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<b>Dates:</b>	4/1/2025 - 9/30/2025
<b>City / State:</b>	Hastings MN
<b>Event Name:</b>	Hastings Walk
<b>Event Type:</b>	Seasonal Walk
<b>Event ID:</b>	
<b>Distance - Trail Ratings:</b>	1A
<b>Description:</b>	Walk the paved trails and sidewalks of historic Hastings featuring the Mississippi and Vermillion rivers, Vermillion Falls, Ardent Mills, and Lake Isabel.
<b>Amenities:</b>	<b>Strollers:</b> easy   <b>Wheelchairs:</b> easy   <b>Pets:</b> Yes   <b>Restrooms:</b> Yes
<b>Special Programs:</b>	Par for the Course, Town Halls/City Halls, Walking with Americas Veterans
<b>Start Times:</b>	Dawn to dusk
<b>Location:</b>	Vermillion Falls Park
<b>Start Point / Driving Directions:</b>	215 21st St E, Hastings, MN 55033. From the east metro take Highway 10/61 south to Hastings. On the south side of Hastings with Ardent Mill on your left, cross the Vermillion River bridge and turn left onto 21 <sup>st</sup> St East. The Vermillion Falls Parking lot is on the left. From the west metro take Highway 55 south to Hastings. At the T intersection with Highway 61 turn right passing the Ardent Mill on your left and crossing the Vermillion River bridge. Turn left onto 21 <sup>st</sup> St East. The Vermillion Falls Parking lot is on the left.
<b>Awards &amp; Fees:</b>	IVV Credit Only
<b>Comments:</b>	Vermillion Falls Park and the adjacent Old Mill Park and ruins are a treasure for picnics, exploring, and viewing the spectacular 35 ft. Vermillion Falls and limestone ravine. In the 19th century this 35-foot waterfall was used to power the gristmill. Today it's a beautiful attraction that is easily accessible to all. Across the river is the Ardent Mills facility. This mill was built in 1853 by Harrison H. Graham and the FIRST operating mill in Minnesota as well as the first all-roller mill facility in the U.S. It was originally powered by the Vermillion River. The purifier, patent barrel, and graham flour were invented here. Parking and restrooms available at the start point.
<b>Host Club:</b>	Twin Cities Volkssport
<b>Contact:</b>	Wayne Heath <a href="mailto:wvheath76@gmail.com">wvheath76@gmail.com</a> 651-249-8886



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**Website:**

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**WALK COMPLETION AND CREDIT:** Be sure to log back into the OSB system to finish/complete your online registration after doing the event. The OSB system does not deduct any event fee from a participant's Event Bank until they have submitted event completion info including the date the event was walked, the distance walked, and the selection of applicable special programs that person is participating in. Nevertheless, a fee of \$2 for a downloaded PDF is deducted from the Event Bank when the PDF is downloaded. Later, any PDF fees are credited back to a user's Event Bank when they submit the event completion info as a paying for credit participant. Note however that the \$2 coupon for the downloaded PDF expires in 60 days. Also note that an event registration expires after 30 days, but if your registrations lapses, you may re-register without cost.



## Hastings Walk 5 & 10 km.

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1. Starting from the Vermillion Falls Park parking lot facing the north, towards the Ardent Mill, take the trail to the fall's lookout patio crossing the paved MRT trail.
2. **RIGHT** with the safety fence on the left.
3. **RIGHT** taking the stairs to the paved bike trail
4. **LEFT** onto the paved bike trail
5. **LEFT** at the intersection
6. **STRAIGHT**, at the intersection crossing the MRT trail. After going under the 18 St. E bridge, the Hastings Veterans Home will be on the right and the Vermillion River gorge on the left. Watch for flying saucers in this area, it is a Disc Golf Park.  
There are three trails that go to the right but keep left at all 3.
7. **LEFT**. At the T. A trail head parking lot will be straight ahead. Turn left onto 10<sup>th</sup> St E.

**5km keep going straight on 10th St. E.  
LEFT at Bailey St and go to 10km #26**

8. **RIGHT** crossing 10<sup>th</sup> St E at the cross walk for the Rivertown Dog Park.
9. **RIGHT** at the T onto the loop trail around the dog park.
10. **RIGHT** at 10<sup>th</sup> St. E. The Cornerstone Bible Church will be on the right.
11. **RIGHT** following the trail as it veers right into a grassy area.
12. **RIGHT** at Bailey St just past the RR tracks
13. **VEER LEFT** onto trail at 3<sup>rd</sup> St. E
14. **RIGHT** at Tyler St.
15. **LEFT** at the Mississippi River crossing Tyler St following the trail into Levee Park.
16. **LEFT** after the Levee Veterans Memorial following the stairs up to the

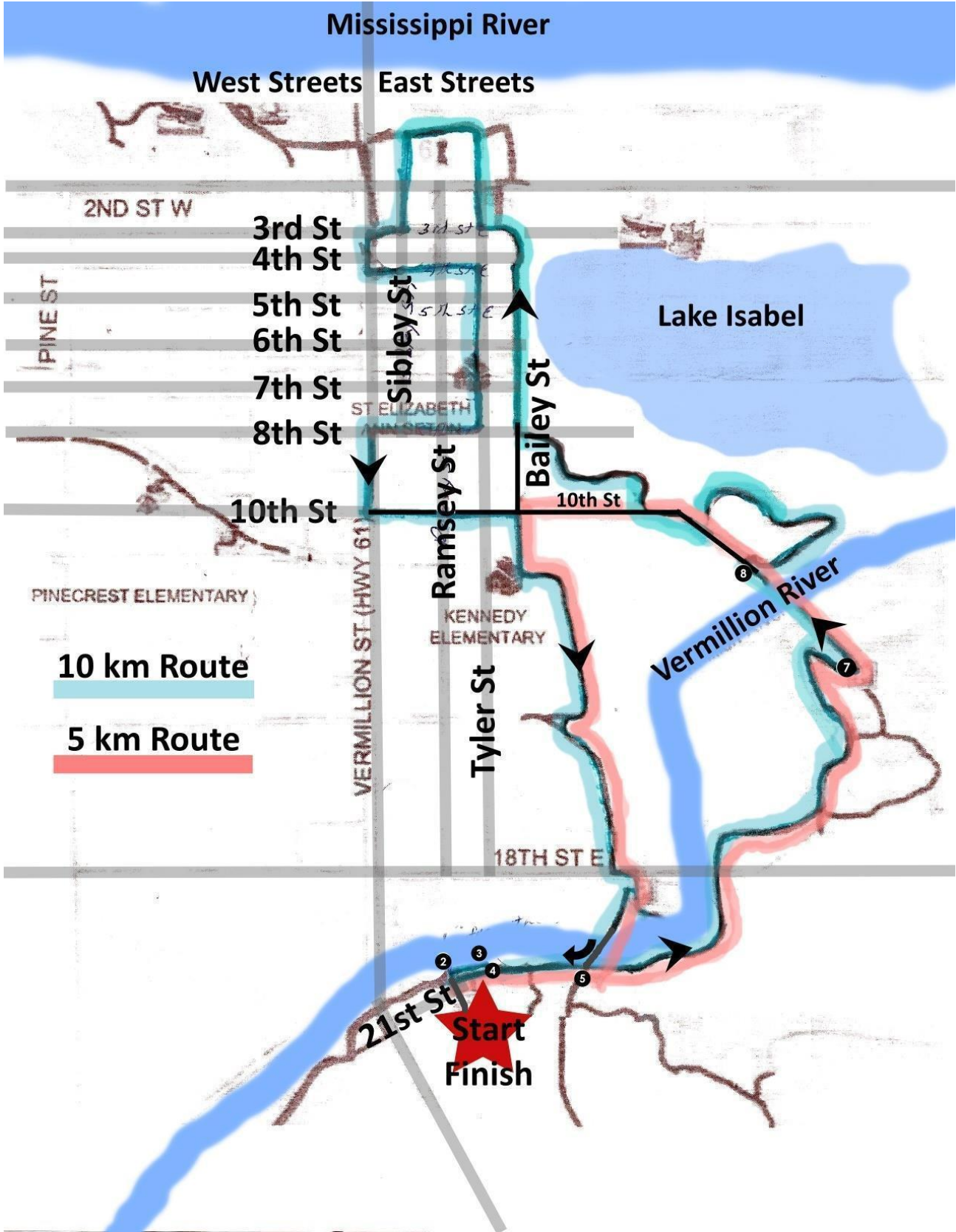
American Legion. Halfway up the stairs to the American Legion on the right is the American Legion memorial wall. The money raised by the sale of these plaques was used to pay for the patio seating area.

17. **STRAIGHT** following Sibley St.
18. **Cross** 3<sup>rd</sup> St E and turn **RIGHT**
19. **LEFT** at Vermillion St. Hastings City Hall is on the left.
20. **CROSS** 4th St. E and turn **LEFT**
21. **RIGHT** at Tyler St.
22. **RIGHT** turn right at 8th St
23. **LEFT** at Vermillion St. Schoolhouse Scoop Ice Cream Parlor will be on the left.
24. **CROSS** 10<sup>th</sup> St E and turn **LEFT**
25. **RIGHT** at Bailey St. This will be in the back of Kennedy Elementary School.
26. **LEFT** at the end of Bailey St onto the Veterans Home MRT Trail.
27. **LEFT** at the intersection
28. **CROSS** 18<sup>th</sup> St. E and turn **LEFT**
29. **CROSS RR Tracks** and turn **RIGHT** into Old Mill Park parking lot. AT the back right corner of the parking lot is the Old Mill trail. This is an out and back trail to go see the ruins of the Old Mill.
30. Coming back from the ruins, cross the parking lot towards the RR tracks and just before the tracks turn **LEFT** onto the paved bike trail.
31. **CROSS** the Vermillion River bridge and turn **RIGHT** at the T following the trail back to the start point at Vermillion Falls Park



In case of Emergency: Dial 911  
Event related assistance:  
Wayne Heath POC/Club  
President 651-249-8886  
Ken Johnson RD 651-774-9607

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<https://www.visithastingsmn.org/vermillion-falls/>

The Vermillion River is a 59.6-mile river that meanders through Scott County and Dakota County in Minnesota, emptying into the Mississippi River just south of Hastings. 13.5 miles of it are designated as a trout stream, which is unusual for being so close to a metropolitan area.

Located just off of Highway 61 on 21st Street East, the park is a treasure for picnics, exploring, and of course, viewing the spectacular 35 ft. Vermillion Falls and limestone ravine.

In the 19th century, this 35-foot waterfall was used to power the gristmill, today, it's a beautiful attraction that is easily accessible to all.

Across the river is the Ardent Mills facility. This mill was built in 1853 by Harrison H. Graham and the FIRST operating mill in Minnesota as well as the first all-roller mill facility in the U.S. It was originally powered by the Vermillion River. The purifier, patent barrel and graham flour were invented here.

Three years later it was sold to William G. LeDuc and later on bought by Stephen Gardner, renaming it the Gardner Mill, who develops a reel sifter to create "patent flour," the primary bakery flour used today.

The mill will change hands eight more time before 2014 when ConAgra, Cargill and CHS combine their milling businesses to form Ardent Mills.

When visiting the falls, make sure you view it from the observation deck. This deck gives you an excellent top-down view of the Vermillion Falls and the Ardent Mill.