

2025 Participant Guide



Benefitting:



rails-to-trails



Sunday, March 16th, 2025 - Cary, NC

Race Weekend Overview

Pre-Race Exposition and Packet Pickup (At USA Baseball!)

Hours: Friday, March 14th - 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Saturday, March 15th - 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

No Race Day Pickup!

Location: USA Baseball National Training Center
280 Brooks Park Ln
Cary, NC 27519

Race Day - Sunday, March 16th

Arrive to Remote Parking by 5:00 AM

Arrive for On-Site Parking by 5:30 AM

Race Start: 7:00 AM

Course Closes: 2:00 PM

[Parking Information](#)

[Complete Race Day Schedule \(Page 5\)](#)

Location: Thomas Brooks Park
Cary, NC, 27519

Quick FAQ



Race Results



Title and Presenting Sponsors



Associate Sponsors



Pre-Race Expo

The Expo will be held at a **new location this year**...the race site this year at the USA Baseball National Training Center near Cary, NC in the Research Triangle Area (Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill). The race site address is: [7445 Green Hope School Road Cary, NC 27519](https://www.google.com/maps/place/7445+Green+Hope+School+Road,+Cary,+NC+27519)

Hours:

Friday, March 14, 2025 from 3 PM - 8 PM

Saturday, March 15, 2025 from 10 AM - 5 PM

Note: There is **NO RACE DAY BIB PICKUP** for runners who live in the Triangle Area.

What to do at the Expo...

- Pick up your Race Bib.
- Pick up your Parking Pass, if you purchased one.
(NOTE: There is a SEPARATE table to pick up the parking pass after you get your race bib.)
- Study the Course Map and Parking Instructions.
- Pick up your T-Shirt and purchase any other race merchandise you need.
(Sometimes we have special merchandise as part of race registration promotions.)
- Get a bag tag to put your number on a bag to check Sunday morning. (Tags will also be available at the race site.)
- Visit our wonderful expo vendors!



Race Day Schedule

For more detailed information, please visit our [race website](#).



March 16th, 2025

- 4:00 am Buses from remote parking available. See [Parking](#) for details.
- 5:00 am Recommended final arrival time to remote parking.
- 5:30 am Recommended final arrival time to Race Site. See [Directions](#) for details.
- 6:00 am Bag Check opens. See [Bag Check](#) for details.
- 6:30 am [Pacers](#) start to line up.
- 6:55 am National Anthem
- 7:00 am Race Starts!**
- 7:00 am - **Casual Start**
- 7:15 am



Race Day Schedule (cont.)

- 10:00 am TENTATIVE Time for Half Marathon Awards
- 10:45 am First marathon course cutoff at Mile 14.5
- 12:00 pm TENTATIVE Time for Full Marathon Awards
- 2:00 pm Course cutoff (16:00/mi overall pace)
- 2:30 pm Final bus to remote parking.



Parking Information

For detailed parking and directions, please visit our [parking web page](#).



You have three options to get to our start line:

Option 1: Parking Pass.

If you have a parking pass, there are two "sides" to our parking area, and you CANNOT drive within the park between the sides. Each side has roughly 300 available parking spaces:

- [9008 Green Level Church Road, Cary, NC 27519](#)
(DO NOT USE this address for Runner Drop-Off, only for Parking.)
- [7445 Green Hope School Rd, Cary, NC 27519](#)

Please plan to arrive by 5:30 am. If you arrive later, there may be large traffic backups that cause you stress, no time for bag check/porta-potties, and possibly missing the start.

Option 2: Shuttle Buses from RTP.

Take our YMCA-provided shuttles from NetApp in Research Triangle Park, NC to our start/finish area. The shuttle is a 6 mile / 15 minute trip and runs continuously from 4:00 am to 2:30 pm. These shuttles are for RUNNERS and VOLUNTEERS ONLY until 5:15 am. After 5:15 am, the shuttles are first-come, first-served for runners, volunteers, and spectators. The address of NetApp RTP is:

- [7301 Kit Creek Rd, Durham, NC 27709](#)

Note: The NetApp RTP lot is 6 miles away, so we certainly don't recommend walking/running from there.

Please plan to arrive on NetApp RTP by 5:00 am. This will give you time to walk to the shuttle buses, wait in a hopefully brief line for the bus, and get to the start/finish area with plenty of time for final preparations, porta-potties, bag drop, and pre-race selfies!

Not permitted on the shuttles: Pets, Bikes, or Wheelchairs.

Option 3: Drop off. Be dropped off.

Runner drop off is a bit west of USA Baseball on Green Hope School Road near the entrance to the Hilliard Forest subdivision. The address of drop off is approximately:

- [7445 Green Hope School Rd, Cary, NC 27519](https://www.google.com/maps/place/7445+Green+Hope+School+Rd,+Cary,+NC+27519)

Please plan to be dropped off by 5:30 am. We have a big tent waiting for you where you can get ready, socialize, and drop off your things (like jackets) at bag check just before the race.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Our host hotel is about a 20 minute drive from the race site and also about a 20 minute drive to the remote parking (if you don't buy an on-site parking pass). Unfortunately, we do not provide transportation to/from the hotel on race day.

Spectator Parking

Spectators at the start/finish area may use the shuttle buses any time (continuously) from 5:15 am through 2:30 pm. Additionally, parking passes are not enforced at the finish area parking after runners begin to leave. That means that parking spaces typically begin to become available by 10:00 am, possibly before. Therefore, if you want to see your 4+ hour marathoner finish, you should be able to park at the start/finish area...unless all the half-marathoners are having too good of a time at the post-race party!

Spectators may also park at various marked locations along the course. Refer to the maps on <https://tobaccoroadmarathon.com/maps> for recommended spectator locations. Please note that some of these locations are not particularly convenient to get to.

Course Information

The Veradigm Tobacco Road Marathon features over 20 miles of the American Tobacco Trail (ATT), a former railroad line turned rails-to-trails. The VHB Tobacco Road Half Marathon normally includes 8 miles of the ATT and overlaps with the southern portion of the marathon course.

Both races start and finish at the USA Baseball/Thomas Brooks Park. The courses are mostly flat with only gradual inclines and declines ending with a fast downhill finish. As many as 18% of marathoners qualify for the legendary Boston Marathon, and all runners benefit from that fast course and ideal temperatures (averaging in the 40's and 50's Fahrenheit). It is a great setting for your personal record; we even have a bell for you to ring and celebrate your BQ or PR at the end!

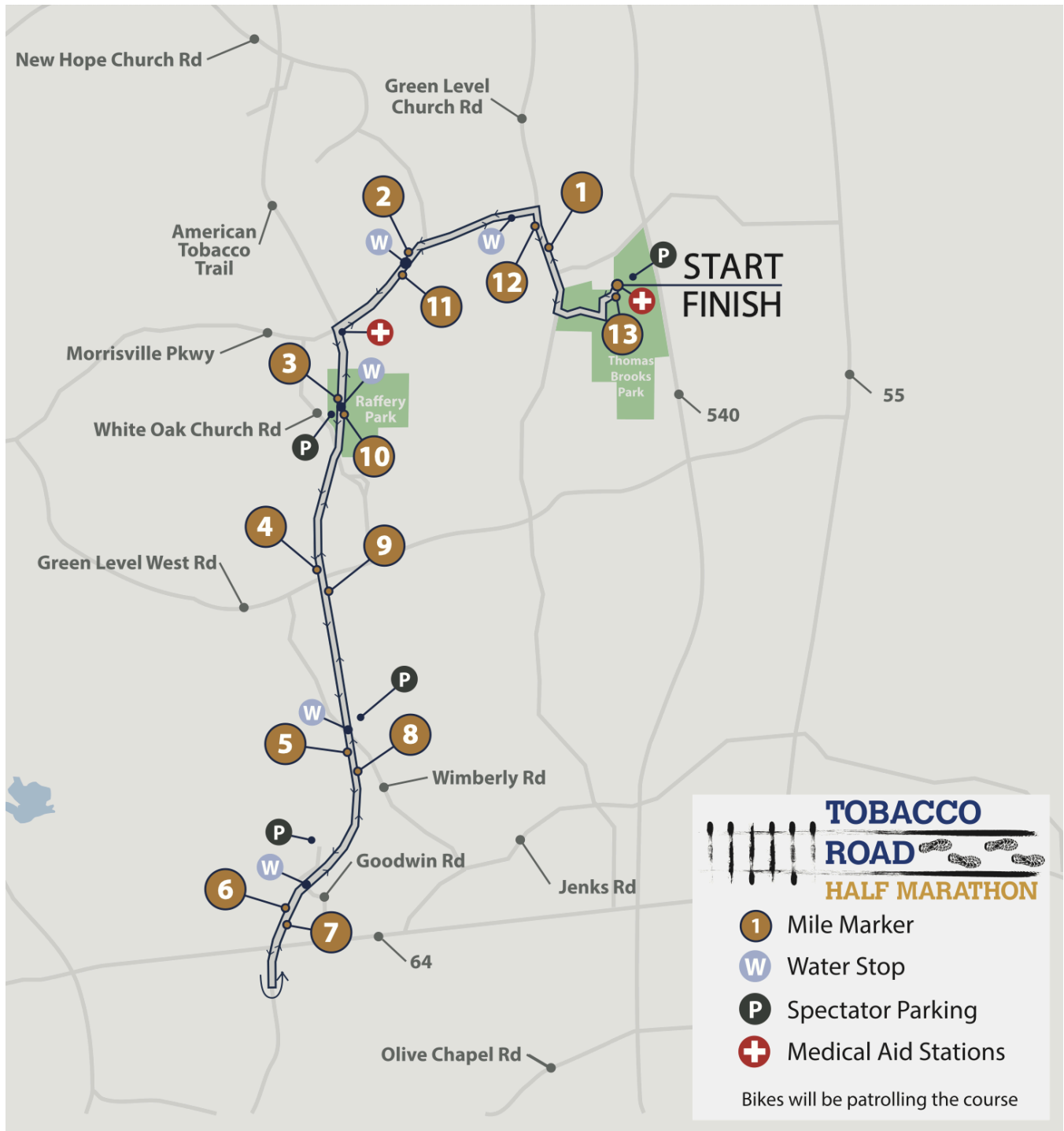
Note: While the course is called a "trail," it is NOT a trail like an unpaved single-track course. It is more like a greenway and is wide enough to pass other runners throughout the course.



Veradigm Tobacco Road Marathon Course Map



VHB Tobacco Road Half Marathon Course Map



Exploring Raleigh and Wake County

Presented by the Greater Raleigh Sports Alliance and Visit Raleigh

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