

Baltimore Walking Club, AVA #0418

presents

5 & 11 Km walks rated 2

Conowingo Dam

The Best Ever Walk by a Dam Site!

Date: Saturday, November 20, 2010

Times: Start between 8 am & 1 pm. You must finish by 4 pm.

Start/Finish Location: Fishing pavilion at the Conowingo Dam, Darlington, MD 21034



Sanction Number: 87007

Sanctioned By: Maryland (MVA) and the American Volkssport Associate (AVA), a member of the International Federation of Popular Sports (IVV).

Special Events: Riverwalk, Railroad Heritage, Native American Culture

Fees: This event is open to the public and free without AVA credit. AVA credit is \$3.00 per walker.

Conditions: All are welcome to participate, but must register at the start, carry a start card on the walk and turn it in upon completing the walk. An adult must accompany children under 12 during the entire walk. All Volkssport participants must sign a disclaimer. A parent or guardian must sign a special athletic waiver for children 17 years old and under before they may participate in a Volkssport event. Children under 12 always walk free at Baltimore Walking Club events. The event will be held in all reasonable weather conditions. If in doubt, contact the person(s) listed on the other side. Pets are welcome, but not in the start point. Pets must be leashed during the entire walk and cleaned up after according to regulation. Restrooms are available at the start/finish.

Description of the Event: Conowingo Dam was built back in 1926 – 1928, about 4 miles upstream from Chesapeake Bay. The dam is 4648 feet long and 105 feet high. It's probably the highest structure in Harford County. The walk is along the old Philadelphia Electric Rail Trail along the Susquehanna River. This railroad operated in the 1920's from Havre de Grace to the Conowingo Dam site. The walk is out and back.

The dam is one of the largest non-federal hydroelectric dams in the US. It is named for the town of Conowingo, the original site of which is now underwater. It also serves as a bridge for US Route 1 across the Susquehanna River. When completed in 1928 it was the second largest hydroelectric project by power output in the US, behind only Niagara Falls. Contract for the construction was originally awarded by Philadelphia Electric Company to a Boston company and construction carried out by Arundel Corp of MD. The dam has 11 turbines and contributes an average of 1.6 billion kilowatt hours annually to the electric grid. The dam has 53 flood control gates operated by 3 overhead cranes rated for 60 tons each.

The area below the dam is excellent for birdwatching. At least 170 species of birds have been observed and recorded at the dam including large groups of great blue herons and bald eagles.

Disclaimer: Every reasonable effort will be made to conduct a safe, enjoyable and memorable event. Neither the Baltimore Walking Club, nor the Maryland State Parks nor the Exelon Corporation can be held responsible or liable for any lost, stolen or damaged items or for any accident or injury while a person participates in the walk. The walk is on natural surfaces, which will pose some difficulty for wheelchairs and strollers.

For More Information Contact: Jim Farley, 410-638-7043, farleyfam@comcast.net

From I-95: Take Exit 77B and follow MD 24 north. It transitions into US 1 about 7 miles from I-95. At just over 21 miles from I-95, turn right off US 1 onto Shuresville Road. After ¾ mile, turn left onto Shures Landing. Follow this road to its end and park at the north end of the parking lot (about 1 mile). The start/finish is in the fishing pavilion at the dam.



**SANCTIONED
EVENT**



*Eligible for credit toward
IVV Achievement Awards*

