

Race Around Birds 2023

About the Race

The Birds of Vermont Museum is hosting both an On-Your-Own “virtual” and a group trail race again this fall. Runners (and walkers) will use our trail system here at the Museum, on Sherman Hollow Road in Huntington. You may compete in one or the other or both!

There is no charge for this, but donations are welcome! You may donate when you register, use the donation boxes in and outside the museum, or use QR codes on kiosks at the trailheads.

Registration: <https://birdsofvermont.org/event/race-around-birds-2023/>

The On-Your-Own (Virtual) Race

From October 21 – November 3, you will keep track of your own start and finish times. You may run (or walk) the course multiple times on different days, in order to improve your times. You may run in groups but the trail is narrow (single-file width).

Runners and walkers may race any time from daylight to dusk. No dogs on trails. Do not run at night.

Registration forms will be in a marked box to the left of the Museum’s front door. Fill out a form each time you race. Then, when you’re ready, mark your starting time, leave your form, take a map, and GO. At the end, record your time and leave your form in the box for finishers.

The Group Race (Race Day)

On Saturday, November 4, the Museum hosts a traditional trail run. Race time is at 10 a.m. Please carpool.

The Course



This is a trail race with some steep uphill climbs. Some segments include steep, rocky, single-track mountain trails. This is a **HARD** course.

The course is approximately 3.6 miles. The course winds around and crosses itself. The course is 3 overlapping loops, segments 1-2-3 (Bob-Gale loop), 4-5-6 (Pop-Bob loop), and 7-8 (Spear loop).

The course is well-marked and you will pass the Museum going to Bob’s trail (segment 1) and going to the Spear trail (7). There are no supplies and no first aid stations on the course. Bathrooms and water are available only if the Museum is open (Wednesdays through Sundays, 10am – 4pm, in October only).

The **START** is at the west end of the Museum's parking lot (self-timers, use the parking lot sign that is further from the Museum).

The **FINISH** line is marked on a trail that branches off the Spear Trail.

Dates

Run or walk on your own any time from October 21 to November 3. Trails are open sunrise to sunset. Dogs are *not* permitted on our trails. Come on Race Day November 4th to run with other people. Please carpool; parking is very limited.

Race Options

You may run or walk the course. On the November 4th Race Day, races will start at 10 a.m.

Birder option

Birding while walking is highly encouraged! All participants who contribute to a citizen science project during their run or walk will be entered into a drawing at the end of the race period.

Classes

Classes are by runner/walker, and by age (sort of) and gender (generally):

Ages:

Kiddos

Youngish

Middlish

Oldish

Genders:

Female

Male

Non-binary/Other

Prefer not to say

How to Sign Up

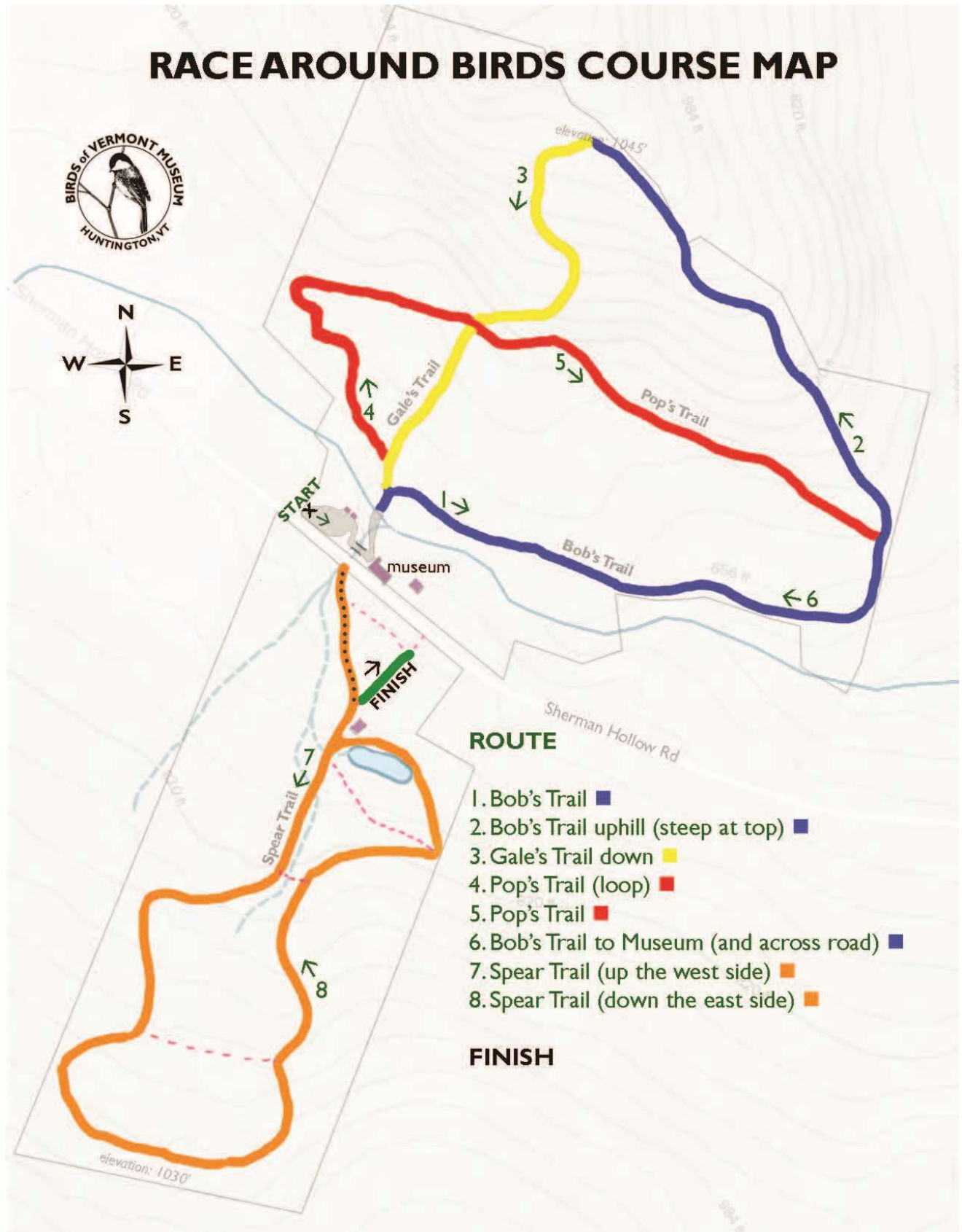
Paper registration forms will be in a marked box to the left of the Museum's front door. Fill out the form and when ready, mark your starting time, leave your form, take your map and GO. At the end of the on-your-own (virtual) race, record your time and leave your form in the box marked for this.

Online registration is available as well. Visit <https://birdsofvermont.org/event/race-around-birds-2023/>

There is no charge for this, but donations support food, water, bibs and so on. There are boxes for cash or checks on kiosks near trailheads. Or use the registration link itself. *Thank you!*



Course Map and Trail Notes



Racers' Notes

You may run or walk the course. This is an On-Your-Own “virtual” race where you will keep track of your own start and finish times. You may run (or walk) the course multiple times on different days, in order to improve your times. You may run in groups although the trail is often narrow.

Runners and walkers may come to the Museum at any time from daylight to dusk. No dogs and no nights.

Course Description

This is a 3.6-mile trail race with some steep uphill climbs. Some segments include steep, rocky, single-file mountain trails. This is a HARD course.

The course is approximately 3.6 miles. The course winds around and crosses itself. The course is 3 overlapping loops, segments 1-2-3 (Bob-Gale loop), 4-5-6 (Pop-Bob loop), and 7-8 (Spear loop).

The course is well-marked and you will pass the Museum going to Bob's trail (segment 1) and going to the Spear trail (7). There are no supplies and no first aid stations on the course. Bathrooms and water are available only if the Museum is open (Wednesdays through Sundays, 10am – 4pm, in October only).

The **START** is at the west end of the Museum's parking lot (self-timers, use the parking lot sign that is further from the Museum).

The **FINISH** line is marked on a trail that branches off the Spear Trail.

At the end of the On-Your-Own (Virtual) race, record your time and leave your form in the box for finishers.

On Race Day, we will have timing devices.

Results will be announced in November.

If you share photos or comments online, we encourage you to use these hashtags:

#RaceAroundBirds #RaceAroundBirds2023 #birdsofvermontmuseum #runningisforthebirds
#trailrace #virtualrace #huntingtonvt #trailrunning #trailrunner



Entry form (leave at the Museum)

First Name: _____ **Last name:** _____

Age: _____ **Today's Date:** _____

Way(s) to _____ **Email :** _____
Contact you _____ **Phone :** _____

[optional] eBird username: _____

[optional] iNaturalist username: _____

Class (circle one in each column:	Speed	Distance	Age	Gender
	Walk	3.6-mile (one loop)	Kiddo	Female
	Run		Youngish	Male
			Middlish	Non-binary
			Oldish	Prefer not to say

Start Time: _____

End Time: _____

[optional] Number of birds recorded: _____

[optional] eBird list submitted? (Y/N) _____

Waiver (please read and sign below)

I know that running in an event that is organized as an activity where I run on my own, at a date and time of my choosing, in a location and running route of my choosing, which will not have any support or security measures in place by the Birds of Vermont Museum, Inc., is a potentially hazardous activity, which could result in injury or death. I know that trail running, whether individually or as a group race, is a potentially hazardous activity, which could result in injury or death. I acknowledge that I am participating in the activity outlined by this event by my own free will and at my own personal risk.

I will not participate in this event unless I am medically able and properly trained, and by my attestation, I certify that I am medically able to perform this event, and am in good health, and I am properly trained. I agree to follow all pedestrian safety ordinances including running on a sidewalk where available and not in the road. I agree to follow the rules of the road if no sidewalk or multi-use trail is available, and I will run against oncoming traffic and not with traffic.

I agree to abide by any decision of a race official relative to any aspect of my participation in this event, including the right of any official to deny or suspend my participation for any reason whatsoever.

I attest that I having read the rules and notes of the virtual and in-person options for “Race Around Birds 2023”, scheduled for October 23 through November 4, 2023, including the terms in this waiver, the timeline of the event, and I agree to abide by them. I assume all risks to me associated with running on my own as part of this activity, including but not limited to: falls, contact with other pedestrians, the effects of the weather, including high heat and/or humidity, cold temperatures, rain or snow, traffic and the conditions of the road or trail, all such risks being known or unknown and appreciated by me when out running on my own *without any type of support from local officials or event organizers*.

Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I waive and release the Birds of Vermont Museum, the town of Huntington, Vermont, all event sponsors, their representatives and successors from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event, and waive my ability to bring any legal action against the entities outlined in this waiver as I am voluntarily electing to run on my own as part of this event.

I grant permission to all of the foregoing to use my photographs which I may share online as part of the event, personal data provided during registration and post-event reporting, video or audio recordings, or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose. I understand that this event does not provide for refunds in the event of a cancellation, and by signing this waiver, I consent that I am not entitled to a refund if the event is cancelled before or during the event.

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____