

Experience one of the flattest and (sometimes) muddiest trail races that Pretzel City Sports holds; the 26th Annual

EVANSBURG CHALLENGE

15K Trail Race & 7.3K Trail Race/Walk

Sun., October 13, 2024 – 10 A.M.

Evansburg State Park - near Collegeville, PA

Park Address: 851 May Hall Rd, Collegeville, PA 19426

15K is a Point Scoring Run in the Mid-Atlantic USA Track & Field Off-Road Series

NEW FOR 2024: EARLIER DATE IN OCT, LISTED AS 15K BUT WILL ATTEMPT TO RESTORE IT TO ITS ORIGINAL 10M DISTANCE BY RACEDAY. CREEK CROSSINGS STILL GONE!

The reality is that practically no one can escape the ravages of time. Hair starts growing on our bodies from places that it never grew before and yet we lose hair from places where we want it. Faces wrinkle up to the point that we look like prunes unless you get face fillers at which point we look like watermelons. Our pants size go up more than the value of our IRA does, no matter what we try to do, eat or inject to prevent it. We leave things that we drop on the floor or ground where they fell, rather than bend over to pick them up 'cause we may not be able to straighten back up. Growing up, every boy my age wanted to spend a night canoodling with Barbara Eden of "I Dream of Jeannie". Barbara is now 92 years old and the thought of canoodling with her makes the milk in my stomach curdle. We checked with Barbara on this matter and she feels equally appalled about this scenario. Aging is a BITCH!! (although, it still beats the alternative!). Yet, some things seem to escape the impact of "time". Take the Evansburg Challenge. The course is just as beautiful as it was 26 years ago. And the mud that litters the course still sticks to your socks like it did for the past quarter of a century. The person who created the race still directs it, marks it and heads it. It may EVEN get restored to its original 10-mile distance after a few years at shorter lengths, with the addition of its 7k shorter race being about the only major change to the event in this century. Yes, it remains as pretty and as stupid today as it was in the days when "streaming" meant playing in a "crick, when Bill Clinton had just met Monica and when you could buy a candy bar for under a dollar. It's a GREAT race for those that have always wanted to try trail running but value all or most of their body parts. In fact, many people consider this a "road racer's" trail run because those that throw a little caution to the wind can FLY on this course!! And yet, with fallen leaves and frequent sections of sole-swallowing mud, it is technical enough to provide a real test to the Type A-ers. So, whether you're a "Gonzo-er" or a "Give It a Try-er", come join us for the 26th running of what has become one of the most popular trail runs in Eastern PA! **WARNING: YOU RACE AT YOUR OWN RISK & are SOLELY responsible for yourself at all times.** Skin your knee or twist your ankle? Limp to the next water stop so we can get you out with fossil fuel. Now, if you land face first into one of the HUNDREDS of horse paddys on the course, you MUST wash up before getting into our car. Thanks for understanding! Also, 15k's are no "walk in the mall" so entry for those under 16 is not encouraged (but IS permitted) for the 15k; enter the 7.3k instead.

Due to the slight chance of a state limit on entries by raceday if a new Covid variant appears, online registration is mandatory. Raceday entry is highly probable but you must enter online until then, so that entry can be closed on a moment's notice, if need be.

<https://www.pretzelcitysports.com/online-registration/>

Open until midnight on the Wed of race week. Nominal service fee applies.

WARNING: Any entry not reaching the 7.3k point in 1 hr. and 5 minutes MUST finish in the shorter race, regardless of the event they planned to do. Going past this spot is probably a bit more demanding than you can handle plus we'll begin taking down the course past the 7.3k mark at 1 hr., 5 minutes into the race to ensure the safety of all. We'd rather everyone finish healthy than risk the problems that occur when someone tries to exceed their level of fitness. **ONLY** people finishing in the 15k will earn USA T & F Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Series points. While there are awards for the 7.3k, those finishers do NOT earn such points

Entry: Race starts at 10 A.M.; registration in Park at the small Pavilion near the bathrooms from 9 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. No mailing of shirts or awards; no refunds. Race goes on rain or shine; (may delay race start if "lightening"). Minimum age of 16 years old suggested for those running the 15k. **NOTE: MANY OF OUR REGISTRATION FOLKS ALSO HELP AT REMOTE SPOTS ON THE COURSE. TO GET THEM TO THESE SPOTS ON TIME, IT'S CRUCIAL THAT RUNNERS BE REGISTERED BY 9:50!!**

Fee: \$40 WITH shirt OR \$35 WITHOUT a unisex short sleeve tech shirt if entered by Sun, Sept 29. Afterwards, including raceday, \$45 WITH shirt and \$40 with NO shirt or when they run out. (VERY limited number of extra shirts will be printed so if you don't want to be shut out of a shirt, pre-enter even if it's after the cutoff date!!)

Other Reasons to Enter: 3 water stops on 15k course, 1 on 7.3k. Results posted at www.pretzelcitysports.com the next business day after race, instant results posted at race, digital clock at race finish, modern bathrooms, covered pavilion, post-race food, a well-marked trail, a fair amount of nearby parking AND the 15k scores you points in the USA T & F Mid-Atlantic Off-Road series. Race priced to reduce your racing fee if you value another shirt about as much as you value most of the people running for office today.

Awards: **15k:** 1st and 2nd Overall Male and Female Plus: 0-29: 4M, 4F 30-39: 4M, 4F
 40-49: 4M, 4F 50-59: 4M, 4F 60-69: 4M, 4F 70+: 4M, 2F Clydesdales: 3M, 3F

 7K: 1st Overall Male and Female Plus: 0-29: 3M, 3F 30-39: 3M, 3F 40-49: 3M, 3F
 50-59: 3M, 3F 60-69: 3M, 3F 70+: 3M, 3F Clydesdales: 3M, 3F

Clydesdale Weight Minimums for both events: Men: min of 210 lbs. or 190 if 5 ft., 9 inches tall or less. Women: min of 165 lbs., 145 if 5 ft., 4 inches tall or less. Honor system, no scale on site.

Directions to Park: Use address of 851 May Hall Rd, Collegeville, PA in your GPS. Park is just off Germantown Pike about 2.5 miles east of Collegeville. If parking on the grass, PLEASE do so only on sections where you are instructed to do so by the park staff.

Challenged Head: Ron Horn, rhornpcs@aol.com (preferred means of contact) or 610-779-2668 day or night (just not during an Eagles game), www.pretzelcitysports.com

Insurance Provided by R.R.C.A

Our thanks to the great staff of Evansburg State Park for their assistance with this event over the past 2 1/2 decades!