

2024 SPECTATOR'S GUIDE



PRESENTED BY





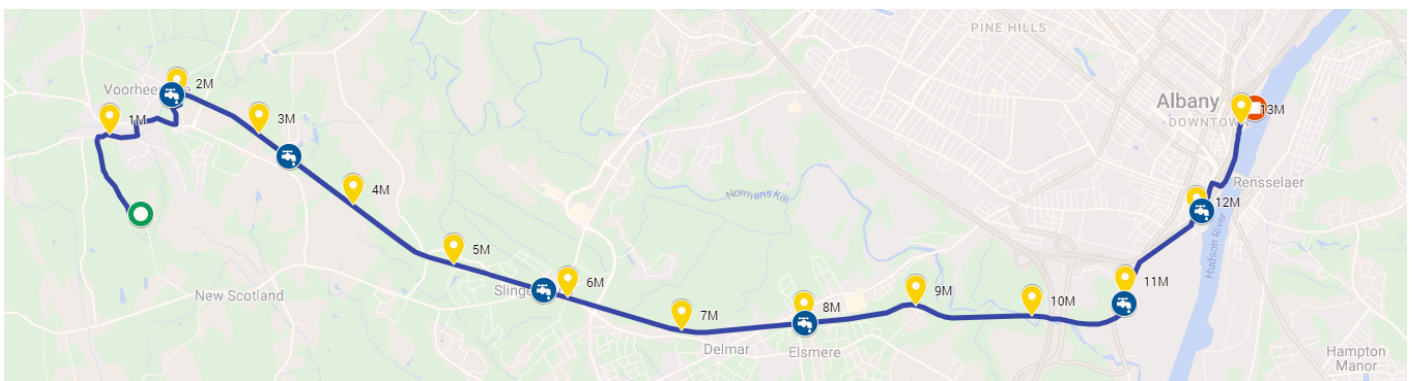
Helderberg to Hudson Half Marathon

Saturday, April 13, 2024 - Spectator's Guide



WELCOME

Thank you for joining us for the 6th Annual **Helderberg to Hudson Half Marathon!** Over 2,000 registrants will be toeing the line, coming from nearly every county in NY and 25+ states. The point-to-point course descends nearly 500' from New Scotland Town (Wallace) Park to Albany's Jennings Landing on the Hudson River. Over the first 2 miles, participants will spread out on the roads of Voorheesville. They then reach the paved Albany County Helderberg-Hudson Rail Trail, and enjoy its gradual descent over the next 9 miles. The final two miles head north close to the river, on the Albany South End Connector path, sending the runners past the historic *USS Slater* destroyer ship. The final 800 meters truly are a treat, with the race's unique horseshoe ending, running under the Broadway walking bridge before looping back for an epic finish on the Hudson River.





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SPECTATOR TIPS

Whether watching people run is your favorite activity or this event is your first time and you're wondering what all the fuss is about, here are some tips to maximize both your experience - and that of the runners.

DO

1. Plan your spectating locations in advance. As in, *before* race day. Make sure your vehicle is fueled.
2. Communicate with those you want to spectate. Make sure they know you'll be out there and where to look for you. Know their approximate ETAs at each place you'll be.
3. Make a sign. The more creative and outrageous, the better.
4. Make some noise. Cowbells are welcome. A little ringing goes a long way to uplifting a runner's spirit.
5. Bring food and drink with you. Spectating is hard work and you'll want to be well nourished and hydrated.
→ *Food Trucks will be at the Finish Festival for you to purchase food.*
6. Prepare for all types of weather. It can be chilly as race day kicks off but warm up *a lot*. Know the forecast.
7. Have extra supplies (food/liquid/clothing) for *them*. Vaseline can be a lifesaver for the chafing-inclined.
8. Be respectful of other spectators. We're all there for the same reason—to provide a positive, uplifting, and fun moment with the ones we care most about.
9. Be Alert. Pay attention to those around you.
10. Have fun!

DON'T

1. Impede the flow of the race. Please stay **off** the course. We repeat: do **not** enter the course.
2. Litter. If you need to get rid of something, please use a garbage can or place it in your vehicle.
3. Be greedy. About space or access. We're all trying to get that perfect photo or high-five.
4. Take anything that is for the participants. The water stop supplies and food are for them, not you.
5. Sweat it! Spectating is fun! Wear a smile, clap those hands, and enjoy the experience.

PARKING IS HIGHLY LIMITED ALONG THE COURSE

DO NOT PARK ILLEGALLY. You may be towed.

In addition, in the Town of Bethlehem, per request from the Police, do not park on Font Grove Rd, New Scotland Rd, Kenwood Ave, Delaware Ave, Cherry Ave Ext (RT 140), and Elsmere Ave. (Park where legal on **side** streets.)

KEY RESOURCES

Please visit the two links below for a map of the primary spectating locations and for directions between them.

[Course Map with Spectator Locations](#)

[Driving Directions for the Primary 3 Spectating Locations and Finish Line](#)



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Hannaford Plaza - Mile 1.7

Leaders: 8:39AM · Mid Pack: 8:45AM · Back of Pack: 8:58AM

Cheer on your runners as they make their way through the town of Voorheesville. Ample parking is available in the Hannaford Plaza parking lot. Please note: Maple Rd west of Hannaford Plaza will be closed from 8:20AM until 9AM. Arrive well before 8:30AM.



Water Stop #2 at Kenwood Ave Parking Lot - Mile 5.7

Leaders: 8:55AM · Mid Pack: 9:30AM · Back of Pack: 9:55AM

The water stop will be located along the parking lot, so we ask that you position yourself on the other side of the trail, behind the fence. Parking is limited, so be prepared to find a spot on a nearby side street. This location is a 10-12 minute drive from St. Matthew's Church - but finding a spot may require a several minute walk.

Please note: parking is not allowed at the Slingerlands Fire Department nor on Route 85 or Kenwood Ave.



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Water Stop #3 at American Legion - Mile 8.0

Leaders: 9:10AM · Mid Pack: 9:55AM · Back of Pack: 10:30AM

Stop by the third and final suggested spectating location along the course before making your way to Jennings Landing. You will have direct access to high-five your runners.

Optimal parking for this location is located behind businesses off Delaware Avenue, including 250 Delaware Avenue Delmar, NY 12054 (Community Care Physicians Internal Medicine).

We recommend your next viewing location be at the finish.

It is 5.9 miles (11 minutes) from this location to the Riverfront Garage.

It is then a 5 minute walk to the finish area.



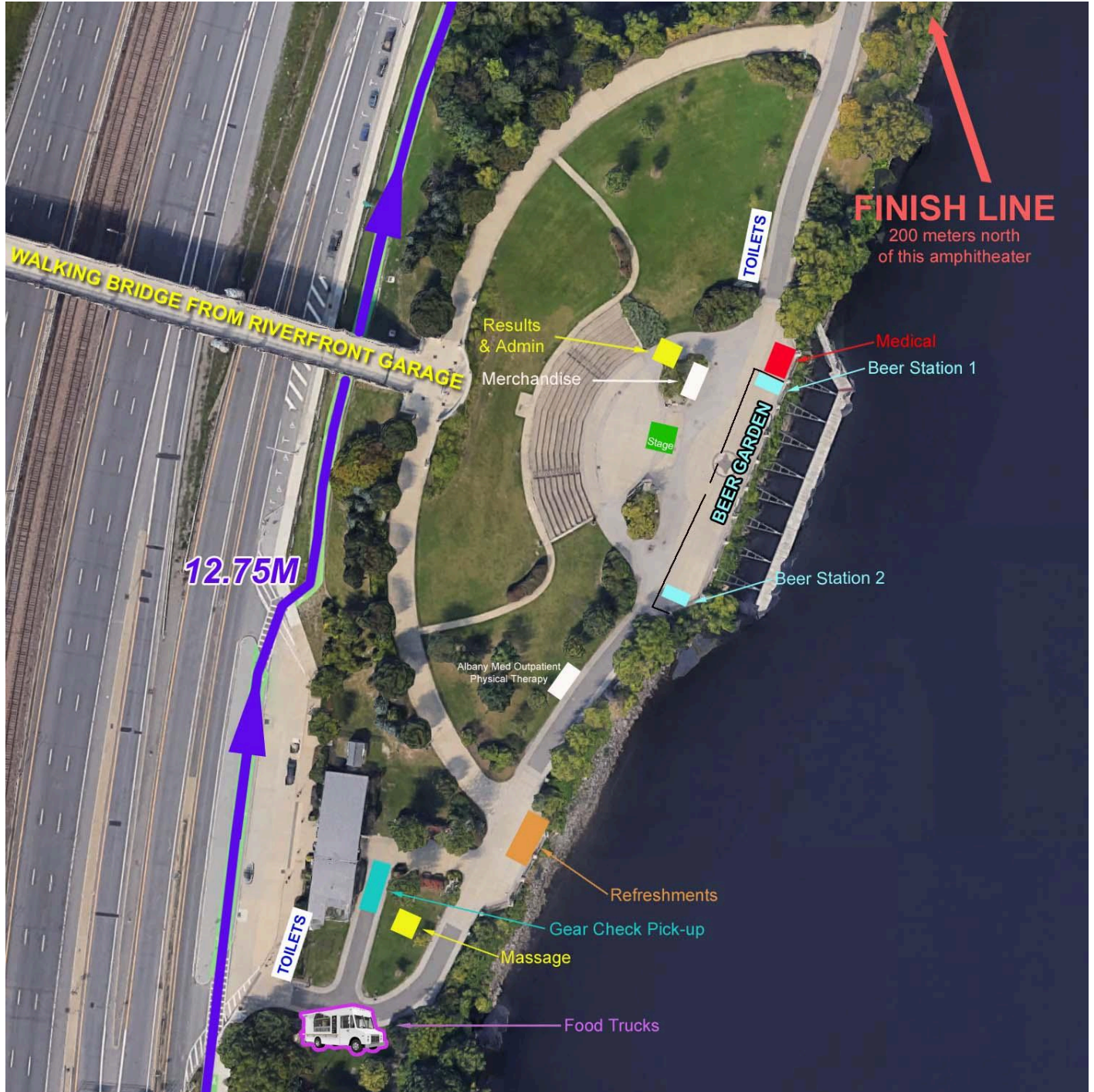


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The Finish Festival at Jennings Landing

Leaders: 9:35AM · Mid Pack: 10:35AM · Back of Pack: 12PM



Find yourself a parking spot at the Riverfront Garage (\$5) and walk the bridge across I-787 to see the thrilling finish on the Hudson! With just over a quarter mile to go, the race goes *under* that bridge, as they charge for home! Have your cowbells out and line the course to give them that extra oomph.



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ALTERNATE SPECTATOR LOCATIONS

Here's a list of some other locations you may want to cheer from. Please note the following:

1. **These locations have either highly limited parking or absolutely no parking.**
2. Spectating by bicycle is recommended to avoid parking issues, but please do **not** bike on the rail trail.
3. Race-related road closures may cause you significant delays in driving to and/or from these locations.
4. If desiring to use any of these locations, visit them in advance of race day to plan accordingly.



St. Matthew's Church - Mile 1.1

Leaders: 8:35AM · Mid Pack: 8:41AM · Back of Pack: 8:47AM

Catch your runners just after the 1 mile mark to cheer them on as they make their way into the town of Voorheesville. Ample parking is available along the route in the St. Matthew's parking lot on Mountainview St. Please note: this road will be shut down from 8:20AM until 8:50AM. Arrive well before 8:20AM.

THIS LOCATION HAS LIMITED PARKING

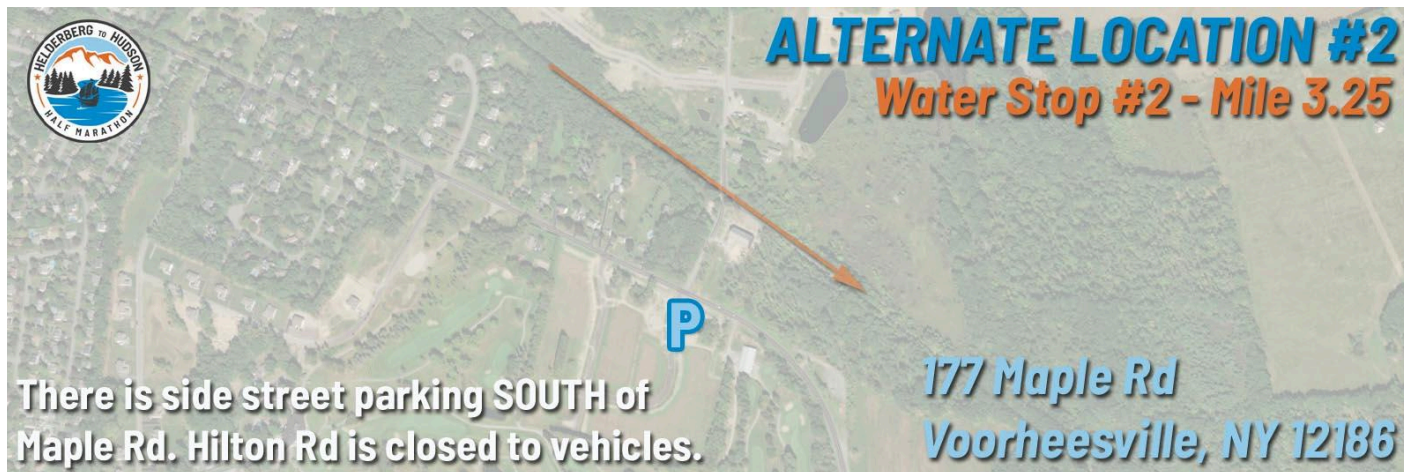
As such, it is possible that this area will NOT have parking available.

If you go there and the offered parking spaces are filled, please respect any NO PARKING signs and go to a different location.



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Water Stop #2 at Hilton Rd. Crossing - Mile 3.25

177 Maple Rd, Voorheesville, NY 12186

Leaders: 8:45AM · Mid Pack: 9:05AM · Back of Pack: 9:20AM

There is **no parking available on Hilton Rd**. You may only park on the side street south of Maple Rd (Route 85A).

The first road crossing along the rail trail is the site of Water Stop #2 at the historic Hilton Barn.



90 Adams St - Mile 7.25

Leaders: 9:07AM · Mid Pack: 9:45AM · Back of Pack: 10:25AM

The fourth and final road crossing on the rail trail. This viewing location is a 12 minute drive from the start and about a 15 minute drive to the Riverfront Garage located near Jennings Landing. This spot has ample nearby parking and is easy to access.



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THANK YOU

We appreciate your support of our event. Your involvement will elevate the experience for the participants you know as well as for all others present. We look forward to a high-energy, motivating, and rewarding day.

With thanks,

The Helderberg to Hudson Half Marathon Production Team

