

# Official TMI For Marchers

V2026



**First off, thank you for considering this walk!** You likely have some questions for this unique event, so this TMI doc was created to answer those plus give more details than you probably wanted. We'll start with some key points to prepare with and end with the day's schedule.

**Uniform for the Walk** - You don't have to wear the shirt but highly encouraged. There are bathrooms on site to change into them. Some Veterans wear old uniform bottoms (BDUs, DCUs, etc) and old ruck sacks or assault packs, etc.

**Shoes** - Don't wait until the day of the event to try new shoes. Wear comfortable running/walking/hiking shoes that are broken in.

**Packing List** - It can be super short, like almost nothing for 10 miles. There will be water, snacks, etc at each check point (stop) including the start. Some items to consider are a hat, sunscreen, ibuprofen/pain reliever, foot powder, poncho, extra pair of socks (if rainy walk) and favorite fuel snack if you are a picky eater. If you have any food allergies that's highly recommended.

**We Walk Rain or Shine** - we have seen quite the variety of weather this time of year in MN and nothing has stopped us from walking. There are overhead covers at the start and the first stop. But no overhead at the other two stops. So if it's raining maybe plan for poncho and an umbrella.

## Schedule for Day of the March - May 25th

### **7am-8am Sign In - TShirt - Eat - Mingle at Hastings Rotary Pavilion**

Get your t-shirt and sign in at the table hosted by Jessie Nowak. We encourage participants to wear their shirts during the march but certainly not required. Bathrooms are on site to put them on. Martha Hanson and family will be hosting with some great morning fuel for the walk.

**750am Group photo** at the Hastings rock with bridge behind us

**8am Brief welcome speech then National Anthem** sang by the Hastings Middle School Spiral Singers led by Cheryl Borgen

**~810am Step Off!** We'll walk as a group with the flag leading. Nobody gets ahead of the flag. That changes hands every stop or when the flag carrier needs to switch out. If you want to carry the flag, great! Just talk to Tom. We'll head east on the scenic River Trail loop towards the RR bridge.

**\*\*NEW THIS YEAR - We will not stop at each group of mile markers and go over each individual's story.** Their names will be read to the group prior to each leg of the walk. If you want to learn more about them, their stories are shared on the Honor Markers themselves and are on our website. **Any new Honor Markers will be the exception.** We will stop to place those and hear their story. Please let us know how you feel about this, either way, after the event. We're trying to simplify and streamline the event but still of course continue to honor everyone on our route.

**~910am Arrive at Check Point 1 @ Vermillion Falls Park**

Hosted by Kathy O'Connor and family. They will have some snacks and drinks. Extra port o potties will be available. **\*\*All stops will be for 10 minutes starting when the last person arrives.**

**~1020am Arrive at Check Point 2 @ Wallin Park**

Hosted by Cheryl and Tom Bullington. Same deal here. 10 minutes.

**~11am Arrive at Check Point 3 @ Crestview Park**

Hosted by Katy Lindberg - Farmers Insurance. Same deal, 10 minute stop.

**~12pm Finished! Arrive @ Confluence Hotel - Brief Closing Ceremony**

We're finishing at the Confluence instead of the Pavilion so we no longer have to worry about conflicts with the Legion/VFW city program. We're trying to establish some consistency along with streamlining the event. Thank you to the Confluence folks for allowing us to use their riverside space. We will have a brief ceremony with military honors by participating Veterans (something new this year that we're trying). Then a duel Taps performed by the talented Viv Peterson and Rachel Fisher. Then you're done, no meal at the end. Also part of the streamlining.

**Still have questions?** Email Tom at [tomwright100@gmail.com](mailto:tomwright100@gmail.com)

**Check out pics & video on our website** to get a better feel too.

**See you May 25th!**