



**Fredericksburg Walking Club's Seasonal Walk (Sept. 1 – Dec. 31, 2024)**  
**Fredericksburg Otter Walk — 5K & 10K Walk | Y3551 | Rated 2A**  
**Start Point: Fredericksburg Visitor Center, 601 Caroline St. Fredericksburg VA 22401**  
**Restrooms: Visitors Center, Riverfront Park, Hurkamp Park, and Alum Spring Park**

An AVA Sanctioned Seasonal Event (Award and Credit Available)

This walk comprises 5 km and 10 km trails. Join the Fredericksburg Walking Club in celebrating the return of the otters to the Rappahannock River, which flows by the historic City of Fredericksburg. The walk will take you through city streets to visit 7 bronze otter statues scattered across a 5k route on paved sidewalks. The 10k walk also takes you through parts of the wooded Alum Spring Park, an official Rails-to-Trails site. **This is an “A” award with otter patch for sale measuring 3.5” x 3”.** See design and ordering information on Page 3. Each patch is \$5, first come/first served.

The walk start / finish point is the Fredericksburg Visitor Center (see directions below).

**Walk Registration:**

This walk has a Physical Start Box (PSB) inside the Visitor Center. If you register at the location, ask the center personnel for the walk box. Registration can also take place using the AVA Online Start Box (OSB), which is located on the website [my.ava.org](http://my.ava.org). Follow the instructions provided to create a user account and sign the AVA waiver (one time). Instructions for payment are also included. Download the directions (print if desired). The Point of Contact (POC) does not provide event directions or accept payments.

**Driving Directions:**

**Fredericksburg Visitor Center** is located at 601 Caroline St. Fredericksburg VA 22401. They are currently open daily from 9-4, but you may wish to call ahead to check – (540) 373-1776. Easiest parking is in the public parking garage on Wolfe St.:

**I-95S** to 133A exit US-17 BUS S/Warrenton Rd. Turn right onto US 1 S. Turn left onto Pr. Anne St. Turn left on Wolfe St.

**I-95N** to 130A exit VA-3 E. Follow VA-3 E and Lafayette Blvd. into the city. Turn left onto Sophia St. and then make a left onto Wolfe.

**Directions from the Parking Garage to the Visitor Center (0.1 miles): Adjacent on Wolfe and Caroline St.**

**Restrooms:** Restrooms are located at the Visitor Center and numerous locations along the route.

**Special Programs:**

Virginia Find the LOVE

5K/10K: Town Halls/City Halls, , Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail, Walking with America's Veterans, Par-for-the-Course, Step to the Beat. 10K Only: Rails-to-Trails. 2025: Walk With the Wild Things.

**Walk Completion and Walk Credit:**

**Please use either the OSB or the PSB to register and complete the event. Do NOT mix and match. For example, do not register using the OSB and then complete 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.** Once you have completed the walk, either follow the instructions in the PSB and sign the log, stamp your books, and mail in your payment **OR** log in to your AVA OSB Account. If you are using the OSB, click on the “My Start Box” tab, click the “Finish Table” tab, and then click “Go to Finish Table” button for the event that you completed. Use the displayed entry form to submit the date and distance for your walk, as well as selecting the applicable AVA Special Programs. This will generate the stamped virtual insert cards that you may choose to print out.

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

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**Contact Information:** If there is an emergency, please call 911. For event-related assistance, contact Rick Sisco at 845-988-6049.



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**For 5k walk, follow steps 1-23.**

1. Exit Visitor Center to see **Otters #1**.
2. **RIGHT** on Caroline St. 1 block to **CROSS** and **LEFT** on Charlotte St. to Pr. Anne St.
3. **RIGHT** at Princess Anne St. passing 715 Pr. Anne (**Town Hall/City Hall**) to George St. See **Otter #2** on right.
4. **CROSS** and **LEFT** onto George St. to Charles St. Passing Presbyterian Church on left, see pillar #2 cannonball damage to structure.
5. **CROSS** Charles St., see marker (**Washington-Rochambeau National Historic Trail**) and Masonic cemetery.
6. **RIGHT** on Charles St. to James Munroe Museum. See **Otter #3**.
7. **LEFT** on William St. to Pr. Edward St.
8. **CROSS** Pr. Edward St. At Hurkamp Park entrance see **Otters #4**. Enter park and see **FIND the LOVE** sign. (bathrooms on right near fountain). Go past fountain and **Exit** Park to George St., turning **Right** as you exit.
9. **CONTINUE** on George St. to corner of Liberty St., **CROSS LEFT** to War Memorial – (**Walking with America's Veterans**). Loop around the Memorial & carefully cross back onto George St., returning to Pr. Anne St. 3 blks.
10. **CROSS & LEFT** on Pr. Anne passing St. George's Episcopal Church. Continue on Pr. Anne to William St. **See Otters #5**.
11. **CONTINUE** on Pr. Anne 4 blocks to Hawke St. See Wall Mural ahead.
12. **RIGHT** on Hawke St.
13. **RIGHT** on Caroline St. to Rising Sun Tavern. See **Otter #6**. See Historic markers.
14. **LEFT** on Fauquier St.
15. **RIGHT** on Sophia St. Stay on Sophia St. along the Rappahannock River 5 blocks to Hanover St. Crossing Lewis, Amelia, Willam & George St. At bridge on left, see the old stone warehouse built in 1813. See Wall Mural on right, another mural on left at public parking lot wall.
16. **CROSS & LEFT** on Hanover St. and enter Riverfront Park (**Par-for-the Course**). Stay left & go down steps to the Rappahannock River, the habitat of the otters; at the top of the steps, see **Otters #7**. Stay to the left, restrooms on left.
17. **Exit Park LEFT**, onto Sophia St. continue passing under railroad tracks bridge 4 blocks to City Docks Park (dates back to George Washington's day – many historical markers to read). See otter habitat on the Rappahannock by going to river's edge along the docks and boat ramp. Return to sidewalk on Sophia St.
18. **RIGHT** on Sophia St. 1 block to Frederick St.
19. **LEFT** on Frederick St. to Pr. Anne St. RHS.
20. **RIGHT** on Pr. Anne St. passing under railroad tracks bridge, crossing Lafayette Blvd in crosswalk carefully, 1 block to Wolfe St.
21. **LEFT** on Wolfe St. Stay on LHS to 520 Wolfe St. Wegner Metal Arts Gallery & Foundry, home of the "otter" creators. (**#8 on Otter info list**). (In 2025, **Walk With the Wild Things** special program- 2 gargoyles above Foundry rooftop.)

22. **CONTINUE** on Wolfe St. to the corner of Jackson St. (5K/10K split at this corner). See Mural on your left (a few steps) by the "The Sounding Post" Music Academy, 513 Jackson St. (**Step to the Beat**), also view mural across the street before turning to corner.

**TRAIL SPLIT: 10k jump to Step #24**

23. **5k, RETURN to Foundry and continue on Wolfe St.** passing Fraser Wood Elements Mill on your left, crossing Kenmore, Pr. Edward, Pr. Anne to Caroline St. to **\*\*5K Finish at Visitor Center 601 Caroline St.\*\***
- 10K cont'd:**
24. From corner of Wolfe St. & Jackson St. **LEFT** on Jackson St. crossing Lafayette Blvd to follow the VCR Trail.
  25. At beginning of VCR Trail, see "Train Kiosk" and **continue** VCR Trail &
  26. **CROSS** Blue & Gray Pkwy.
  27. **RIGHT** at Alum Spring Rd. into VCR Trail to entering Park. (**Rail-To-Trails**)
  28. **RIGHT** at Restroom Bldg. & veer right, pkg lot on your left, continue on asphalt lane staying right. **LEFT** before stream to cross wooden bridge then **LEFT** at road which turns into Greenbrier Dr.
  29. **FOLLOW** Greenbrier Dr. on RHS (sidewalk) to Blue and Gray Pkwy.
  30. **CROSS** Blue and Gray Pkwy. at streetlight. Greenbrier turns into William St.
  31. **STAY** on William St. ½ block to fork in the road.
  32. **VEER RIGHT** onto Hanover St. passing UMW Athletic Fields & Stadium on right, upon reaching athletic field **CROSS** Hanover St. at High St. staying on sidewalk & continue on Hanover St. Passing Tennis Center and Brompton House on right. Stay on LHS.
  33. **CONTINUE** on Hanover St., crossing Littlepage St. (see Sunken Well Tavern on right built in the 1800s.) Continue to Kenmore Ave.
  34. **CROSS & RIGHT** on Kenmore 3 blks to **LEFT** on Wolfe St. **\*\*10K Finish at Visitor Center 601 Caroline St. ahead.\*\***

*Please thank the Visitor Center staff for hosting the walk.*



**In case of Emergency: CALL 911**

Walk POC: Rick Sisco at 845-988-6049

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***Thank you for Walking with Us!***



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**OTTER INFO:**

See their individual QR Codes at their bases:

1. Fxbg VC – "Jack, Reilly, and Buster." Donated by Mary Jane O'Neill
2. Princess Anne/George St. – "Lukey." Donated by Katherine Greenlaw
3. James Monroe Museum – "Ohana." Donated by Ann Pierce & Family
4. Hurkamp Park – "Adeline & Millie." Donated by Pine Knot Fund
5. William St/Princess Anne – "Chester, Hondo & Hickory." Donated by John & Linda Coker
6. Rising Sun Tavern – "The Rappahannock-Fxbg Rotary Club." Donated by the Rotary Club
7. Riverfront Park – name missing
8. Wegner Metal Arts Gallery & Foundry – 520 Wolfe Street. Brothers Steven & Stewart Wegner created & cast the 7 bronze otters in their foundry. See their beautiful work online or at their gallery.  
<https://www.worksbywegner.com/>

"Otter" themed merchandise can be purchased at the Visitor Center.

This is an "A" Award walk. **Otter patches are for sale for \$5 each.**

Mail check to: FWC c/o Lina Palmer at 701 Cobblestone Blvd., #302, Fredericksburg VA, 22401.

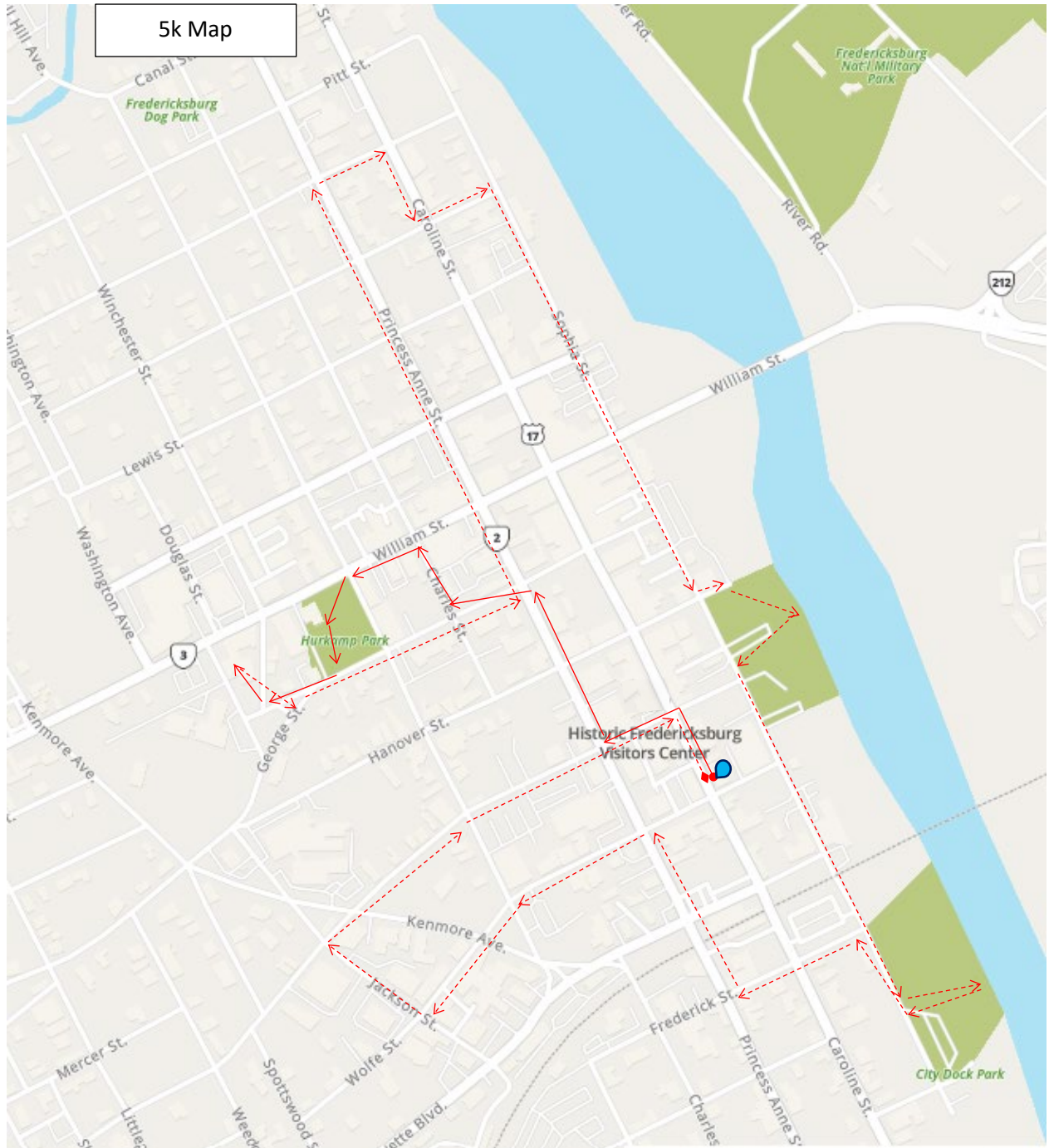
For Physical Start Box Walkers, the patches are available by using the pre-addressed envelope, provide mailing address and check for \$5 and mail in.

For OSB walkers, provide your mailing address.



The "Otter Commemorative Patch" story: In highlighting this walking event that celebrates the return of the "otters" to the Rappahannock River, due to Federal, State, & local efforts, our very own local graphic artist, Lori Thayer, also a FWC member, has created and **donated** her artwork for our "Otter Commemorative Patch." Depicted on the patch are two otters Lori named "**Java & Rita**," after two beloved Thayer family & friends' pups, sunning on the shore of the Rappahannock River that flows by our historic city. Lori has also designed & donated our unique club logo.

# Fredericksburg Otter Walk



5k Map

# Fredericksburg Otter Walk

10k Map

