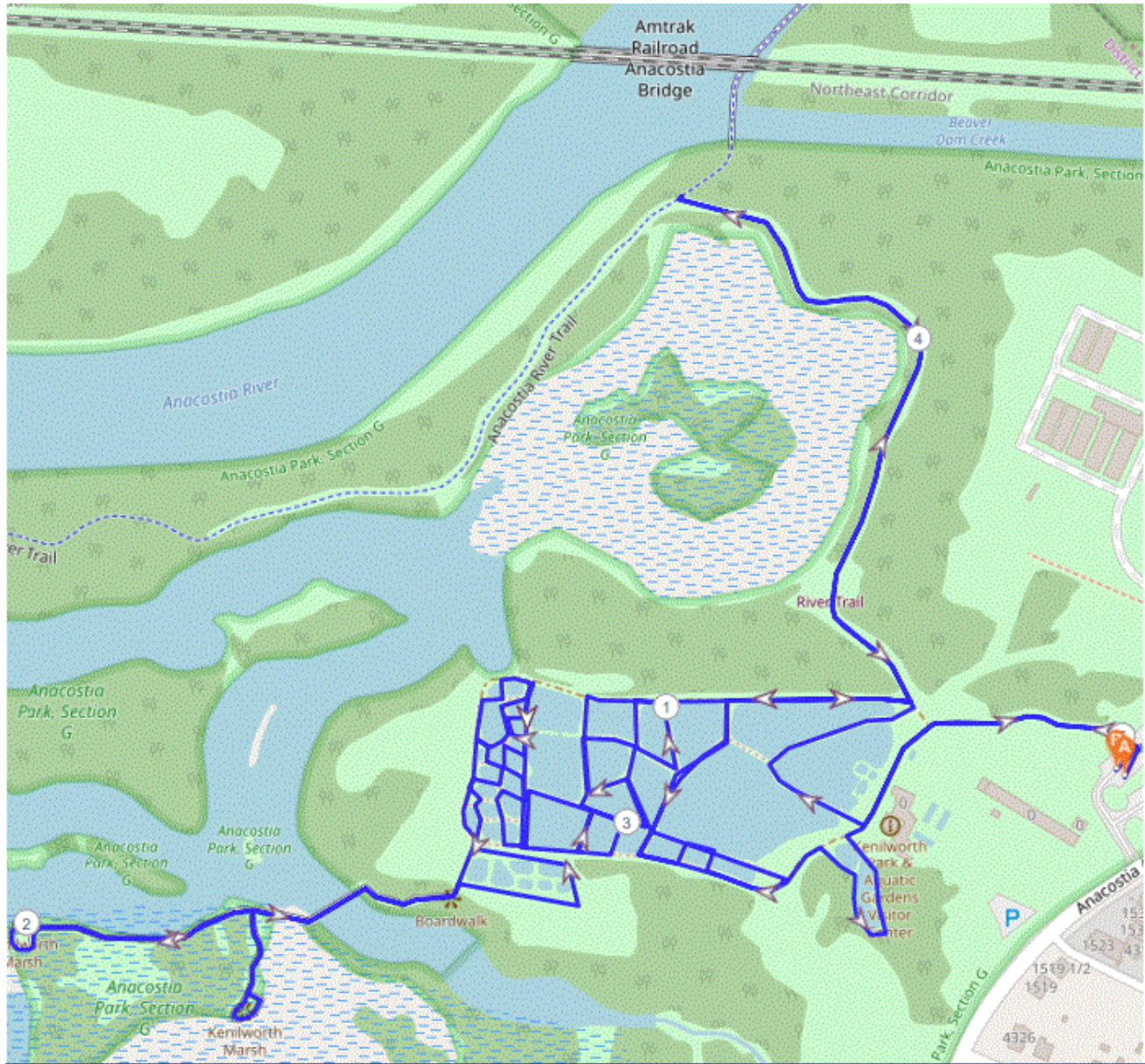


Figure 4 5km Map created with Plotaroute

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.

## Internet Resources

What3Words <https://what3words.com/>

Washington DC COVID Information <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/>

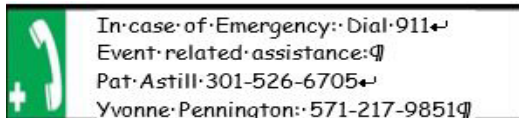
Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens: <https://nps.gov/keaq>

Kingman and Heritage Islands: [www.kingmanisland.org](http://www.kingmanisland.org)

## Photo Album



Figure 5 View of Benning Road Bridge



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

GREAT GREENBELT VOLKSMARCH CLUB  
Aquatic Garden and Anacostia River Trail Y2861



Figure 6 Kingman & Heritage Island



Figure 7 Anacostia River Trail Sign

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.


GREAT GREENBELT VOLKSMARCH CLUB  
Aquatic Garden and Anacostia River Trail Y2861



Figure 8 Blue Heron Walking in a pond



Figure 9 Lillies in one of the ponds

 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.