



**NEBRASKA CITY WALK**  
**TRAIL RATED 2A - 5K AND 10K ROUTES**  
 ©Nebraska Wander Freunde Trailblazers 1/1/26  
**SPECIAL PROGRAMS: Anniversaries Hurrah,**  
**Par for the Course, Step to the Beat,**  
**Walking with America’s Veterans**



Nebraska City’s history begins before Nebraska was established as a territory in 1854, as an 1846 military outpost called Fort Kearny. Its prime location along the Missouri River made it a natural jumping off point for ‘49ers on their way to California and became the starting point of the Ox-Bow Trail (also known as the Old Fort Kearny or Nebraska City Road), which was a shortcut to the Oregon Trail just past the “new” Ft. Kearny (now Kearney, Nebraska). Our walk in Ashland, Nebraska also walks along a portion of the Ox-Bow Trail at Salt Creek!

Today, Nebraska City is better known as the birthplace of Arbor Day, the passion of J. Sterling Morton (father to the J. Morton of Morton Salt fame). The elder Morton served many roles in local government and was Grover Cleveland’s Secretary of Agriculture. His home at Arbor Lodge and its surround farms are part of this walk. Of course, this walk takes place on tree-lined streets rising from the Missouri River floodplain. Look for the many tree sculptures around the city and evidence of a vibrant arts culture and rich historical past.

**Walk Registration:**

Registration takes place online using the AVA Online Start Box, on 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. The POC does not provide event directions or accept alternate payment methods.

**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 stamped “virtual” insert cards that you may choose to print out.

**Table of Contents:**

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

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# NEBRASKA CITY WALK

## Starting Point Location:

40.675364, -95.87652  
Steinhart Park Shelter 5  
121 Steinhart Park Road  
Nebraska City, NE 68410

**From I-29:** Use I-29 Exit 10 to access IA Hwy 2-W. West (past the Pilot Travel Center) across the Missouri River into Nebraska. You're now on NE Hwy 2-W/J. Sterling Morton Beltway (passing the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trails and Visitor Center on your left, right after the river). A little more than 3.5 miles, turn right on Steinhart Park Road (blue sign showing picture of tent and RV) to park entrance. Shelter 5 is the first shelter as you enter the park.

**From US Hwy 75 N:** As you approach NE-Hwy 2, look for the sign that says "North US 75/West NE-2 Omaha/Lincoln". Get into the left lane as directed, pass under the overpass and immediately take the left to merge onto westbound NE-2/US-75 N. Go 1.5 miles to Steinhart Park Road and turn right (blue sign showing picture of tent and RV) to park entrance. Shelter 5 is the first shelter as you enter the park.

## Emergency Numbers:

### Restrooms:

- If exiting from I-29, the Pilot Travel Center has restrooms and is open 24 hours.
- Steinhart Park has seasonal restrooms a short time after starting the walk.
- Arbor Day Farm has public restrooms available when open.
- Restrooms are available at the Lied Lodge and Conference Center.
- At 712 Central Avenue (not on the 5k route), public restrooms are available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day.

## Notes on the Directions

- Numbered streets increase in value from east (the Missouri River) to the west and run north/south. North of Central Avenue, avenues run east/west. South of Central Avenue, Corsos (Italian for "courses") run east/west.
- (10k only) As you walk along, keep an eye out for the beautifully painted stylized tree sculptures from the city's 2013 *Enchanted Arboretum Project*.

## SPECIAL PROGRAM QUALIFIERS (5k & 10k)

### **Anniversaries Hurrah**

Nebraska Trailblazers is the 16<sup>th</sup> club in AVA

### **Par for the Course**

Steinhart Park

### **Walking with America's Veterans**

Memorial Way murals, south side of Central Avenue, between 9<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets.



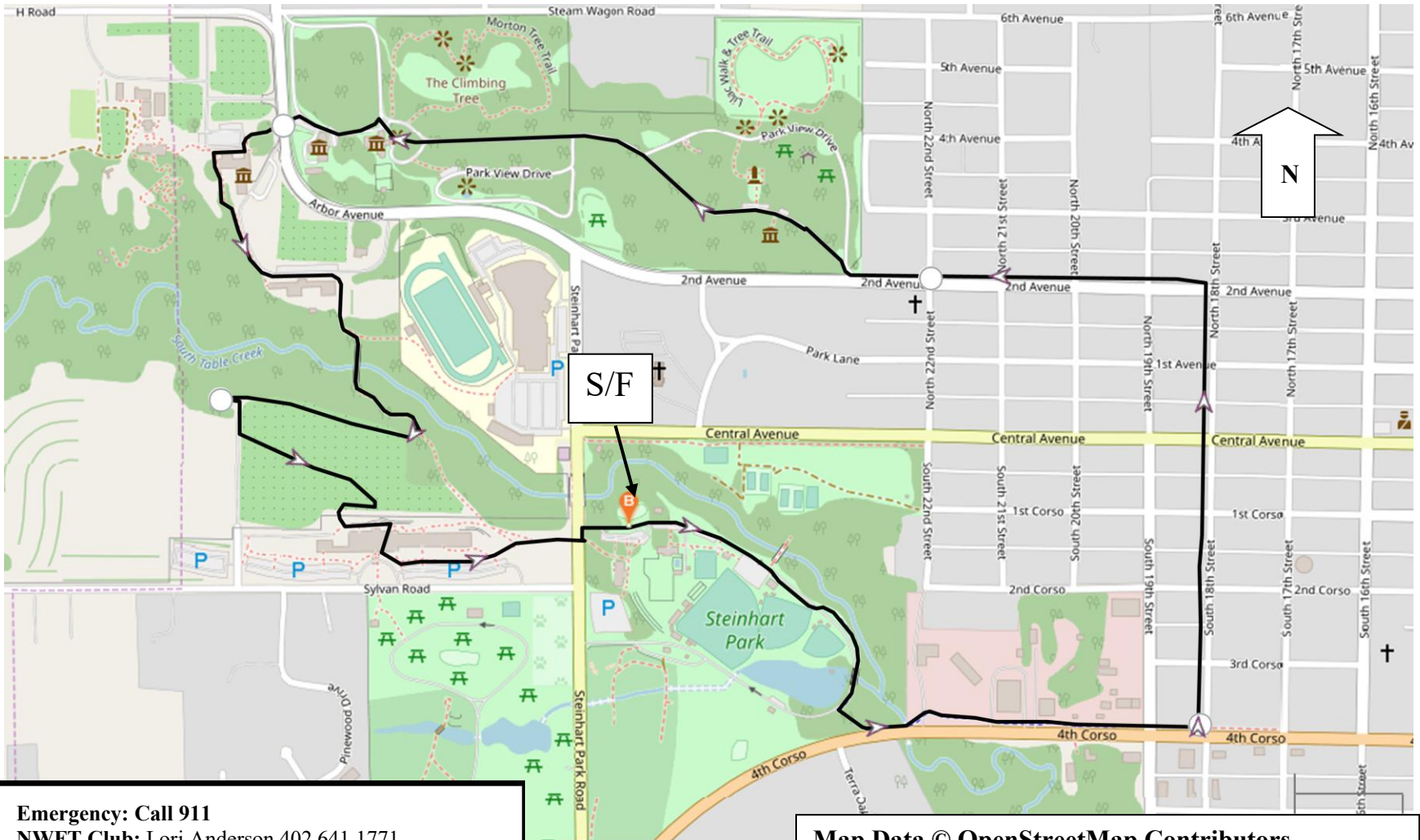
In case of **Emergency: Dial 911**  
Event related assistance:  
Sandy Spaulding 712-435-0815

# 5k Directions

1. From Shelter 5 in Steinhart Park, keep **LEFT**, **FOLLOW** the road to the pedestrian crosswalk.
2. **CROSS** the road at the crosswalk and take the paved trail left.
3. **FOLLOW** the trail through the park. It will lead to 4<sup>th</sup> Corso (not marked)
4. **CONTINUE** on the trail as it turns **LEFT** on 4<sup>th</sup> Corso, passing the Mayhew Cabin to 18<sup>th</sup> St.
5. **LEFT** on 18th St. (carefully walking against traffic when there is no sidewalk) to 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.
6. **LEFT** on 2nd Ave. to entrance to Arbor Lodge Park. Note the dinosaurs on the carport between 7th & 8th St.
7. **ENTER** Arbor Lodge Park taking the main road straight ahead, stopping at the Echo Bench/Memorial area on your right. Try out the bench by having someone sit at the opposite end of the bench from you. You should be able to hear them whisper.
8. **EXIT** the bench and walk south, passing the bronze Mother Nature Statue to the road.
9. **RIGHT** on the road to and follow the tree lined brick path leading to the Arbor Lodge Mansion.
10. Facing the mansion, from the outdoor plaque, **CONTINUE** around the **RIGHT** side (north side) of the mansion, passing the Carriage House and through a parking lot to an accessible sidewalk down to Arbor Ave. (not marked).
11. Carefully **CROSS** Arbor Ave., using the pedestrian crossing, and walk down the stairs to Arbor Day Farm Gift House (bathrooms available).
12. From the *Apple House Market*, walk along the building toward *The Tree Adventure* (stop at end of building).
13. **LEFT** at end of the *Apple House Market Building*, onto a sidewalk (a post sign points to *Lied Lodge & Conference Center*).
14. **FOLLOW** this sidewalk passing the Historic Morton Barns on your right, through a wooded area, over three wooden bridges, to the beginning of the hazelnut bushes.
15. Turn **RIGHT** at the sign to the Conservation Trail/Woodland Grove (wood chip trail) walking between Hazelnut bushes to the dirt trail when the wood chip trail turns right.
16. Continue **STRAIGHT** on the dirt trail toward the brown building in front of you. This is the Woodland Grove (restrooms in season).
17. **CIRCLE** the boardwalk at Woodland Grove, enjoying the view of the woods below.
18. Exit the circle to the **SOUTH** side of the building.
19. **LEFT** passing the building and the parking lot to the crushed rock trail.
20. **RIGHT** on the crushed rock trail to the intersection with the Conservation Trail
21. **LEFT** on the Conservation trail to the Leid Center Lodge, a beautiful nature-inspired hotel and conference center.
22. **LEFT** on the sidewalk on the north side of the lodge to the steps.
23. **RIGHT UP** 39 stairs to the rear hotel lobby entrance and enter the lobby. (To avoid steps, continue straight on the path to Steinhart Park Road then go to step 22.)
24. **PASS THROUGH** the lobby and go out the large front doors (bathrooms, gift shop and restaurant available here).
25. After exiting the lodge, **LEFT** following the sidewalk to and carefully cross Steinhart Park Rd. at the crosswalk. (not marked).
26. **LEFT** on Steinhart Rd. (Note the 1998 historically designed bridge in front of you) to Steinhart Park entrance.
27. **RIGHT** in Steinhart Park returning to start.

# NEBRASKA CITY – 5K

**START POINT** – Steinhart Park Shelter 5, 121 Steinhart Park Road, Nebraska City, NE 68410  
40.675364, -95.87652



 **Emergency: Call 911**  
**NWFT Club: Lori Anderson 402.641.1771.**  
**Regional Director: Ken Johnson 651-968-6380**

**Map Data © OpenStreetMap Contributors**

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



# 10K Directions

1. From Shelter 5 in Steinhart Park, keep left, **FOLLOW** the road to the pedestrian crosswalk.
2. **CROSS** the road at the crosswalk and take the paved trail **LEFT**.
3. **FOLLOW** the trail through the park. It will lead to 4th Corso (not marked)
4. **CONTINUE** on the trail as it turns **LEFT** on 4th Corso, passing the Mayhew Cabin to 18th St.
5. **LEFT** on 18<sup>th</sup> St. (carefully walking against traffic when there is no sidewalk) to Central Ave.
6. **RIGHT** on Central Ave to the Memorial Way cut-out between 9th and 8th St. As you walk along Central Avenue, look for these murals by Kent Schwartz, sponsored by the Nebraska City Chamber of Commerce:  
Also, while on Central, you will pass the *Kregel Windmill Factory* and *The Nebraska City Fire Fighter Museum* (on north side of Central).
7. **RIGHT and ENTER** Memorial Way, observing the military murals (west wall) and loop back to Central Ave. observing the Nebraska City History murals (east wall).
8. **RIGHT** on Central to and cross 5<sup>th</sup> St. (Note Oregon Trail Monument on SE corner of Central & 5th)
9. **RIGHT** on 5<sup>th</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Corso.
10. **RIGHT** on 4<sup>th</sup> Corso to 9th St.
11. **RIGHT** on 9<sup>th</sup> St. to 3<sup>rd</sup> Corso (not marked)
12. **RIGHT** on 3<sup>rd</sup> Corso to 7<sup>th</sup> St. passing the Kimmel Harding Nelson Arts Center and historic Nelson House
13. **LEFT** on 7<sup>th</sup> St. to 1<sup>st</sup> Corso
14. **LEFT** on 1st Corso, passing the Civil War Museum/G.A.R. Memorial Hall, the Premier Bank, and Morton James Library—to 11th St.
15. **RIGHT** on 11<sup>th</sup> St. to and cross 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave
16. **RIGHT** on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. to 10<sup>th</sup> St.
17. Cross NW through the Nuckolls Square Park to 11<sup>th</sup> St.
18. Left on 11<sup>th</sup> St. to 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.
19. **RIGHT** on 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. to entrance to Arbor Lodge Park. Note the dinosaurs on the carport between 17th & 18th St.
20. **ENTER** *Arbor Lodge Park*
21. **TAKE** first road in park north and then west to entrance to Lilac Walk on right. (across from playground-crushed rock trail)
22. Keep **RIGHT**, walking the circular trail and exit south, cross the road, pass the playground and walk across the grass to the cement structure south of the playground (Echo Bench). Try out the bench by having someone sit at the opposite end of the bench from you. You should be able to hear them whisper.
23. Exit the bench and walk south, passing the bronze Mother Nature Statue to the road.
24. **RIGHT** on the road to and follow tree lined path leading to the *Arbor Lodge Mansion*.

## NEBRASKA CITY WALK

25. Facing the mansion, from the outdoor plaque, continue around the **RIGHT** side (north side) of the mansion, passing the Carriage House and through a parking lot to an accessible sidewalk down to Arbor Ave. (not marked).
26. **Carefully CROSS** Arbor Ave., using the pedestrian crossing, and walk down the stairs to *Arbor Day Farm Gift House* (bathrooms available). From the Apple House Market, walk along the building toward The Tree Adventure (stop at end of building).
27. **LEFT**, at end of the Apple House Market Building, onto a sidewalk (a post sign points to Lied Lodge & Conference Center).
28. **FOLLOW** this sidewalk passing the Historic Morton Barns on your right, through a wooded area, over three wooden bridges, to the beginning of the hazelnut bushes.
29. Turn **RIGHT** at the sign to the Conservation Trail/Woodland Grove (wood chip trail) walking between Hazelnut bushes to the dirt trail when the wood chip trail turns right.
30. Continue straight on the dirt trail toward the brown building in front of you. This is the Woodland Grove (restrooms in season).
31. **Circle** the boardwalk at Woodland Grove, enjoying the view of the woods below.
32. Exit the circle to the **SOUTH** side of the building.
33. **LEFT** passing the building and the parking lot to the crushed rock trail.
34. **RIGHT** on the crushed rock trail to the intersection with the Conservation Trail
35. **LEFT** on the Conservation trail to the Leid Center Lodge, a beautiful nature-inspired hotel and conference center.
36. **LEFT** on the sidewalk on the north side of the lodge to the steps.
37. **RIGHT UP** 39 stairs to the rear hotel lobby entrance and enter the lobby. (To avoid steps, continue straight on the path to Steinhart Park Road then go to step 36.)
38. **PASS THROUGH** the lobby and go out the large front doors. (Beautiful lobby with bathrooms, gift shop and restaurant available).
39. After exiting the lodge, **LEFT** following the sidewalk to and carefully cross Steinhart Park Rd. at the crosswalk. (not marked).
40. **LEFT** on Steinhart Rd. (Note the 1998 historically designed bridge in front of you) to Steinhart Park entrance.
41. **RIGHT** in Steinhart Park returning to start.

