

## Event Overview

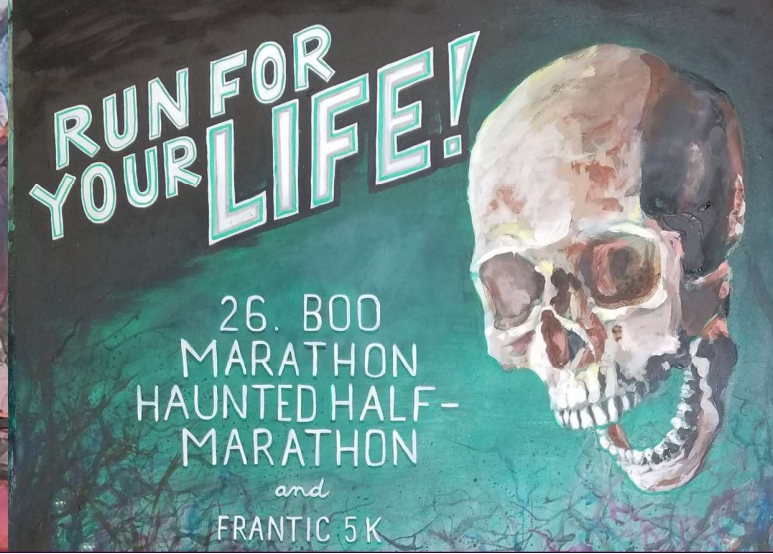
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Welcome to the 2025 Haunted Forest Marathon / Half Marathon / 5K. We hope you enjoy the weekend festivities. The following are the final race instructions to prepare you for race day. Please review EVERYTHING carefully.

Should you have any questions, our staff is available to assist you at the race expo and on race day.

Good Luck and Good Racing!

The Run to You Racing Team



## Race Week Activities

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### Schedule of Events – Friday, October 24th

- 4:00pm to 6:30pm – Race Expo / PACKET PICKUP – Shared with the Great Pumpkin Race expo. Located at the Stark Board of DD building. The address is 2950 Whipple Ave NW, Canton, OH 44708. Parking is available at the building or across the street in the Acme Fresh Market plaza.

### Schedule of Events – Saturday, October 25th

- 7:00am to 1:00pm – Race Expo / PACKET PICKUP – ***Continues*** at the Stark Board of DD.
- 8:15am – Kids 100 meter dash at the Great Pumpkin Race
- 8:30am – 1 mile fun run / walk at the Great Pumpkin Race
- 9:00am – Great Pumpkin Race 4 Miler
- 10:15am – Great Pumpkin Race 4 Miler Awards

***THERE IS NO SATURDAY AFTERNOON / NIGHT PICKUP. WE WILL BE SETTING UP THE COURSE.***

### Schedule of Events – Sunday, October 26th

- 6:30am – GENERAL Parking opens at Clay's Park Overflow Lot.
- 6:30am – PREFERRED PARKING opens at St Helena Heritage Park.
- 6:30am – Shuttles start running between Clay's Park Overflow Lot and St Helena Heritage Park until 2:00pm
- 6:30am to Start – Race Morning Packet Pickup at the Finish Line
- 7:56am – National Anthem
- 7:58am – Final Announcements
- 8:00am – Marathon and Half Marathon Start
- 8:25am – 5K Start





## Packet Pickup Overview

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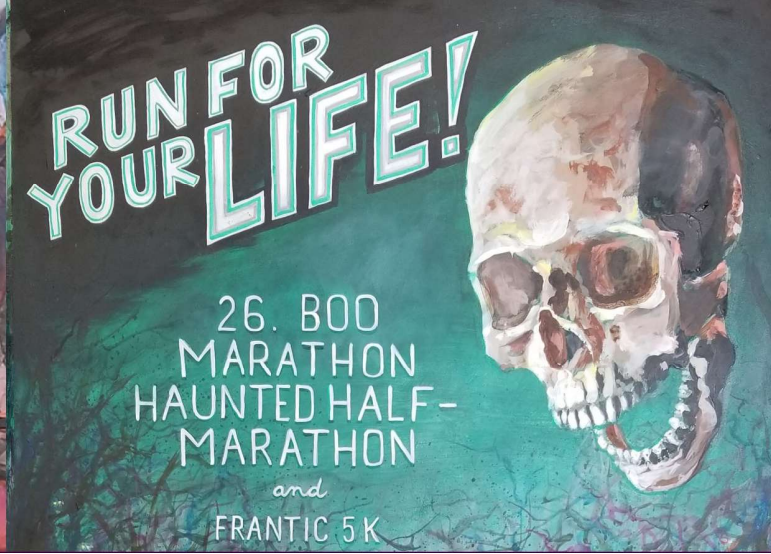
Packet Pickup will be inside the Stark Board of DD building. Parking is FREE. Please use either the open lot at the building or across the street at the Acme Fresh Market Plaza. Please park close to Whipple versus against the grocery store.

Once you are inside the building you may pick up your Bib and Event Shirt.

**EVENT SHIRTS** – You must take the shirt size that you selected during registration. We will have a shirt exchange after the race at our Downtown Canton office on a date to be announced later. Supplies and sizes may vary based on availability.

**BIB NUMBER** –It is IMPORTANT that you wear your bib number on the FRONT of your shirt. We need to see your bib number at various points along the course.

**YOU MAY HAVE A FRIEND PICK UP YOUR BIB AND SHIRT** – We are kindly asking that you keep that number to a minimum. We want to be courteous to those only picking up for themselves.



## Race Morning Sunday

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Runners, Family Members, and Spectators will park at the Clay's Park Overflow Lot. The address to use is 5071 Manchester Ave NW, North Lawrence, OH 44666. Parking is ACROSS THE STREET from this address. Look for the Light Tower and Signs that say Event Parking. This parking area is a large field. It might be wet depending on the weather. Please be prepared to walk through wet grass. We recommend putting bags over your shoes if it is wet outside.

Those who purchased **Preferred Parking** will NOT park at the Clay's Park Overflow Lot, but at St Helena Heritage Park. The address to use is 123 Tuscarawas St NW, Canal Fulton, OH 44614. We are NOT selling Preferred Parking on race morning. We will SEND you your Preferred Parking Pass via email on Wednesday, October 22nd. You must PRINT the pass and place it on your Dashboard on race morning. We will be checking for passes.

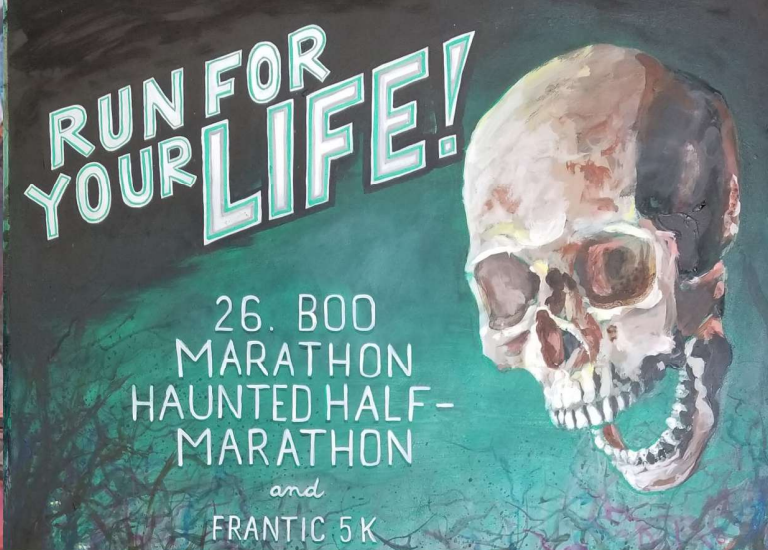
IF you choose to park near or around St Helena Heritage Park on Sunday morning you are your own. Please be aware that parking is EXTREMELY LIMITED and many of the roads will be closed. Please park at Clay's Park Overflow Lot. It is FREE and FAST. We are starting the Marathon/Half Marathon on-time at 8am whether you are there or not. The 5K will start at 8:25am. The start is located on Canal Street adjacent to St Helena Heritage Park.

The buses will run starting at 6:30am and will loop back and forth from Clay's Park Overflow Lot to St Helena Heritage Park until 2:00pm. *If we see that there are still runners out on the course at 2pm, we will hold a bus / ride for you.*

**PLEASE ARRIVE TO THE RACE EARLY ON SUNDAY. WE ARE STARTING ON TIME AT 8:00AM. PLAN ON ARRIVING BY 6:30AM TO ENSURE ENOUGH TIME TO PARK, GET YOUR STUFF, AND USE THE PORTA POTTIES! TRAFFIC WILL BE HEAVY INITIALLY. PLEASE BE PATIENT.**

**CRITICAL – DO NOT PARK AT ST HELENA WITHOUT A PREFERRED PARKING PASS. MANY OF YOU HAVE TRIED TO SQUEEZE IN THERE. WE ONLY HAVE A LIMITED NUMBER OF SPACES AND**





**YOU WILL BE TURNED AWAY IF YOU TRY TO GET IN. THIS WILL ONLY DELAY YOUR ARRIVAL TO THE RACE START. WE APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION IN FOLLOWING THE RULES.**



## Gear Check

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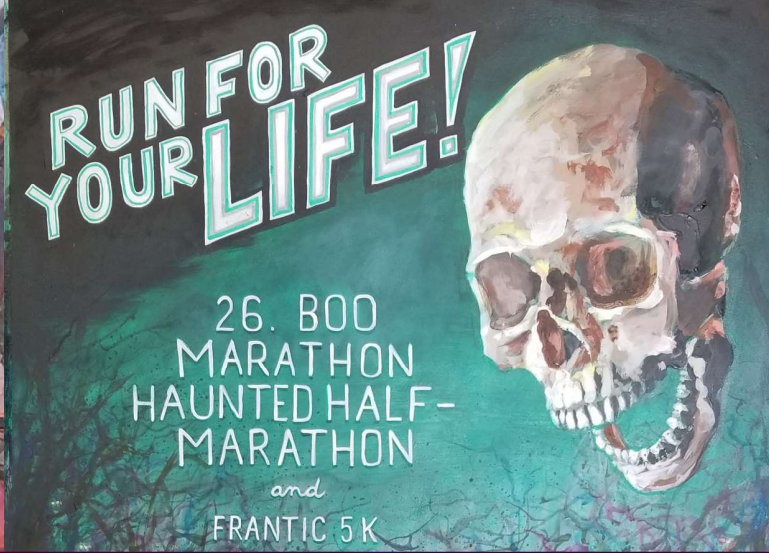
There will be a “self-serve” gear check area at the Finish Line under the pavilion. A grid will be created where you simply place your gear in the zone that matches your bib number. We will watch over the gear area. Remember that it is outside in the open.

## 9 Lives Challenge

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You will receive your 9 Lives Challenge gift after you finish the Sunday event. We will hand it to you as you finish.





## Sunday Parking Overview

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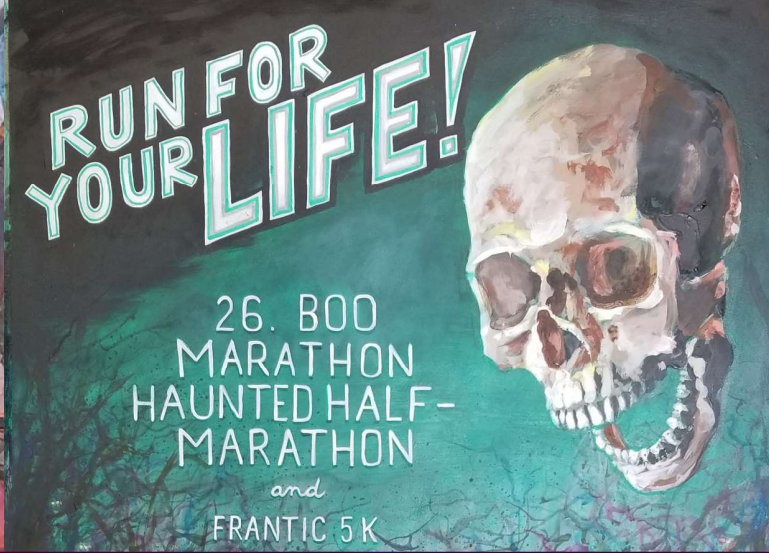
Please follow the directions our volunteers give you during the parking process. The buses will be against the road ready for you. We have buses which will transport you to the race site. Please be patient. They will get you there!

USE THE ADDRESS OF 5071 MANCHESTER AVE NW, NORTH LAWRENCE, OH 44666

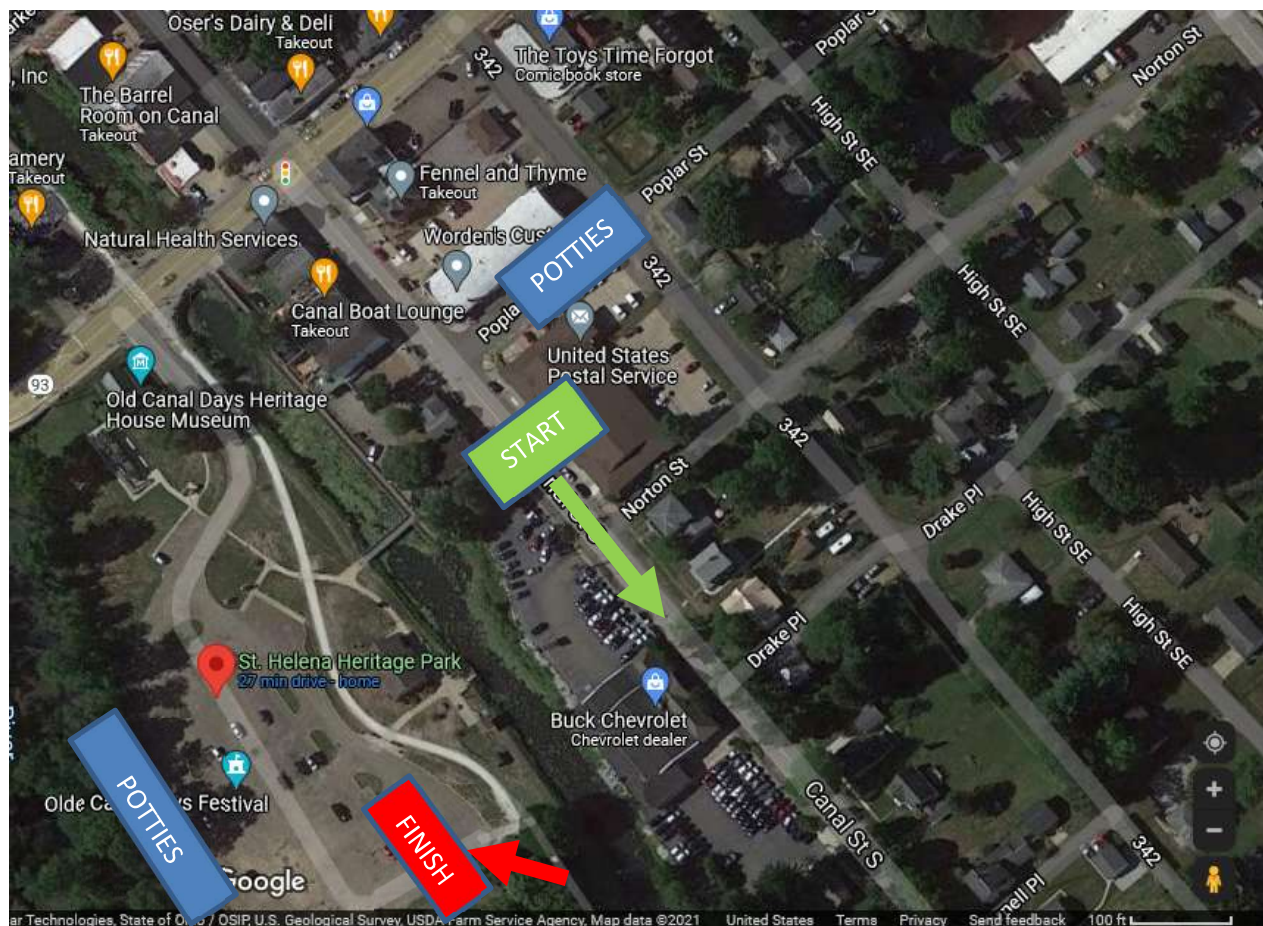
The parking area is ACROSS the street from this address. Look for the signs and LIGHT TOWER.

Run to You Racing  
132 5<sup>th</sup> St NW  
Canton OH 44702





## Canal Fulton Overview



The bus drop off is on Cherry Street across from the Canoe Livery. Please follow the signs to the race location. The start line and finish line are in walking distance from each other. We will have porta potties waiting for you!

Run to You Racing  
132 5<sup>th</sup> St NW  
Canton OH 44702





## Marathon / Half / 5K Courses

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Marathon - <https://www.plotaroute.com/route/2778182>

Half Marathon - <https://www.plotaroute.com/route/2778186>

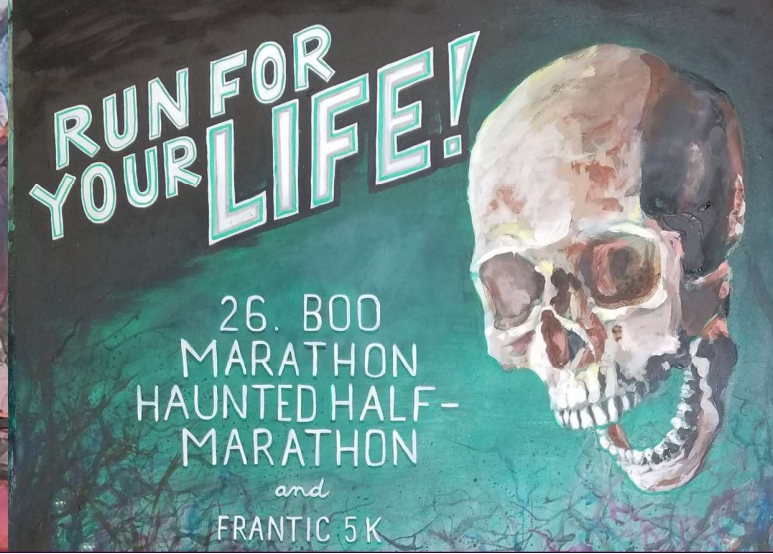
5K - <https://www.plotaroute.com/route/2778191>

The Marathon and Half Marathon start together at 8:00am on Canal Street South at the U.S. Post Office. Both races will ONLY STAY TOGETHER for 1.2 miles until you reach the Towpath Trail. The Marathon will turn LEFT and head SOUTH towards Massillon. The Half Marathon will turn RIGHT and head NORTH towards Franklin Township.

Marathon – You will head SOUTH on the Towpath Trail until you reach the 7.78 mile mark, at which point you will do a 180 degree turn and head back NORTH on the Towpath Trail. You will continue NORTH for the next 13 miles until you reach mile 20.8 and the 180 degree turn near the Franklin Trailhead. You will then head SOUTH to St. Helena Heritage Park which where the Finish Line is located. There will be timing mats at both 180 degree turns. Water / Gatorade / Restroom stations will be available along the course.

Half Marathon – You will head NORTH on the Towpath Trail until you reach mile 7.75 and the 180 degree turn near the Franklin Trailhead. You will then head SOUTH to St. Helena Heritage Park which where the Finish Line is located. There will be a timing mat at the 180 degree turn location. Water / Gatorade / Restroom stations will be available along the course.

The 5K will start at 8:25am on Canal Street South at the U.S. Post Office. You will run SOUTH on Canal Street South to the Canal Fulton YMCA. You will turn LEFT into the YMCA and follow the course markings to the crushed limestone trail. The trail will run around the perimeter of the YMCA and you will eventually exit LEFT and return to Canal Street South. You will then turn RIGHT onto the Towpath Trail and head NORTH to St. Helena Heritage Park which is where the Finish Line is located. One water station will be placed on the course.



## Water Stations / Porta Potties

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Below is the overview of each Water Station for the Marathon and Half Marathon. Remember that we are running on a Towpath Trail and access into the trail can be difficult, hence the “wonky” water station locations. TWO porta potties will be at each location EXCEPT the Boat House, which is 400 meters from the Finish Line area.

Location	Marathon	Half
Butterbridge	Mile 2.4 / Mile 13	
Crystal Springs	Mile 4.9 / Mile 10.5	
Bridgeport Quarry	Mile 6.5 / Mile 8.9	
Boat House	Mile 15.2	Mile 2.1
Lake Lucerne Trailhead	Mile 16.1 / Mile 25.3	Mile 3.3 / Mile 12.2
Summit/Stark Line	Mile 18.3 / 23.4	Mile 5.2 / 10.3
Clinton	Mile 19.3 / Mile 22.2	Mile 6.3 / Mile 9.1

**The 5K Water Station will be located on the Towpath Trail just before Mile 2. There will NOT be a porta potty there.**





## Spectator Recommendations

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Remember that 98% of this course is on the Towpath Trail. We will cross a few roads along the route. The best place for spectators will be at the start and finish. Should your family want to see you along the route, here are the road crossings. Please use caution when going to these locations as parking is VERY limited and Police will be monitoring traffic.

- Butterbridge Rd NW / Towpath Trail
- Forty Corners Trailhead / Towpath Trail
- St Helena Heritage Park
- Lake Lucerne Trailhead / Towpath Trail
- Clinton Trailhead / Towpath Trail

## City of Canal Fulton Street Closures

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**RUNNERS WILL BE ON THESE ROADS BETWEEN THESE TIMES. CLOSURES WILL OCCUR ROUGHLY 20 MINUTES BEFORE THE FIRST RUNNER ARRIVES. PLEASE HAVE YOUR FAMILY PLAN ACCORDINGLY IF THEY ARE GOING TO SEE YOU ALONG THE RACE COURSE**

**Canal St S / Erie Ave NW** - Between Cherry St and Lock 4: 7:45am to 8:45am  
**Cherry St W and E** - Open but expect delays as runners cross



## Ready Set Go!

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We will provide race announcements all morning on race day. Please head to the starting line when we ask. Please line up with the faster runners in the front and walkers in the back. It is critical that you place yourself in the proper spot so that we may have a smooth flow of runners leaving the start area. Remember you have 13.1 or 26.2 miles ahead of you!

5K Runners – Please stand on the sidewalks on either side of the road and cheer the Marathon / Half Marathon starters. We will quickly move you into place after they start.

**\*\* WALKERS \*\*** - We welcome walkers BUT we are kindly asking that you only walk 2 across as there will be runners coming up behind you to pass.

## On Course Elements

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The course will carry a Halloween theme in SPECIFIC places along the route. Since this is on the Towpath Trail, there will be large areas that do not have decorations and will be quiet. We will do our best to “pepper” the course with items. You can expect a few concentrated zones that we think you will like! Each mile marker indicates the distance for the Full Marathon, Half Marathon, or 5K.

Water Stations are noted in the grid above and will have both Water and Gatorade. The flavor will be Lemon Lime. Portable restrooms will be located at every water station except the Boat House. Please thank the volunteers as you go by!

YOU WILL BE RUNNING ON THE TOWPATH TRAIL. THE SURFFACE IS CRUSHED LIMESTONE and BLACKTOP. We will be doing our best to clear the running surface on Saturday but expect leaves, sticks, and any other debris that may come down overnight.





You will ALWAYS run on the RIGHT side of the towpath, just like you are driving a car. The course is a HEAVY out and back. Please do not bunch up side by side if you are walking.

The Southern turnaround for the Marathon will have a timing mat will be placed there to record your split. The Northern turnaround for the Marathon / Half Marathon will have a timing mat will be placed there to record your split.

**Remember that the Marathon and Half Marathon ONLY STAY TOGETHER for 1.2 miles.**

## Changing Distances

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A few of you have reached out and asked if you could switch distances. The answer is YES...BUT...there is a process to follow.

- + You will need to wear the bib that we assign you based on your registered distance.
- + You will also need to start with the distance that you have changed over to.
- + You MUST tell us during packet pickup that you are changing distances. We will reclassify you into the new distance for results purposes.
- + You WILL be given the finisher medal of the original distance that you registered for. We only purchased enough medals in each distance for those who registered for that distance.

**IMPORTANT:** If you are registered for the Marathon but decide to drop down to the Half during the race, you will finish at 15.5 miles and we will give you the Marathon medal. We will change your status in the timing system so you are recognized in the Half Marathon results.

Please listen on Race Morning as we start the races. The Full and Half start at 8:00am and the 5K at 8:25am.



## Tips for First Timers

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All runners must wear their race bibs on the FRONT of their shirts and should be visible at all times. The back of your bib has a timing chip. Please do not fold or bend this chip. It is used to track your start time, race progress, and finish time.

Please use proper race etiquette. Move aside for runners who say they are passing and make sure you do not become a hazard. If you need to stop or walk at the water stations, check behind you before you move over to grab your water.

## Important Course Info / Timing Splits

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Marathoners and Half Marathoners Runners ONLY STAY TOGETHER for 1.2 miles. At that point the Half Marathoners will turn RIGHT and head North while the Marathoners will turn LEFT and head South to continue along the marathon course.

All 5K runners will stay together and run portions of the Marathon / Half Marathon Course. Please pay attention to the turn signs. There is a chance that the FIRST Marathoner will come up behind the LAST 5K WALKER. Please keep to the side and only walk two across.





## Post-Race

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You've done it! We will present you with our unique finisher medal as you finish. Please take your finisher water and snacks after you get your medal. Activities will be held at the Finish Line area including music, water / Gatorade, and food. Awards will be presented for the 5K race at 9:30am.

Awards for the Marathon and Half Marathon will be available in the PAVILION on a rolling basis. You can check results at [www.cantonruns.com](http://www.cantonruns.com). We will also be posting printed results in the PAVILION throughout the morning / afternoon. If you won an award, you can pick it up once at least 4 people in your age group have finished. PLEASE CHECK YOUR RESULTS BEFORE YOU LEAVE. WE ARE NOT MAILING ANY AWARDS.

## Special Thanks

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**The City of Canal Fulton**

**New Franklin Township**

**Lawrence Township**

**Stark Metro Parks**

**Summit Metro Parks**

**Stark Board of DD**

**Run to You Racing**

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