

# Conowingo Y3077 (Walk) / Y3073 (Bike)

Darlington, Maryland

5k, 10k, 18k and 23k Walk or Bike Event

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## YRE Description

The area below the dam is excellent for bird-watching. At least 170 species of birds have been observed and recorded at the dam including large groups of bald eagles, herons, and vultures.

All trails are “out and back” on the old Philadelphia Electric Rail Trail along the Susquehanna River.

## AVA Special Programs

Rails-To-Trails

## Registering for the walk

When you register for the walk or bike event you can download the PDF file with walk or bike information. The PDF includes directions to the walk or bike start and walk or bike instructions. The fee for the download is \$2. You will be credited for this fee if you complete the walk or bike event and pay the participant fee within 60 days.

## After you have completed the walk or bike event

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

## Driving Directions to the trail start

The start point is located at the sentry shack at the north end of the Conowingo Fisherman's Park parking lot near the dam.


**Address:** Conowingo Hydroelectric Plant, 2569 Shures Landing Rd, Darlington, MD 21034

**GPS Coordinates** of the Conowingo Fisherman's Park are 39.65555, -76.17357.

**Plus code** is MR4G+4H Darlington, Maryland

*Plus codes are based on latitude and longitude. By using a simpler code system, they are intended to be shorter and easier to use than traditional global coordinates.*

The start/finish is in the fishing pavilion at the Conowingo Dam. Take Exit 77 toward Bel Air from I-95 and follow MD Rt. 24 north. It transitions into US Rt. 1 about 7 miles from I-95. At just over 21 miles

 <b>In case of Emergency: Dial 911</b> For event assistance: Jim Farley (410) 638-7043	<b><i>These walk instructions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.</i></b>
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## Conowingo Y3077 (Walk) / Y3073 (Bike)

from I-95, before crossing the Susquehanna River, turn right off US Rt. 1 onto Shuresville Rd. After less than 1 mile, turn left onto Shures Landing. Follow this road to its end and park at the north end of the parking lot (about 1 mile from Shuresville Rd).

# Conowingo Walk/Bike Trails 5k, 10k, 18k, 23k

**Warning!** Water levels can rise rapidly with or without warning. Flashing red lights and sounding sirens mean water levels are rising. Quickly move to higher ground.

There are port-a-potties and ample parking at the start/finish point.

The Start/Finish area is immediately south of the guard shack between the two distinct parking lots, and east of the fishermen's river surface access.

1. **Exit** the Start/Finish area and proceed downriver with the dam to your back and the river on your left.
2. Continue through the parking area to its end. Go around the yellow barrier and continue onto the BLUE BLAZED "Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway Trail". Follow the blue blazes.
3. **5k WALKERS / BIKERS:** When you see a picnic table on your left before the start of a boardwalk over a marshy area, **TURN AROUND** and retrace your journey back to the Start/Finish.
4. All others continue on the trail. When the "Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway Trail" bears right to cross a bridge, continue across the bridge and follow the trail away from the river. **(3.5k)**
5. Pass a large stone chimney on your left. When you reach Stafford Road (no sign), **TURN LEFT.**
6. Continue on the main highway. **BEAR LEFT** at the intersection with Craigs Corner Rd.
7. **TURN RIGHT** and go up the driveway to the entrance to Susquehanna State Park.
8. **10k WALKERS AND BIKERS ONLY:** At the park entrance, **TURN AROUND** and retrace your journey to the Start/Finish.
9. All others continue southward on Stafford Rd.
10. Before you pass the operational 200+ year-old Rock Run Grist Mill on your left, **TURN RIGHT** on Rock Run Rd. **Please exercise extreme caution** as you continue on the narrow Rock Run Rd, **bearing LEFT** at each intersection until you reach Quaker Bottom Rd. When the pavement ends, continue on Stafford Rd.
11. **TURN LEFT** on Quaker Bottom Rd. and again **TURN LEFT** onto the Steppingstone Museum entrance. Follow the entrance road to its end at a parking lot.
12. **Retrace** your path down Quaker Bottom Rd. and Rock Run Rd, to Stafford Rd.
13. At the stop sign, **TURN RIGHT** on Stafford Rd.
14. At the Stop sign marking the intersection of Lapidum and Stafford Roads, **TURN LEFT.** Enter the Lapidum Boat Launch area and continue to the south end of the parking lot.

**RESTROOMS ARE AVAILABLE HERE.**

15. **TURN AROUND** and travel back to the Start/Finish area.

*Thank you for walking and biking with the Baltimore Walking Club.*

*We hope you enjoyed this trail.*

***This event is dedicated to Jill Mussen, longtime BWC member***



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# Conowingo Y3077 (Walk) / Y3073 (Bike)



5k Map

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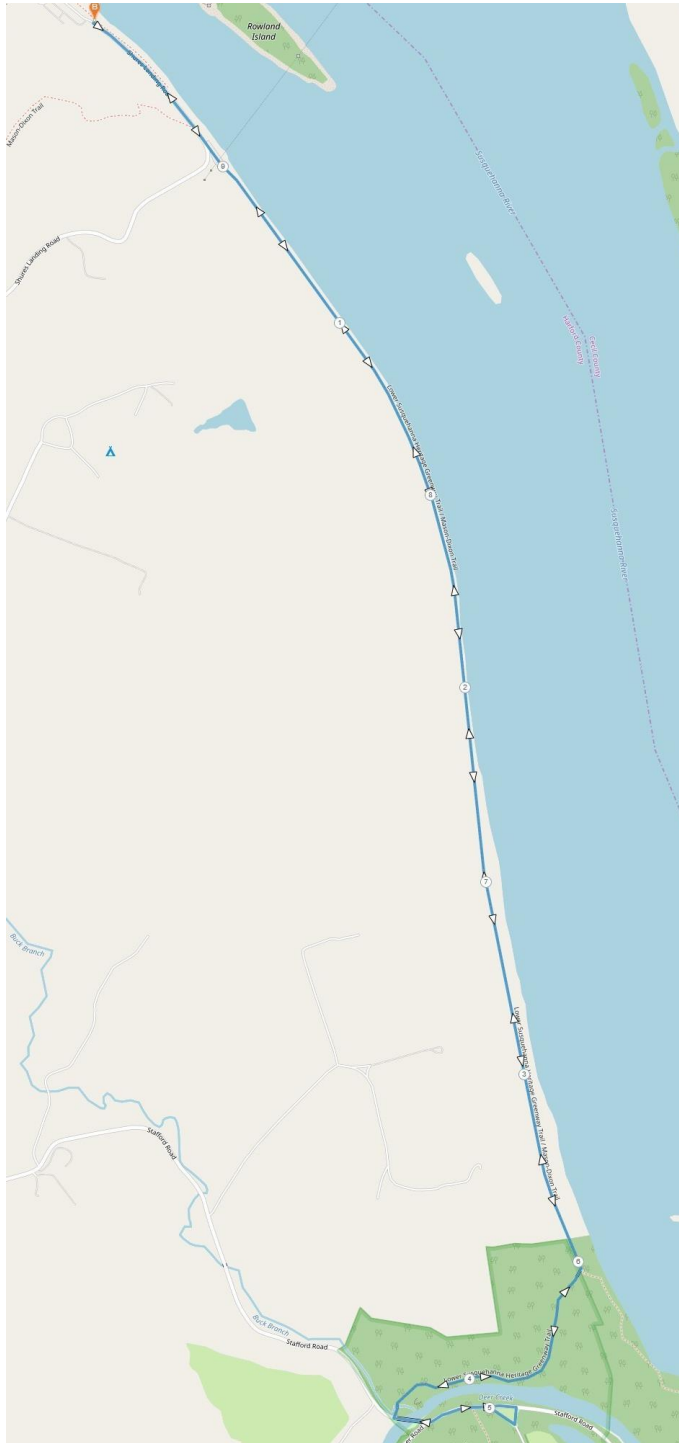


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# Conowingo Y3077 (Walk) / Y3073 (Bike)



10k Map

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# Conowingo Y3077 (Walk) / Y3073 (Bike)



18k Map

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# Conowingo Y3077 (Walk) / Y3073 (Bike)



23k map

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# Internet Resources

Conowingo, Maryland: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conowingo,\\_Maryland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conowingo,_Maryland)

Conowingo Dam, Maryland: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conowingo\\_Dam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conowingo_Dam)

Steppingstone Museum: <https://www.stepsingstonemuseum.org/>

Geographic region: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic\\_coastal\\_plain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_coastal_plain)

Club Information: [Baltimore Walking Club](#)


## Conowingo Trivia

1. "The clear water spilling from Lake Otsego to form the North Branch of the Susquehanna will, under normal conditions, take six days to reach the Chesapeake, 48 miles away". \*
2. "The Susquehanna is the longest river in the northeastern United States and one of the oldest rivers in the world." \*\*
3. "...when it leaves the fertile farmlands of southeastern Pennsylvania and crosses the Mason-Dixon line into Maryland, the current accelerates as it drops a dramatic 208 feet in 27 miles..." \*\*
4. For the Conowingo Dam: "The peak of construction was reached in August 1927, a mere seven months before it would be generating power, when 3,725 men were working on the powerhouse and spillway alone. There were also 225 men working on transmission lines to Philadelphia, and 1,400 working on the railroad relocation and rerouting of the highway". \*\*
5. "Colonial Americans turned to the lower Susquehanna River for power. The force of its water turned the wheels of gristmills that dotted the riverbanks, such as the Rock Run Gristmill...erected by John Stump III in 1798." \*\*
6. The Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal, which ran 45 miles from Havre de Grace, MD, to Wrightsville, PA, was opened in 1840. Ironically, railroad tracks were laid on the canal's towpath in the 1920's to deliver materiel to build Conowingo Dam.\*\*\*

\* Susquehanna, River of Dreams, 1993, Susan Q. Stranahan

\*\* Images of America: Conowingo Dam, 2017, John R. Paulson

\*\*\* MD Department of Natural Resources website

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