



FIVE FRIENDLY PARKS WALK

Distance: 11K, 5K

Difficulty Rating: 10K Rated 1C (Be prepared for muddy trails.)
5K Rated 1C (Be prepared for muddy trails.)
Not suitable for strollers or wheelchairs

Walk through five Olympia wooded parks. The walk starts in Friendly Grove Park, a relatively new park on almost 15 acres. Springwood Parcel is also new but is undeveloped with three acres of rhododendron gardens formerly tended by Art and Peggy Zabel. 314-acre Squaxin Park has been around since 1905, but until 2022 was named Priest Point Park after a mission that was there between 1848-1860. The current name honors the importance of the people and culture of the Squaxin Island Tribe that have inhabited the area for thousands of years. The Squaxin people were forcibly removed from the land by early settlers. Bigelow Park honors early settlers Elizabeth and Daniel Bigelow. Mission Creek Park is undeveloped and will mostly remain open space. *Copyright Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation and Squaxin Island Tribe.*

Walk Registration

Registration takes place online using the AVA Online Start Box at 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 and print as needed.

Walk Completion and Walk Credit

Once you have physically completed the walk, please login to your Online Start Box account; click on the “My Start Box” tab; then the “Finish Table” tab; then click on “Go to Finish Table” button for the event you have completed. Use the displayed entry form to submit the date and distance of your walk as well as select applicable AVA Special Programs to generate a stamped “virtual” insert card that you may print out.

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Use the following table to guide what portion of this document you may wish to print out.

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We hope you enjoy your walk!

Five Friendly Parks 11K



In case of emergency: Dial 911

Event related Assistance:

Chase: 360-584-6446

Distance: 11K

Difficulty level: 1C. Mostly paved but be prepared for tree-root and rock trails, and grass.

ESVA Challenges: 39 Counties (Thurston), Tell me a Story, That's Entertainment (Cultural).

AVA Challenges: Step to the Beat, Walking with America's Veterans (11K only), Walking with the Wild Things

Start Point: Friendly Grove Park
2316 Friendly Grove Rd NE, Olympia
Lat: 47.066, Lng: -122.871

Restrooms: At the start point, Squaxin Park (11K only), and Bigelow Park (11K only).

Caution: Trails and boardwalks may be slick.

Driving Directions: I-5 Exit 107. Northbound left/ Southbound right on Pacific Ave. Right on Phoenix St (top of hill). Cross 4th Ave and right on South Bay Rd (stop sign). In about 1.5 miles, left on 26th Avenue. Left on Friendly Grove Road. Left into Park parking lot.

*Note: If the parking lot is full, 525 ft further along the road you may park at the Peace on Friendly Grove Church, 2242 Friendly Grove Rd NE (not permitted Sunday mornings). Start your walk here by walking back to Friendly Grove Rd and turning **RIGHT**. **RIGHT** on the paved path just before the vehicle entrance to Friendly Grove Park and start at #1.*

1. Enter the park through the gap in the fence.
2. **LEFT** on first paved path just before bathrooms. Circle the park clockwise.
3. **CONTINUE STRAIGHT** back to the parking lot.
4. **LEFT** at parking lot on paved path to exit park.
5. **LEFT** on unmarked Friendly Grove Rd, which curves **RIGHT** to become Miller Ave. (1K)
6. **RIGHT** using the marked crosswalk to cross Miller Ave. **LEFT** to continue on Miller Ave. Continue for almost 1K.
7. At stop sign, **CROSS** and **RIGHT** on Bethel St. (2K)
8. At Devon Dr, **RIGHT** to carefully cross Bethel St towards Springwood Ave (which is only on right

side of the street) and continue on Springwood Ave.

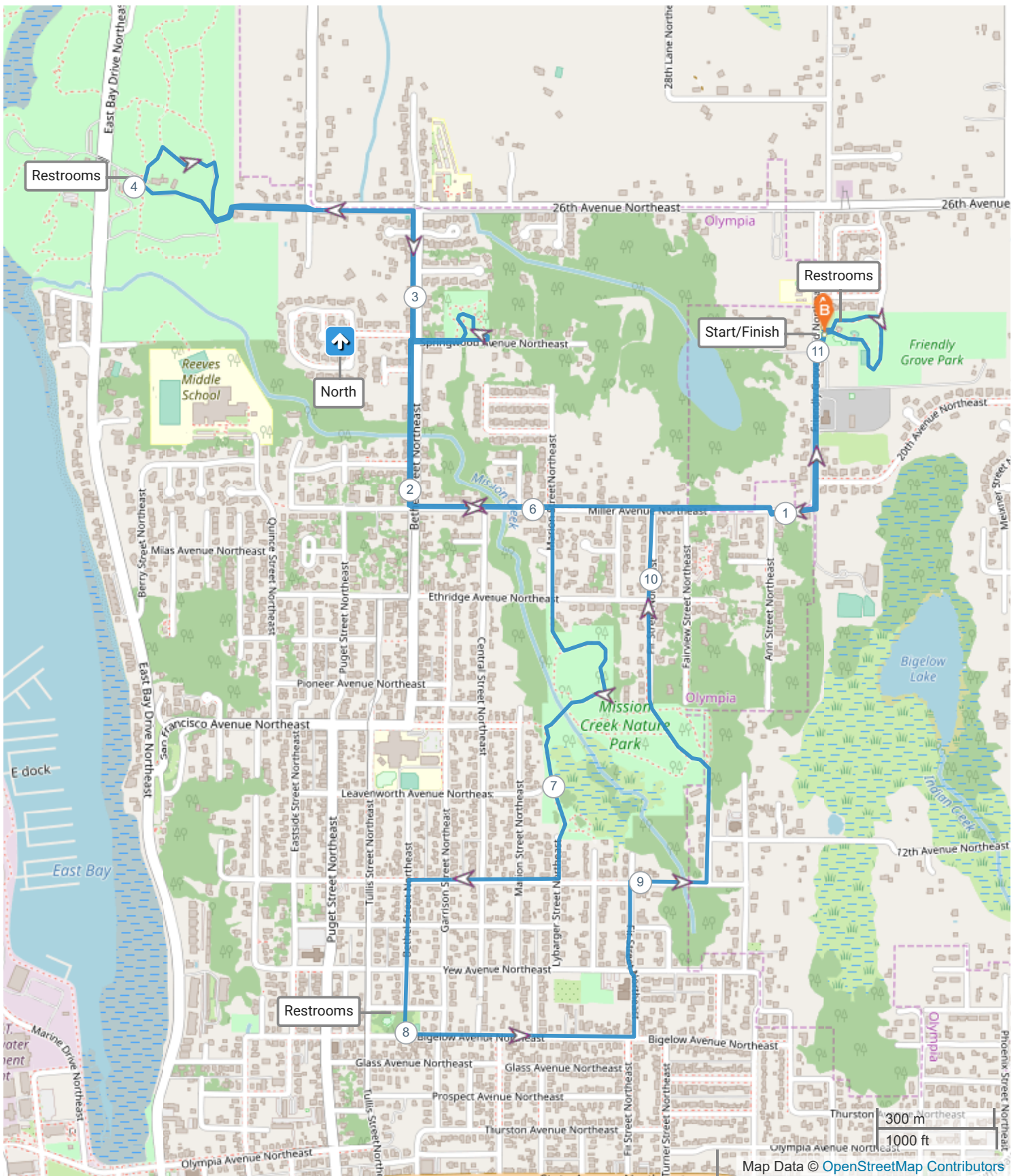
9. Just past the yellow fire hydrant (on right), **LEFT** around the gate.
10. **LEFT** on first gravel path (well before the shed).
11. **RIGHT** at Y.
12. **CONTINUE LEFT/STRAIGHT** at next Y.
13. **RIGHT** at Y. Pass a kiosk and exit the park.
14. **RIGHT** on unmarked Springwood Ave.
15. At stop sign, **CROSS** and **RIGHT** on Bethel St. (3K)
16. At stop sign, **LEFT** on 26th Ave, walking on the left side on a paved bike path/sidewalk.
17. **CONTINUE STRAIGHT** on 26th Ave when the main road appears to curve right. Walk straight past the green St sign that says "Springer Ln NE".
18. When road ends at a chain-link fence, **ANGLE LEFT** on dirt path.
19. **RIGHT** on paved park road. **Important: Please stop and look around carefully. Note your position compared to the metal gate and the large tree where the dirt path ended. You will return through that gate and exit on the dirt path you just walked in on.**
20. **LEFT** on the path at crosswalk by Restroom #1.
21. View the Rose Garden (*Blue Star Highway marker*), then return on the path and walk to Restroom #1. (4K)
22. **RIGHT** at Restroom #1
23. **LEFT** on the gravel path just past Restroom #1.
24. **RIGHT** at each trail Y.
25. **RIGHT** at T on wide gravel service road.
26. Walk around the metal gate and **LEFT** on paved road.
27. There's a park debris area on your left. Just past the driveway with a chain hanging between posts, **LEFT** on dirt trail (you came in here earlier). Continue until trail ends at a road.
28. **RIGHT** onto unmarked 26th Ave (house #913 on right).
29. **CONTINUE STRAIGHT** on 26th Ave past stop sign. Move right to the paved bike path/sidewalk.
30. **RIGHT** on Bethel St (use right side sidewalk since the left side sidewalk ends shortly). (5K)
31. **LEFT** on Miller Ave.
32. **RIGHT** on Marion St. (6K)
33. At end of street, **BEAR SLIGHTLY LEFT** into Mission Creek Nature Park (to the right of the kiosk and between the chain link fences).

Five Friendly Parks 11K

34. **RIGHT** at T. Stay on main trail (ignore smaller trails).
35. **RIGHT** at the next path T and keep **RIGHT** at the next trail Y intersection.
36. **LEFT** on path after boardwalk bridge onto another boardwalk bridge.
37. Exit park and **LEFT** on unmarked Lybarger St. (7K)
38. **RIGHT** on Pine Ave.
39. **LEFT** on Bethel St.
40. Continue **STRAIGHT** on the grass through Bigelow Park (bathrooms) to unmarked Bigelow Ave.
41. **LEFT** on Bigelow Ave. (~8K)
42. **LEFT** on Fir St to stop sign.
43. At Yew Ave **SLIGHT LEFT, THEN RIGHT** to continue on Fir St.
44. **RIGHT** at stop sign on Pine Ave. (9K)
45. **LEFT** on Edison St.
46. **CONTINUE STRAIGHT** into Mission Creek Nature Park.
47. Stay on wider path (ignore smaller trails).
48. **STRAIGHT** on path towards street and exit park through metal posts on unmarked Fir St.
49. At stop sign, **CROSS** and **RIGHT** on Miller Ave. (10K)
50. **RIGHT** using the marked crosswalk to cross Miller Ave. **LEFT** to continue on Miller Ave, which curves left to become Friendly Grove Rd.
51. **RIGHT** to return to your vehicle.

Don't forget to log back into the OSB system to "finish/complete" your online registration.

Five Friendly Parks 11K



Five Friendly Parks 5K



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Event related Assistance:

Chase: 360-584-6446

Distance: 5K

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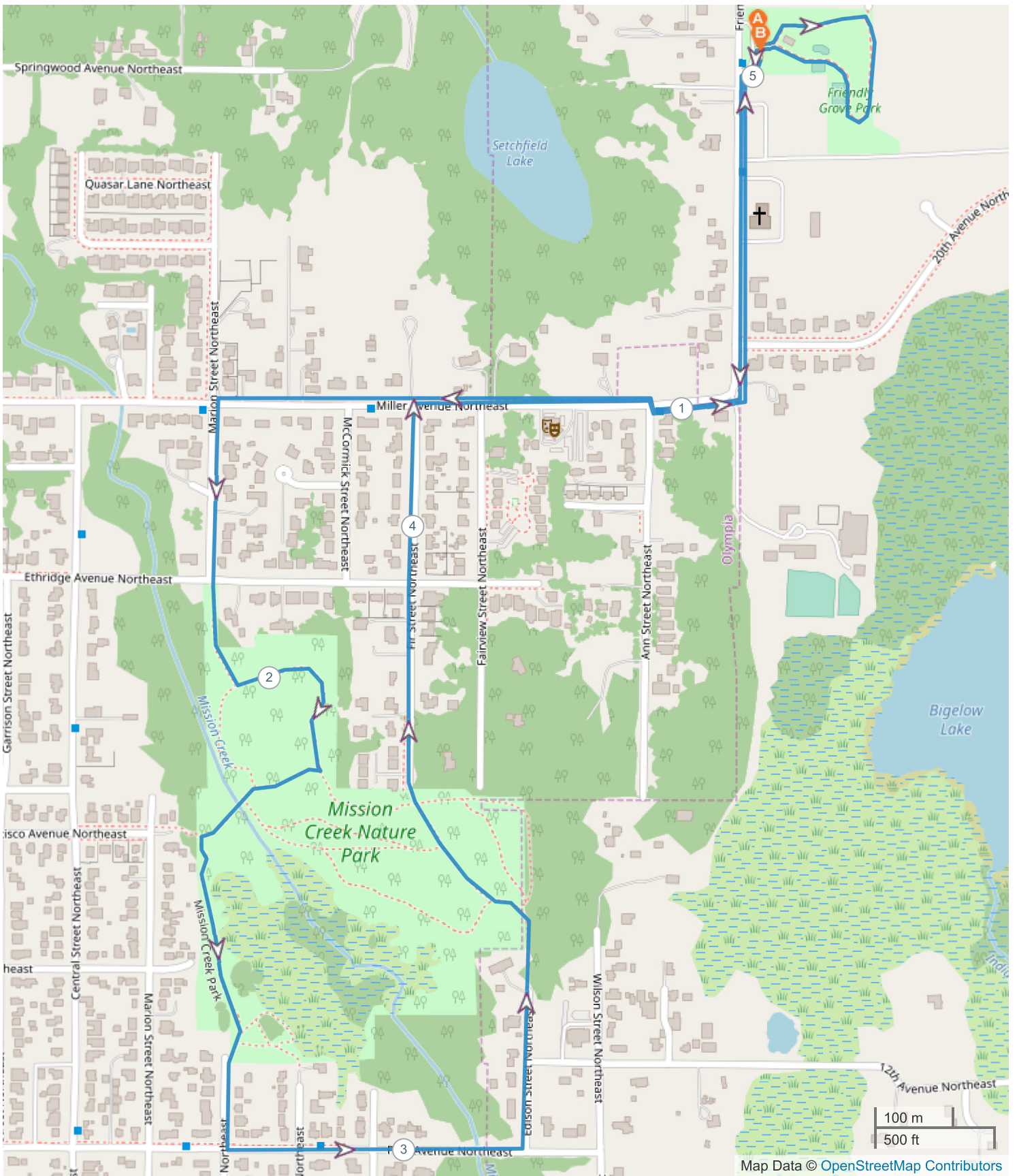
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Walking Directions:

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5. **LEFT** on unmarked Friendly Grove Rd, which curves **RIGHT** to become Miller Ave. (1K)
6. **RIGHT** using the marked crosswalk to cross Miller Ave. **LEFT** to continue on Miller Ave.
7. **LEFT** on Marion St.
8. At end of street, **BEAR SLIGHTLY LEFT** into Mission Creek Nature Park (to the right of the kiosk and between the chain link fences).
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Friendly Grove Park 5K



ESVA/OTSVVA/AVA SPECIAL CHALLENGE PROGRAMS - 2026

For more information on ESVA go to: <http://www.esva.online/challenges/>

WALK NAME:		WALK NUMBER:		
Five Friendly Parks		3766		
CURRENT ESVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS				
Please note the years [in brackets] that each challenge is active.				
39 COUNTIES - (ONGOING)	Thurston			
DISCOVER YOUR STATE AND NATIONAL PARKS [2026-2028]				
TELL ME A STORY [2025-2027]	Yes			
THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT [2024-2026]	CULTURAL Yes	FAIRS, FESTIVALS, ARCADES	CRAFTS/HOBBIES	SPORTS VENUES
PREVIOUS ESVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS				
Patches for books received past the end date will be sent while supplies last. No refunds.				
FRONTLINE HEROES [2021-2023]	MEDICAL CENTERS	DELIVERY SERVICES	SUSTENANCE PROVIDERS	ESSENTIAL SERVICES
ON THE ROAD AGAIN [2022-2024]	Yes			
STROLLING ALONG THE RIVERS [2023-2025]	Yes, Mission Creek (not marked)			
CURRENT OTSVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS				
For more information on OTSVA go to: https://www.otsva.org/challenges.html				
BUTTERFLY [2026-2028]				
PEACE POLES [2024-2026]				
CURRENT AVA SPECIAL PROGRAMS				
For more information on AVA go to: https://cb.ava.org/specprog.php				
Most programs allow the participants up to 12 months from the official end date to complete.				
50 STATES/51 CAPITALS	[ONGOING]	Washington		
A-Z (Walking the US A-Z)	[ONGOING]	Olympia		
A-MAZ-ING LABYRINTHS	[2024-2026]			
ANNIVERSARIES HURRAH	[ONLY 2026]	All AVA sanctioned events qualify for Anniversaries Hurrah.		
GRAIN ELEVATORS: MONARCHS OF THE PLAINS	[2025-2027]			
IVV-AMERICAS	[2022-NO END]	All AVA sanctioned events qualify for the IVV-America's Special Program.		
LIGHTHOUSES II	[2023-2025]			
PAR FOR THE COURSE	[2023-2025]			
RAILS TO TRAILS	[2022-2025]			
STEP TO THE BEAT	[2024-2026]	Yes, Olympia Little Theatre		
WALKING WITH AMERICA'S VETERANS	[2021-2027]	Yes, 11K only-Blue Star Highway plaque in the Squaxin Park Rose Garden		
WALKING WITH THE WILD THINGS	[2025-2027]	Yes, gnomes at 1877 Miller Ave.		