



The Mon Valley Trailblazers Club
Welcomes You to Indiana, PA
Indiana County
Seasonal Walk

This AVA rated 2A Seasonal walk is composed of a 5k walk through downtown Indiana and a 5k walk through White's Woods Recreation Area. Either of the 5k walks can be walked twice for 10k credit or each 5k walked for 10k credit. No Free Walkers.

Walk Registration: Please use the online start box provided by AVA at website (<https://my.ava.org>). Follow the 'Online Start Box', and the instructions provided to sign a waiver and register for this event. Follow directions to make payments for event credit and directions. The directions and insert cards are PDFs that you can download and print as needed. The POC does not provide event directions or accept alternate payment methods. The entire online process should take less than 10 minutes for a first time user.

Walk Completion and Walk Credit: Once you have physically completed the walk, please login to your Online Start Box account and select the "Maps / Finish" tab. Use the displayed entry form to submit the date and distance of your walk and select applicable AVA Special Programs to generate stamped "virtual" insert cards that you may print out.

5k Downtown Indiana Start Point: The corner of Philadelphia and 6th Streets in front of the First Commonwealth Bank's Corporate Headquarters. This building used to be the old Indiana County Courthouse.

5k White's Woods Recreation Area Start Point: N. 12th Street and 200 Forest Ridge Road parking lot on the right.

Parking:

In downtown Indiana, there is a choice of on-street parking and garage parking.

- On-street metered parking is available throughout downtown. Meter cost is 25 cents per hour.
- A parking garage is located at 650 Water Street, near Philadelphia and 6th Streets. Cost is \$1.00 per hour up to 5 hours, with a maximum of \$5.00 per 10 hours or \$25.00 for overnight parking.

At the White's Woods Recreation Area, parking is free in the parking lot.

Restrooms:

Restrooms are available in numerous coffee shops and restaurants along the downtown route. There are no restroom facilities at White's Woods Recreation Area.

Additional Walk Information:

Downtown Trail Rating: 2A

Some hills and steps Strollers will be difficult No wheelchairs Pet Friendly

White's Woods Recreation Area Trail Rating: 2A

Some hills and steps Strollers will be difficult No wheelchairs Pet Friendly

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DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

From the North: Take I-79S. Merge onto US-422 E. Take the US-422 E exit from US-422E. Continue on US-422E. Drive to the corner of Philadelphia Avenue and 6th Street for the start point of the downtown 5k walk. For the White's Woods Recreation Area, take N. 12th Street to Forest Ridge Road parking lot. The entrance to the park is across the road from the parking lot.

From the East: This route has tolls. Follow I-76W, I-99N/US-220N and US-22W to Rowena Dr. in Ebensburg. Take the exit toward Ebensburg/Loretto from US-22W. Take US-422W to PA-954N/S to Indiana. Drive to the corner of Philadelphia Avenue and 6th Street for the start point of the downtown 5k walk. For the White's Woods Recreation Area, take N. 12th Street to Forest Ridge Road parking lot. The entrance to the park is across the road from the parking lot.

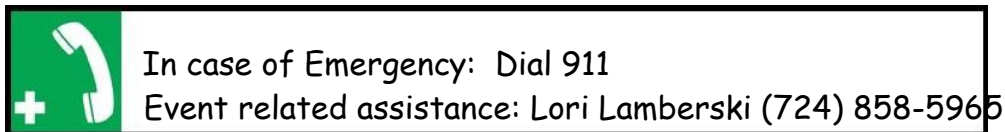
From the West: Take I-70E. Get on US-22E in Salem Township from I-70E. Continue on US-22E. Take US-119N to Indiana. Drive to the corner of Philadelphia Avenue and 6th Street for the start point of the downtown 5k walk. For the White's Woods Recreation Area, take N. 12th Street to Forest Ridge Road parking lot. The entrance to the park is across the road from the parking lot.

From the South: This route has tolls. Take I-79N and continue to Fayette County. Take US-119N. Continue onto PA-66 Turnpike N. Take US-22E and US-119N to Indiana. Drive to the corner of Philadelphia Avenue and 6th Street for the start point of the downtown 5k walk. For the White's Woods Recreation Area, take N. 12th Street to Forest Ridge Road parking lot. The entrance to the park is across the road from the parking lot.

TRAIL: A 5k Downtown Indiana and a 5k at White's Woods Recreation Area.

FEES: IVV Credit only is \$3.00. Free walkers are not permitted.

STIPULATIONS: Pets are permitted but must be leashed and picked up after. No pets permitted in buildings.

Phone Numbers:

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

Indiana, Pennsylvania: Prior to its recorded history, the land of Western Pennsylvania, which would later become Indiana County, was characterized by the immense forests that filled the rolling hills of the Allegheny Plateau. The sparsely populated area served as a hunting ground and was host to a network of footpaths linking larger Native American settlements outside of the territory.

In 1727, Indiana County, PA's recorded history began when the French trader James LeTort set up a trading post for the Indians near the town now known as Shelocta. In 1805, Indiana became the county seat when George Clymer (a signer of both the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution) donated 250 acres of land for the new county seat. By 1810, it had a population of 125.

In the 1830s and 1840s a strong anti-slavery movement gained traction in Indiana County. Local sentiment and geographic location led to the County becoming one of the main lines of the Underground Railroad, and many prominent citizens risked their lives by harboring those seeking freedom.

During the Civil War, Indiana County sent several regiments of troops to fight for the Union. Men from Indiana took part in historic battles, from Gettysburg to Antietam and several of them received the Congressional Medal of Honor for their bravery. The war saw 3,680 residents serve, or roughly 11 percent of Indiana County's population at the time.

Indiana County valued education from its founding, with the first schools and academies opening within a few years of its inception. In 1855, a Normal School for training teachers was begun in the old Indiana Academy and in the basement of a church. Indiana State Normal School was established in 1870 and became a four-year State Teacher's College in 1927. In 1965 the Normal School became Indiana University of Pennsylvania, now a significant cultural and business asset for the County.

The county of Indiana is known as "the Christmas tree capital of the world." The borough of Indiana celebrates local son Jimmy Stewart with a statue, museum and recorded safety messages at traffic signals downtown.

Downtown Indiana 5k

- 1) From the corner of Philadelphia and 6th Streets, walk toward 7th Street, past the old courthouse building, now the First Commonwealth Bank Corporate Offices.

The Old Courthouse, built in 1870, and the second on this site, is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 1845, Judge Thomas White freed a fugitive slave in the first courthouse on this site.

- 2) Walk along Philadelphia Street toward the Indiana Theatre at 637 Philadelphia St.

The Indiana Theatre was opened July 16, 1924 as a silent movie theater. It continued to at least 1950, when its seating capacity was listed as 747. It is now used as a venue for live shows.

- 3) Crossing 7th Street, note the IRMC Park Archway sign on your right, spanning the street.

IRMC Park was conceived as a facelift for downtown Indiana and is now used for community festivals, including the "It's a Wonderful Life " festival, held annually in December.

- 4) After crossing 8th Street, see the Indiana County Court Administration on your right at 825 Philadelphia Street. This new courthouse was opened in 1971. Note the Jimmy Stewart statue in front of the courthouse and the Indiana County War Memorial at the front left of the building.

Special Program: Walk With America's Veterans

- 5) Just past the Court building on your right is the Jimmy Stewart Museum.

This museum highlights the life story and achievements of this Oscar winning Actor and military hero. The museum has several exhibits that cover Jimmy Stewart's early life in Indiana, movie career and military career.

Museum hours are 10AM-4PM Monday through Saturday; 12PM-4PM on Sundays. Admission fees are \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors, students, and children age 7 and older.

- 6) Walk across 9th Street, and immediately turn left to cross Philadelphia Street. Note that the crossing signal uses Jimmy Stewart's voice to tell you when it's safe to cross.

- 7) After crossing Philadelphia Street, you will see Christ Episcopal Church in front of you.

This first church on this site was built in 1856, but was destroyed by fire in 1899. This existing yellow brick structure was built in 1902.

- 8) Turn left on Philadelphia Street, and cross 9th Street.

- 9) Continue on Philadelphia Street to 7th Street. You will pass numerous shops and restaurants. Turn right on 7th Street and continue to Church Street.

- 10) Cross Church Street and turn left, crossing 7th Street.

11) The aptly named Church Street has several churches. Walking down Church Street toward 6th Street, you will pass Grace United Methodist Church (1931), Calvary Presbyterian Church (1906), and Graystone Presbyterian Church (1851).

12) At the corner of Church and 6th Streets is Zion Lutheran Church (1923)

Built in 1923, this church is a stone, Gothic Revival structure with buttresses and large stained-glass windows.

13) Turn right onto 6th Street and note the 19th century homes. Next to Zion Lutheran Church is the Zion Lutheran Manse, built from 1885-1890.

14) The house at 134 South 6th Street, at the corner of 6th and Wayne, is the John W. Sutton House, built in 1870.

15) You will see a Y intersection. Cross School Street and immediately, turn left and cross Wayne Avenue.

16) Situated on this triangular property is the Silas M. Clark House, built in 1870. This is now the home of the Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County.

An Italian villa style brick dwelling, this was the home of Silas M. Clark, who was a judge on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. This building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and stands on the site of the old Indiana Academy that burned to the ground in 1864. Academy students were the first to see three fugitive slaves when they came to Indiana in April 1845.

17) The statue of the Civil War soldier in front of the Clark House is called “Rest on Arms”.

This Memorial, dedicated in 2013, is dedicated to the more than 2,800 Civil War Veterans from Indiana County.

18) Still facing the Clark House, turn right and walk to Wayne Avenue, and then turn left onto Wayne, walking past the Silas M. Clark house, on your left. Past the house, you will see a parking lot and the entrance to the Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County’s Museum.

Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday from 9-4 and Saturday from 10-3. No admission fee information was available.

19) Continuing past the museum on Wayne Avenue, you will cross Washington Street and see Memorial Park in front of you.

Memorial Park is the site of the old Lutheran Cemetery and still has several graves. In 1845, the cemetery, in disuse and grown over with blackberry brambles, served as a hiding place for three young fugitive slaves. Members of the Underground Railroad Committee fed and clothed the young men and took them to the next safe place.

The park is now used for summer concerts and as an urban haven for citizens and visitors.

20) Walk into the park, taking the sidewalk leading diagonally to the World War I monument in the center of the park.

The park's doughboy statue was erected in 1925 by a group of citizens led by Alex Stewart, father of the actor James Stewart.

Special Program: Walk With America's Veterans

- 21) Walk clockwise around the monument to the second sidewalk leading diagonally through the park. Note the graves remaining in the park.
- 22) At the corner of Poplar and 6th, turn right on Poplar and walk, with Memorial Park on your right, to Carpenter Street.
- 23) Turn right onto Carpenter Street and walk to Wayne Avenue, keeping the park on your right.
- 24) Carefully cross Wayne Avenue and turn left, walking one block downhill to the Sheetz Convenience Store on your right at 768 Wayne Avenue. Note that there is no Sheetz sign visible on the street. You will need to walk to the front of the brick/siding building and look at the sign on the front.

Restrooms/snacks

- 25) Turn around and retrace your steps to Wayne Avenue and Carpenter Streets, crossing the street to Memorial Park.
- 26) Turn left onto Wayne Avenue, keeping Memorial Park on your right
- 27) At Washington Street, turn right again, keeping the park on your right, and walk to 6th Street.
- 28) Turn left and cross Washington Street onto 6th Street, with the Historical Society

and Museum on your left, noting the large cannon next to the building.

- 29) At the front of the building is School Street ahead of you. Turn right to cross 6th Street and left to walk to School Street.
- 30) Turn right onto School Street and walk to 5th Street.
- 31) Cross 5th Street to the Horace Mann Elementary School and turn left, crossing School Street.
- 32) Walking along 5th Street, cross Church Street and continue to Philadelphia Street.
- 33) At Philadelphia Street, turn left, crossing 5th Street and continuing on the left side of Philadelphia Street.
- 34) Looking across Philadelphia Street, you will see the Indiana Fire Department Station, built in 2016. You will also notice a mural just past the fire station, depicting some of Indiana's history.

"Community Perspective" Mural: This mural depicts a diverse group of Indiana residents looking at their hometown with new perspectives.
- 35) Continuing on Philadelphia Street, you will notice another mural on your left.

"Christmas Tree Capital" mural: This mural pays homage to Indiana County's legacy as the Christmas Tree Capital of the World, using playful characters as the evergreen trees.
- 36) Next, you will pass American Legion Post 141 on your left.

Special Program: Walk With America's Veterans

- 37) Walk to 7th Street, and turn right to cross Philadelphia Street.
- 38) You will walk on 7th Street past the IRMC Park Arch.
- 39) Looking to your right, you will see an old building, which was the Old Borough Hall.

Built in 1912, this building once housed Borough offices, as well as the police department.

- 40) Walking to the end of 7th Street, you will see steps leading to the top of Vinegar Hill.

This hill was named for an old apple orchard that was once on the site and is visually similar to a famous battle site of the Irish Rebellion. Legendary actor and military hero, Jimmy Stewart (1908-1987) was raised in the red brick house at the top of the steps. Stewart and his father regularly used the stairs to reach the family hardware store.

- 41) Walk up the steps, turning right at the landing to continue up the steps to the top.
- 42) At the top of the steps, turn left and look across the street to a red brick house on your left. This is Jimmy Stewart's childhood home.
- 43) Begin to continue down 7th Street. Look to your right to see a park bench with a brass plate saying "Reserved for Elwood P. Dowd"

In the 1950 film, "Harvey", Elwood P. Dowd was an amiable but eccentric man whose best friend is an invisible 6"3" tall rabbit.

- 44) Walking to the corner of 7th and Oak Streets, cross 7th, and turn right onto Oak Street.
- 45) Continue on Oak Street to 5th Street. Turn right onto 5th Street, crossing Oak.
- 46) At Water Street, turn right and walk to 6th Street.
- 47) Turn left at 6th Street, crossing Water Street.
- 48) Walk along 6th Street toward Nixon Avenue. At the corner of 6th and Nixon, there are four historical buildings across the street on the left: Graff's Market at 27 North Sixth Street; Messenger Building at 15 North Sixth Street; and Vogel Brothers Building at 11 North Sixth Street.
- Graff's Market (1880): This is a three-story wooden structure with the only cast-iron facade in Indiana County. The town's first library was opened on the second floor by the New Century Club in 1904.***
- Messenger Building (1840): This two-story brick building was once used as a post office and as a newspaper publishing office.***
- Vogel Brothers Building (1840): The Vogel Brothers operated a tailor and harness shop here.***
- 49) On the right-hand side of 6th Street at Nixon Avenue is the former Indiana County Sheriff's House and Jail (1887), now offices of First Commonwealth Bank.

This building was the fourth County jail. There were twelve rooms in the house, including an office for the sheriff. Executions were carried out in the courtyard between the house and the Old Courthouse. The last hanging was November 23, 1913. The building is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

- 50) Walk to the corner of Sixth and Philadelphia Streets to end the walk. (Start/Finish)

The Mon Valley Trailblazers hope you enjoyed this walk.

Special Programs: This walk qualifies for Walk With America's Veterans, Counties, 50 States/51 Capitals, and Walk the USA.

10k Walk: Walk this 5k in reverse or continue to the White's Woods Recreation Area for the other 5k.

Downtown Indiana 5k Map



White's Woods Recreation Area 5K

The easy trails are blue and green blazes.

****Walking sticks are a must/possible muddy areas.**

White's Woods Nature Center is a recreational area in Indiana, Pennsylvania. With miles of trails and wildlife, it is a wonderful escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Open from sunrise to sunset daily, the trails are enjoyed by many all year round. There is an entrance into the woods on North 12th Street, or you can enter through the adjoining IUP Co-op park. This park was developed and maintained by the Friends of White's Woods. White's Woods is **the crowning jewel in Indiana, PA**. Located in the heart of town, it's trails are beautiful, filled with tall trees, bird habitat, deer and an occasional fox or bear. It's paths are great for walking, hiking, mountain biking, and winter sports.

Parking is across the street from the trailhead on N. 12th Street and 200 Forest Ridge Road. Indiana, PA

Walking Directions for 5k

1. Trailhead begins on Step Trail .2 mi
2. Left onto Fulton Trail 1.3 mi
3. Continue on Fulton Trail till you get to the 1st entrance on your right to Stephenson Trail. **Do NOT take this entrance. Go past this entrance to the 2nd entrance of Stephenson Trail**, go right and walk this trail. .6 mi
4. Turn left onto Fulton Trail and continue till you get to Bronson Trail. Turn Right onto Bronson Trail .1.5 mi
5. Left onto Stone Mason Trail .2 mi.
6. Left onto Spring Trail .35 mi.
7. Left onto Fulton Trail
8. Walk past Step Trail entrance and go Right onto Old Quarry Trail .1 mi
9. Left onto Step Trail to finish the 5k walk. This trail is fairly steep with large railroad ties as steps. It is easier to follow this portion of trail on the right side of the step area.
10. Return to the 12th Street parking lot area to finish the 5k Walk.

Special programs: Counties, Par of the Course, and Walk the USA (A To Z)

We hope you have enjoyed your walk in Indiana, PA.

White's Woods Recreation Area 5k Map

