

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

Possible INVA state meeting is currently not planned for Saturday, October 25. If one is scheduled, details will be provided at the Start Point for Shades State Park.

Optional visit to the Second Annual Crawfordsville Paranormal Convention at the Crawfords Armory, 1405 South Washington Street, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933. Activity is free and open to the public.

INVA/MARD Social/Dinner at location in Crawfordsville to be announced during the event at the Shades State Park and details provided at the Shades Start/Finish. Seating for twenty-five persons at any one time on Saturday, October 25, from 6 pm to 9 pm. Terms of payment for this activity is "Dutch Treat."

**DISCLAIMER:** The Indiana Volkssport Association, its member Clubs, the City of Crawfordsville and its Department of Parks & Recreation, State of Indiana and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources are not liable for accidents, theft, or material damage. Every reasonable effort will be made to make the events safe and enjoyable. Children under the age of twelve must be accompanied by an adult who will need to execute a waiver for the child. Pets, where allowed, must be kept on a leash. The pet's owner is responsible for the removal of any waste produced by his or her pet. All Indiana State Parks practice pack-in/pack-out (no trash containers for public use).

**POINTS OF CONTACT:** Cliff Terry at (317) 776-1848, or via email to [clifferry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clifferry@sbcglobal.net), or Bob Buzolich at (574) 339-9140, or via email to [sonofbuzz@prodigy.net](mailto:sonofbuzz@prodigy.net)

**UPDATES:** The Mid-America Region of the AVA and the Hoosier Hikers maintain a Facebook page, which will be used to update and disseminate information pertaining to the 2025 INVA Autumn Fest and other activities in the Mid-America Region and in the State of Indiana. Please check it out by using the following links:

Mid-America: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2304519116421172>

Hoosier Hikers: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/120770579366588>

**THE INDIANA VOLKSSPORT ASSOCIATION  
AND THE MID-AMERICA REGIONAL DIRECTOR  
INVITE YOU TO  
A COLORFUL AUTUMN FEST  
WITHIN THE SUGAR CREEK WATERSHED  
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
FROM OCTOBER 25 TO 26, 2025**



Imagine this picture with the colorful hues of Autumn.

**ALL TIMES CITED IN THIS BROCHURE ARE  
EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME (EDT)**



**Shades State Park TGW MA25/129290  
Historic Crawfordsville Indiana GW MA25/130227**

**INVA # 926 & 927**

**WELCOME:** The Indiana Volkssport Association (INVA) and the Mid-America Regional Director (MARD) invite and welcome you to the 2025 INVA/MARD Autumn Fest, which highlights the historic, geologic and cultural aspects of walking through the majestic Sugar Creek watershed of Montgomery County in West Central Indiana during late Autumn. This walking weekend is comprised of two walking events. One is hosted by INVA. The second is hosted by the Mid-America Regional Director. Only the INVA event is set up as a Travelling Guided Walk for a single day on Saturday, October 25, and will be operated as a Group Guided Walk. The Regional Director event, which is a fund raising activity for the American Volkssport Association, is a regular traditional event to be operated as a Group Guided Walk on Sunday, October 26. All registrations will be on-site on the day of the event.

**WHAT ARE VOLKSSPORTS?** A Volksmarch is a non-competitive walking event. The walk is ten kilometers or 6.2 miles in length. Other Volkssporting events include swimming, biking, and skiing. These events are hosted by clubs in more than forty nations worldwide and the fifty states of the USA. The purpose of Volkssporting events is to encourage physical fitness, promote fellowship, and to enjoy the outdoors. Because these events are not contests of speed or endurance, you may participate at a pace that is safe, comfortable, and enjoyable. When Volkssporting events are sanctioned by the International Volkssport Verband (IVV), individuals may receive credit for event participation and/or distance. This credit is recorded in IVV Record Books, which presently cost \$6.00 each. After completing a pre-determined number of events and/or distance, your achievement will be recognized with a pin, patch, and certificate by the IVV. Further information will be available at the start/finish point.

**START/FINISH:** The Start/Finish Points are as indicated on pages 3 and 4 of this brochure and the event information published on the American Volkssport Association (AVA) website, [my.ava.org](http://my.ava.org). A link is provided for each event on pages 3 to 4 of this brochure.

**FEES:** Everyone is welcome. However, participants must register and pay a registration fee. The registration fee for ALL participants is \$4.00. If the A-Award is desired for the Shades State Park event, the cost is \$17 for a header, identifying bar and registration, or \$9 for just the identifying bar and registration. There is a gate fee for entry to Shades State Park. The gate fee is \$7 for Indiana plated vehicles and \$9 for out-of-state plated vehicles. If still available, the Regional Director may offer the 2025 multi-color embroidered patch for National Volkssporting Month. See the Awards paragraph below.

**IVV CREDIT:** Participants completing these events are eligible for IVV event and distance credits.

**AWARDS:** There is an A-Award available for the event at Shades State Park on Saturday. There may be an A-Award offered for the event in Historic Crawfordsville on Sunday. The A-Award for Crawfordsville is a multicolor embroidered patch celebrating October as National Volkssports Month. Patch availability is dependent on in-stock inventory following a Hoosier Event earlier in October. There will be NO re-orders for this award. If offered, cost is \$10 for the patch with IVV Credit.

**SPECIAL EVENT STAMPS:** All events qualify for the following AVA Challenge Programs: Centurion Achievement Challenge, Walking the USA A-Z, Walking the United States (50 States/51 Capitals) and IVV Americas. Qualifiers for other AVA Challenge Programs along the routes may be identified by the lead host club in the event detail found at [my.ava.org](http://my.ava.org).

**TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS:** The walk routes are described on pages 3 and 4 of this brochure

and as published on the AVA website.

**SPECIAL NEEDS:** A special needs trail will be available upon request at each of the events.

**REFRESHMENT:** Water may be available at both start/finish points and any staffed checkpoints, if provided. It is recommended that participants carry some water with them along the routes, because of the possibly warm, if not hot, and humid weather that may be experienced in Central Indiana, as late as the month of October. Restrooms are available at the Start/Finish Point, or nearby, and may also be available along the routes.

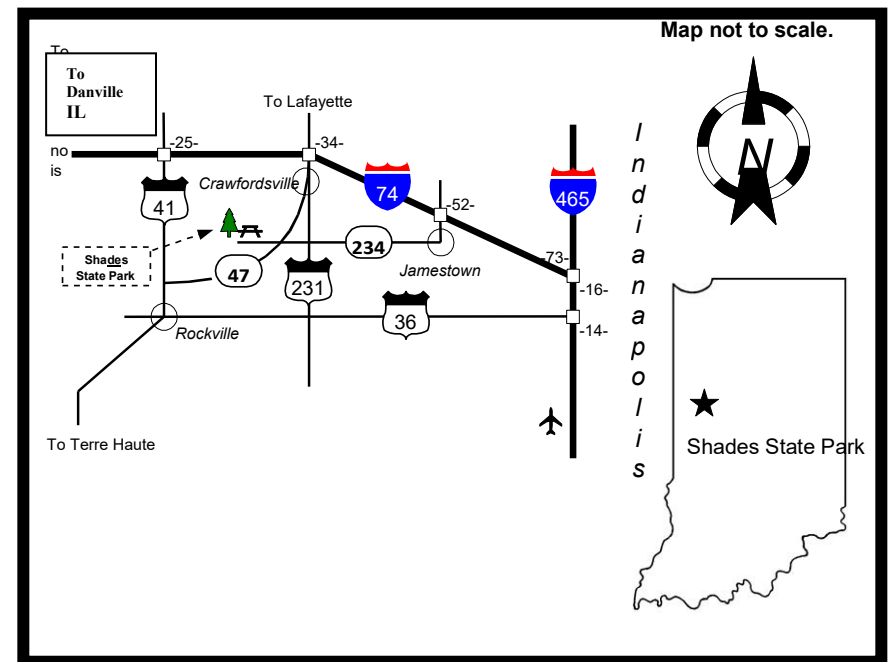
**PRE-REGISTRATION:** No pre-registration is offered for the INVA/MARD Autumn Fest.

**REFUND POLICY:** NO refunds given.

**WEATHER IMPACT:** These events will be held rain, shine, or snow except in the case of extreme weather conditions posing a threat to life, limb and property.

**LODGING:** For the INVA/MARD Autumn Fest, there is no central point of operation, or preferred lodging location. You are free to arrange your own lodging. For recommendations, please use the following link to local tourism information:

<https://www.visitmoco.com/stay/>



EVENT # 2  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025  
HISTORIC AND NOTABLE CRAWFORDSVILLE, INDIANA  
AVA Sanction: MA25/130227

This event is open to everyone, though registration is required. The event is a Group Guided Walk through Historic & Notable Crawfordsville, Indiana. The overall trail rating is 1-A, which is described below. Average walkers may complete a 10- kilometer route rated 1-A in about two hours to two and one quarter hours. This event is hosted by the Mid-America Regional Director (MARD) and operated with the assistance of the Hoosier Hikers of South Bend, Indiana. For detailed information on this event that is published on the AVA website, please use the following link:

<https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=130227>

START/FINISH POINT: Sugar Creek Trailhead at Crawfordsville Senior High School, 1 West Athenian Drive, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933. Registration opens at Start/Finish Point at 8:30 am and continues until all walk groups have started waking. First walk group departs the Start/Finish Point No Later Than 9 am.

DISTANCES OFFERED: 6 Km (3.75 miles) or 10 Km (6.2 miles)

TRAIL RATINGS: 1-A (Scale of 1 to 5 references elevation gain with 5 being the most difficult. Scale A to E references type of trail with E being the most difficult). The six-kilometer route is rated 1-A.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION: All routes incorporate existing sidewalks and trails on properties administered by the City of Crawfordsville and its Department of Parks and Recreation. Portions of the routes may not be suitable for strollers or wheelchairs. Sidewalks may be uneven or cracked. Some steps may be encountered when beginning and completing the walk. Dogs are permitted but must be leashed and under the control of the owner, who is also responsible for cleaning up after their pet.

RESTROOMS: Will be available on site at Start/Finish or within a short walk.

DIRECTIONS: From Interstate I-74 Exit 34 take US Highway 231 (Base Line Road/Lafayette Road/Washington Street) in a Southerly direction through Crawfordsville. At the intersection of US 231 and IN State Route 47 (South Boulevard) Turn Right on SR 47 to proceed in a generally Southwesterly direction. After passing through the intersection with SR 32, you will see Crawfordsville High School on your left. Turn Left onto Athenian Drive, which is the entry and exit for the High School, and follow the drive to the rear of the High School, where you will encounter volkssporting signage and banners.

EVENT # 1  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025  
SHADES STATE PARK, INDIANA  
AVA Sanction: MA25/129290

This event is open to everyone, though registration is required, as is a gate fee to enter an Indiana State Park (See page 2). The event is a Group Guided Walk through the Sugar Creek watershed in Western Montgomery County. Sugar Creek meanders to its confluence with the Wabash River. The overall trail rating is 3-B, which is described below. Average walkers may complete a 10- kilometer route rated 3-B in about two and one half hours to three hours. This event is hosted by the Indiana Volkssport Association (INVA). For detailed information on this event that is published on the AVA website, please use the following link:

<https://my.ava.org/event-view.php?sn=129290>

START/FINISH POINT: Hickory Shelter at Shades State Park, 7751 South 892 West, Waveland, Indiana 47989. Registration is open at the Start Finish point from 10:30 am to Noon. Walk groups will depart the Start/Finish at 11 am, 11:30 am and Noon. Individuals May be accommodated.

DISTANCES OFFERED: 5 Km (3.1 miles) or 10 Km (6.2 miles).

TRAIL RATINGS: 3-B (Scale of 1 to 5 references elevation gain with 5 being the most difficult. Scale A to E references type of trail with E being the most difficult).

TRAIL DESCRIPTION: All routes incorporate existing trails on properties administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Portions of the routes may not be suitable for strollers or wheelchairs. The trails are unimproved (dirt with tree roots protruding through the surface and boulders) and significant elevation changes. Snakes may be encountered along the trails. Please exercise caution. Dogs are permitted but must be leashed and under the control of the owner, who is also responsible for cleaning up after their pet.

RESTROOMS: Will be available on site at Start/Finish and along the route.

DIRECTIONS: 7751 S. 892 W., Waveland, IN 47989. Located near the west border of Indiana approximately seventeen miles southwest of Crawfordsville. From Crawfordsville, take SR 231 eight miles south to SR 234. Turn right (west) on SR 234 and go to the park entrance. Once in the park follow the signs to Hickory Shelter.

**EVENT & ACTIVITY SCHEDULE  
(CONFIRMED)**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25**

**9 AM TO 10 AM**      **REGISTRATION FOR SHADES STATE PARK  
EVENT AT HICKORY SHELTER**

**9/10 AM TO 12/1 PM**      **GUIDED WALKS AT THE SHADES STATE PARK**  
**1 PM TO 5 PM**      **OPTIONAL VISIT ON YOUR OWN TO THE 2<sup>ND</sup>  
ANNUAL CRAWFORDSVILLE PARANORMAL  
CONVENTION IN THE CRAWFORDSVILLE  
ARMORY**

**6 PM TO 9 PM**      **INVA/MARD WELCOME ACTIVITY AT A PIZZA  
PARLOR IN CRAWFORDSVILLE TO BE  
ANNOUNCED**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26**

**8:30 AM TO 9 AM**      **REGISTRATION FOR HISTORIC & NOTABLE  
CRAWFORDSVILLE EVENT AT SUGAR CREEK  
TRAILHEAD BEHIND HIGH SCHOOL**

**9 AM TO 12 PM**      **HISTORIC CRAWFORDSVILLE GUIDED  
WALKS**

**YEAR-ROUND & SEASONAL EVENTS  
WITHIN 90 MINUTES DRIVE OF  
CRAWFORDSVILLE**

Danville, IL	Honoring American Veterans	53 min
Indianapolis, IN	Eagle Creek Park	62 min
Zionsville, IN	Village & Nature Park	66 min
Indianapolis, IN	Crown Hill Cemetery	68 min
Indianapolis, IN	White River SP & Capitol	72 min
Homer, IL	Homer Lake Forest Preserve	73 min
Carmel, IN	Monon Greenway (Walk)	75 min
Carmel, IN	Monon Greenway (Bike)	75 min
Champaign, IL	Champaign Trails & Parks	84 min

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-INSERT-