

SUBJECT: Personalized Race Information: August 8 Gopher to Badger Race

Get set for a Saturday to remember! You're registered for the Gopher to Badger Half Marathon on August 8. Please read for important information and changes.

You may look up your bib number by last name at Packet Pick-up. Look for notebooks labeled Find Your Bib Number as you enter.

Packet Pickup: You have two options

Friday from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. (Highly Recommended):

Bridgewater Bank, Lake Elmo

[11999 Upper 40th St N, Lake Elmo, MN 55042](#)

Get your bib Friday and enjoy the hospitality of Bridgewater Bank. Wild River Running will also be onsite with their shoe rep from HOKA! Find details below.

Saturday beginning at 5:20 a.m. Building A, Washington County Fairgrounds

[12300 40th St N, Stillwater, MN 55082](#)

See parking information and links to maps below

Changing Distances

You may change your distance at packet pickup. *Get your bib first* then come to the Changes table to make the switch. Moving up in distance, you pay the difference. There is no charge for moving down in distance.

In-Person Registration and Will Call

Registration is available in-person at packet pickup for any buddies who decide to join you at the last minute. In addition, Will Call registration is available *online from 12:01 a.m. August 6 to noon Friday, August 7*. See the website for details.

Wild River Running brings you shoe demos from HOKA

Find them outside Bridgewater Bank Friday 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.!

Stop by, talk running, and take one, two, or all three featured HOKA models for a test run!

- Clifton 11 – “HOKA's trusted everyday trainer with soft cushioning and a smooth, comfortable ride”
- Mach X3 – “Responsive, bouncy and highly cushioned plated shoe for fast workouts and race-day efforts”
- Clifton Pro – “**Brand new**, premium, highly cushioned trainer that delivers an exceptionally smooth and energetic ride”

Getting into town early? Join Wild River Running's Friday morning group run at 6:30 a.m. Meet at Wild River Running ([224 Chestnut St. E, Stillwater](#)) for an easy, social run that's a great way to shake out the legs before race weekend. Everyone is welcome.

Weekend store Hours

- Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday: 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Race Day Information

Parking

The fairgrounds offer plenty of parking in the southwest lot. Some roads within the grounds will be closed for the race, so be sure to enter **ONLY** off 40th St. N/CR14 and McFair Ave. Parking is on your left. You'll be a short walk away from race-day Packet Pick-up, the pre-race gathering area and your start line. [Here's a link to a printable site map](#) with all start locations and the finish line area at the fairgrounds clearly marked.

Start Lines – All distances start and end within the fairgrounds sharing a common finish line

7:00 a.m.- Half Marathon

7:10 a.m. – 10K

7:20 a.m. – 5K

Runner Gathering Area

Check the site map (link above) at packet pick-up or online to find start lines, the finish line area and where runners will gather race morning. Listen up for announcements and count-downs for your distance while you get in position before setting off.

Bag Check: Building A

- Race bibs have a tear-off tag with your bib number, giving you the option of checking belongings during the race
- Bags provided are clear and 15" x 18"
- Place your bag check tag INSIDE the bag so it is visible
- **SECURELY TIE or KNOT THE BAG CLOSED**
- Your race bib and bag check tag must match to pick up your items
- Bag check pick-up is at the same location and will be staffed until approximately 10:30 a.m.
- Run Stillwater, Inc. is not responsible for lost or damaged items left in bag check

Pacers

Pacing for the half marathon is provided by Midwest Pacers. Pacing times are:

1:40
1:50
2:00
2:10
2:20
2:30

Course Information

Splits at Mile 2 – INFO you NEED to KNOW

Stay alert. All distances split after Aid Station #1/Mile 2. Watch for additional signs and listen for directions from marshals and race staff in this area. [See the course map](#) for an illustration of what to expect.

10K runners split first, crossing McDonald west to east to turn east (left) on Neal Ave. N. Half Marathon and 5K runners continue straight to the "T" intersection at 40th St. N.

At 40th St./CR14, Half Marathon runners cross the road and turn east (left) to run in the south shoulder, while 5K runners turn west (right) to run on the north side of the road back toward the fairgrounds. A sheriff's deputy and squad car will be at this location to help manage traffic and keep the area safe. Course marshals and additional signage will help guide you. Pay attention, listen up and you'll move through with no issues.

All Distances: Water and Gatorade are available at each aid station. Portapotties are located at approximately every two miles throughout the course.

Half Marathon: The Half course has six aid stations at *approximately* two-mile increments (2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12)

10K Race: The 10K course has three aid stations

5K Race: The 5K course has one aid station

Finish Information

The finish area is on McFair Ave. near 41st St. N in the fairgrounds. Post-race recovery food and liquids for runners include bottled water, Gatorade, bananas, oranges, and salty snacks.

Once you replenish and greet family and friends, take some time to visit our sponsors at the finish line.

- Orange Theory Fitness will have fresh oranges cut for some extra vitamin C
- Wild River Running in Stillwater will be onsite and their retail store at [224 Chestnut St., Stillwater](#) will be open from noon to 4:00 p.m.
- State Farm Insurance – Anne Stoudt Agency, for a healthy discussion about protecting what's important to you
- Lifeline Chiropractic will offer massages throughout the morning
- Public Lands, Woodbury retail store
- Forest Lake Ford – Check out the newest Ford F150 Pickup

Spectators

Friends and family are welcome to cheer you on along the course. Please note:

- Roads are not closed for the race
- Do not block traffic and stay out of roadways
- NEVER park on the coned side of the road blocking runners

Inquire at packet pickup for further details if needed. The finish line area has plenty of space and good vantage points to view runners crossing the finish line.

Download Our Tracking App

Run Stillwater offers race results and tracking using our mobile app available in the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play](#). Participants are uploaded to the app 2-3 days ahead of the race. Be patient if you don't see your bib number right away.

The app provides live results, allowing participants to see their performance seconds after crossing the finish line. Spectators can track the progress of participants on the course and stay updated via Race

Update notifications, interactive course Maps, and real-time Leaderboards. Download it now and get set up before race day.

Kid's Fun Run - .5K!

Join us for the [Kids Fun Run at the Gopher to Badger race](#). Kids 10 and under are welcome to participate. Register online or in-person on race day. Kids get an official bib number and cross the actual finish line to receive their finisher "medal" (okay, it's silicone for safety but cool nonetheless.) Medals hang on a wide custom ribbon too. The Kids Fun Run closes out the event with a start time between 10:45 and 11:00, depending on when the last runner is expected to cross the finish.

The kids' course is entirely within the fairgrounds starting near the northeast corner of the Gathering Area. Look for the blue Start flag in this location after the official distances are off and running!

An adult is allowed to run along to share the fun. [Sign-up online](#) before the race (\$21) or in-person at Packet Pickup on Friday and Saturday morning beginning at 8:00 a.m. Find more details in the description on the website. Space is limited, sign up early!

Exchanging Shirt Sizes After the Race

Shirt size exchange is located in the same location as Packet Pick-up after the race.

In-person and Will Call registrants may pick up their shirts at the same location. We will have your forms and sign-up information. All you need is your bib number to pick up a shirt.

Weather Conditions

As always, we monitor conditions with the National Weather Service and work closely with emergency services and public safety to ensure a safe race. Please take whatever precautions you feel are needed to be prepared for the conditions.

Results

In addition to the smartphone app, race results are available at [Mtec Results](#) and accessible on a smartphone, tablet or computer. A link to results is on the Run Stillwater website, Gopher to Badger page.

Age-Group Awards – We will not hold an awards ceremony. Top three finishers in each age category will receive personalized awards mailed after the race to commemorate your accomplishment. Age/gender categories are in 5-year increments (e.g., 5-9, 10-14, 15-19, 20-24, etc.)

Post-Race SHOWERS! Available after the race at **River Valley Athletic Club** [1826 Northwestern Avenue](#), Stillwater – around the corner from Lift Bridge Brewing's Stillwater taproom! *Bring your own towel and show your bib*, then get out and enjoy Stillwater!

Finish Line Photos

Photos taken along the course and at the finish are available to download at no charge. Find your video finish and photos on the Mtec Results website along with your results and linked on our Facebook page. In addition, a time clock at the finish will show your name and time to take pictures of your own.

Social Media!

- Facebook – [@RunStillwater](#)
- Instagram – [Run Stillwater](#)

Thank you for running with us and best of luck!

Run Stillwater 2026 Staff