



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Where and when do the 5K and 10K races start/finish?**

Start Line: George Washington's Mount Vernon; Main Entrance

Finish Line: Inside George Washington's Mount Vernon, in front of the Mansion.

Start Time for 5K and 10K: 8:00 a.m.

### **Where and when does the Kids Fun Run start?**

Start/Finish Line: Bowling Green Gate in front of George Washington's Mansion

Start Time for Kids Fun Run: 9:45 a.m.

Please note all Kids Fun Run participants should gather at 9:45a.m. in front of the main stage on the 12-Acre Field. "General Washington" will lead the participants to the start line.

### **What happens if it rains? Do you have a makeup date?**

The Patriot Run, in General George Washington's spirit, will go on rain or shine! There will not be a makeup date.

### **What does it cost to register for the Patriot Run and how do I do that?**

The entry fee for the 5k and for the 10k is \$50. The entry fee includes your pass onto the Mount Vernon grounds and the attractions there. You can register online [here](#) or at packet pickup on race weekend.

The Kids Fun Run is free to all participants, but children over the age of 6 and accompanying adults must purchase admission to participate or watch the event. Discounted admission tickets are available for purchase [here](#).

Mount Vernon members may register their children for the Kids Fun Run [here](#). Entry to the estate is free for members that show their membership card at the entrances.

### **Does my fan club - including significant other, family, kids, friends, colleagues - have to pay to enter Mount Vernon to watch me finish?**

After registering, you can purchase discounted admission tickets for your support crew on [this page](#) on the Mount Vernon website. Discounted admission ticket prices are as follows: \$10 for people ages 12 and older, \$6 for kids 6 to 11, and free for kids 5 and under. You must purchase these discounted admission tickets online by September 9, 2017. Discounted admission tickets will not be available for purchase on race day - your guests will need to purchase general admission tickets at full price on race day.

Mount Vernon members may enter the estate free of charge upon showing their membership card at the entrances.

**Does the Patriot Run offer discounts for public safety personnel including our dedicated military members?**

Yes, all active public safety personnel including police, fire, EMTs and military (including veterans) receive a \$5 discount off the entry fee as our token of appreciation. Please see the registration site for details.

**When and where is Packet Pick Up?**

Packet pick up will be held at George Washington's Mount Vernon during the following times:

Friday, September 8: 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (near main gift shop)

Saturday, September 9: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (near main gift shop)

Sunday, September 10 (Race Day): 5:30 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. (in the GW Parkway Circle near the start line)

**Can I have a friend or family member pick up my packet for me?**

Yes, if you are unable to attend packet pick up, a friend or family member is allowed to pick up your packet for you. They will need to bring your registration confirmation which you received via email upon registration.

**I cannot make the race this year; can I get a refund or transfer my race entry to another participant?**

We do not allow refunds. But you can transfer your entry to another runner up until the close of the packet pick up on Friday, September 8. Please do not transfer your bib number to another runner without our knowledge. Rather let us change the name on the registration to the new runner so that runner's information will be on record in case of an emergency. Contact us at [events@mountvernon.org](mailto:events@mountvernon.org) to process a transfer.

**Can I change information (address, email, name, age, etc.) on my registration?**

Yes, if you would like to change information on your registration, please contact [events@mountvernon.org](mailto:events@mountvernon.org) and we will work to resolve your questions.

**I picked up my bib number at packet pickup and I don't see my chip in my packet. What do I do?**

No chips here. Instead, we use the timing tag affixed to the back of the bib number. Please do not remove this tag. Your times will not be recorded if you do not wear your bib number. And please do not swap bibs with anybody else. It will disrupt our results and will delay medical intervention if your bib and your emergency contact information do not match up.

**Can I wear headphones during the race?**

The use of personal music devices is strongly discouraged at this race. Please run responsibly and be courteous to your fellow runners and to race officials.

### **Are strollers allowed on the race course?**

We understand that running with your children can be a fun (and challenging) experience. Strollers are welcome in this race, but we kindly ask that you start at the end of the pack so that runners are not blocked by any strollers. Please note that the path leading up to the finish line is gravel so we recommend strollers with wide/trail appropriate tires.

### **What is the time limit for the 5k and 10k?**

To reduce the inconvenience to area residents, the National Park Service will re-open George Washington Memorial Parkway promptly at 9:30 a.m. for vehicular traffic. Runners and walkers who have not reached the finish line by 9:30 a.m. will be kindly re-directed by race officials to the nearby Mount Vernon Trail which runs along the side of the GW Memorial Parkway all the way to George Washington's Mount Vernon.

### **What do I need to know about the shuttle buses to the start?**

There is a limited number of on site parking spaces available for purchase on the registration website. Once those spaces are sold out, all other participants will need to take advantage of the free shuttles from the United States Patent and Trademark Office or Mount Vernon High School.

If you purchased on site parking during registration, you will receive a parking pass at packet pick up with directions to the on site parking area.

Free shuttles are available for all other runners and spectators from two locations:

#### **OPTION 1 - Parking & Shuttle**

United States Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO)  
600 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Participants and spectators may park for free at USPTO and take a shuttle to George Washington's Mount Vernon. USPTO shuttles will be staged in front of the USPTO at the corner of Eisenhower Blvd. and Hooffs Run Dr.

The shuttle times are as follows:

- The first bus leaves USPTO for George Washington's Mount Vernon at 5:30 am
- The last bus leaves USPTO for George Washington's Mount Vernon at 7:00 am
- The return bus from George Washington's Mount Vernon to USPTO will run from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

#### **OPTION 2 - Shuttle ONLY**

Mount Vernon High School (MVHS)  
8515 Old Mt Vernon Road  
Alexandria, VA 22309

Mount Vernon High School is a **drop off ONLY** location. This is a “Kiss & Ride” option, **no parking** will be available at this location. MVHS buses will be staged on the north side of the school complex in the parking lot next to the football field.

The shuttle times are as follows:

- The first bus leaves MVHS for George Washington’s Mount Vernon at 6:00 am
- The last bus leaves MVHS for George Washington’s Mount Vernon at 7:15 am
- The return shuttle from George Washington’s Mount Vernon to MVHS will run from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

**What will the road closure situation look like on race morning so I can plan my drive?**

U.S. Park Police are expected to close the George Washington Memorial Parkway (south of Waynewood Blvd.) at 7 a.m. for all vehicles except shuttle buses. No traffic will be allowed on the Parkway after 7:45 a.m. George Washington Memorial Parkway will re-open in its entirety no later than 9:30 a.m.

**What if I need medical attention during the race?**

Please take good care to run within your abilities. But if you need medical attention along the course, it will be available. Please ask for help from an EMT, police officer, course marshal or at the water stop. Medics will be patrolling the course and will be ably handling finish line duty at the official medical tent. We will have a SAG vehicle following the last runner.

**I brought most of my life’s possessions to the start area and gave them to the nice people at Bag Check. Will I get them back at the finish line?**

Of course. That’s why we have great volunteers and our trucks on site to hold your belongings and take them to the finish festival. Each runner will be issued a clear plastic bag at packet pick up. You must use this clear plastic bag to check your personal belongings at Bag Check. Backpacks and other types of bags will not be accepted at Bag Check. Please keep your belongings to a minimum! Remember, this is a race, not a week’s vacation.

IMPORTANT: all backpacks, bags and containers larger than 16x16x8 inches are prohibited from entering Mount Vernon, and therefore will not be allowed on buses transporting participants, volunteers and spectators to from USPTO and Mount Vernon High School. No one will be allowed to board a bus with a bag or container larger than 16x15x18 inches. This policy applies to all event attendees, including children.

Please read Mount Vernon’s prohibited items policy [here](#).

**Is there drinking water on the course?**

Yes, there will be water stops for both 5k and 10k runners. But it would be a great idea to hydrate really well before arriving at the start line.

**Will I get a finisher’s medal?**

Yes, all 5K, 10K and Kids Fun Run finishers receive a commemorative George Washington finisher’s medal after they cross the finish line. Wear it proudly; you earned it!

**What if I ordered a t-shirt and unbelievably I lost two shirt sizes during training?**

The t-shirt size you ordered is the t-shirt size we will give you at packet pick up. However, we will give you the opportunity to exchange – for smaller sizes and for larger sizes – at the Volunteer/Information tent in the finish festival area based on availability of sizes on the morning of the race.

**Where are the best viewing spots for the race?**

Join us near the finish line in the historic area of Mount Vernon. Discounted admission tickets are available in advance [here](#). Or, full price general admission tickets are available at the Ford Orientation Center on race day.

**I hear there is a really fun Kids Fun Run with George Washington himself competing. What are the details?**

The Kids Fun Run will take place at 9:45 a.m. in the historic area near the 5K/10K finish line. The race course is .24 miles and the surface is compacted dirt/gravel. Children 6 years or older and accompanying adults/parents of the children participating in the Kids Fun Run must purchase admission tickets. Discounted admission tickets are available in advance. Or, full price general admission tickets are available at the Ford Orientation Center on race day.

**What time is the awards ceremony? Will I be rewarded for running really fast?**

We plan to begin the awards ceremony at 9:00 a.m. We will present awards to the top three overall winners, top three military (including veterans) finishers and top three public safety/first responders winners. Awards will also be given to first-place finishers in each of the following age groups – male/female 14 and under, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70 and over.

**I have heard that this race has quite the scenic course and a gorgeous route up and down GW Parkway and into the Mount Vernon Estate. Where can I find a course map?**

That's an easy one! Just go to our [website](#).

**During race weekend, where is a good place to find hotels?**

Please visit our [website](#) for information on where to stay in the area.

**What if you did not answer every single question I have?**

Our event staff is committed to providing you with the best experience possible. If you have questions and/or comments, please let us know via email [events@mountvernon.org](mailto:events@mountvernon.org). We love feedback, (especially positive feedback!).