



END OF THE ROAD

MARATHON & HALF

Thank you for your interest in the End of the Road Marathon and Half Marathon 2017. This truly unique race will take place on the famous Abandoned Pennsylvania Turnpike which you may remember from the 2009 apocalyptic movie "The Road." This stretch of the Pennsylvania Turnpike was bypassed in 1968, leaving 2 tunnels and miles of road untouched by traffic for nearly 50 years! Trivium has partnered with the Southern Allegheny Conservancy in order to raise funds to develop this abandoned road into a greenway so that runners and bikers can enjoy the route for years to come. What we would like to accomplish in this document is to give you a more detailed idea of the Marathon and Half Marathon events.

I. Event Goals

A. **Raise Money for the Southern Alleghany Conservancy:** The Conservancy is on its last legs and a shot in the arm from an event like this could help sustain it and its goals. SAC hopes to turn the entire stretch of turnpike into a unique destination Pike-to-Bike trail complete with bathrooms, parking spots, new pavement and cleaned up tunnels. We hope to bring, not only a bit of money, but also great exposure to this endeavor.

B. **Create a unique, enjoyable and professional event:** Trivium Racings fully produces upwards of 40 events per year, and provides RFID timing and race director consulting services to other events. Each Trivium Racing event has a one-of-a-kind atmosphere with a professional touch. This in-depth experience will make this event an immediate favorite for both new and seasoned athletes and will become a destination event in the upcoming years.

II. Location

A. The start/finish line will be at Forbes Road Junior-Senior High School - **159 Red Bird Dr, Waterfall, PA 16689**

III. Event Timeline

A. Early Packet Pickup

Sorry for the delay on information for early packet pickup. With this being a remote race, and also a first year, we have struggled with getting this set up. Our goal was to have multiple packet pickups in urban areas that had large pockets of racers. We ended up with a very dispersed group of athletes, which is awesome! Next year we will offer early packet mailing along with multiple in city packet pickup locations.

- Saturday 10/21/17 - 2:30 pm - 6:30 pm
- Location: **3150 Pump Station Road, Waterfall, PA** - Our early packet pickup will be at the entrance to the abandoned turnpike. If you use the address above this will direct you to the exact location. We will also have signs pointing registrants to packet pickup parking.

B. Race Day Schedule:

- 6:30am – 8:15am: Packet Pickup will be held inside Forbes Road High School
- 8:20am: Prerace meeting for the Marathoners at the Start/Finish line
- 8:30am: Marathoners Start
- 8:35am: Prerace meeting for the Half at the Start/Finish line
- 8:45am: Half Marathoners Start

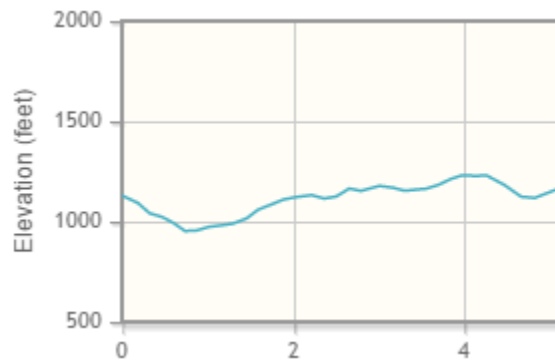
- 11:15am: Approximate start of Half Marathon awards ceremony
- 12:30pm: Approximate start of Marathon awards ceremony
- 3:00pm: Half marathon and marathon course closes

IV. Course Description:

A. Marathon Course:

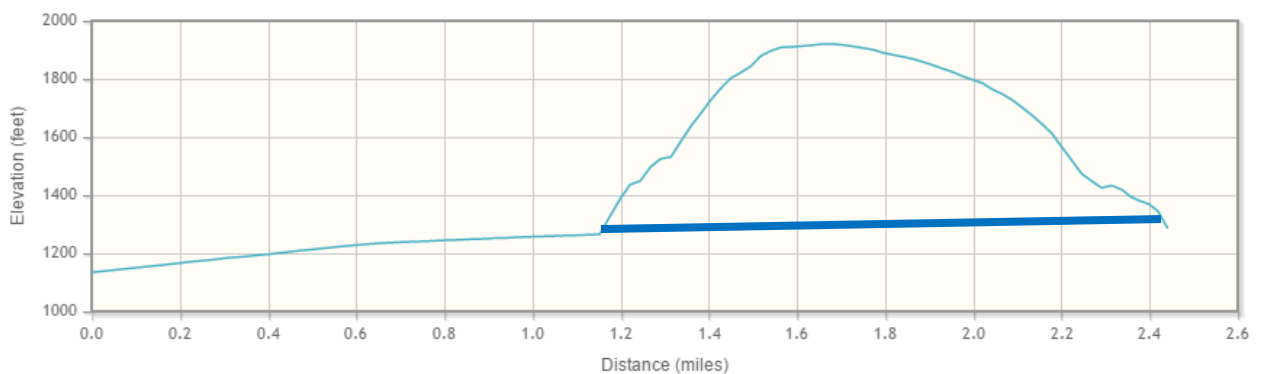
- Start and First 5 Miles: Starting at Forbes Road High School, the marathoners will go just shy of five miles on empty country roads heading to the Abandoned Turnpike. While this 5-mile section gains 200 feet of elevation, it is a slight gain and is spread out over the five miles fairly equally. There will be three aid stations on this first 5-mile section (see aid station chart below)

Elevation Chart:



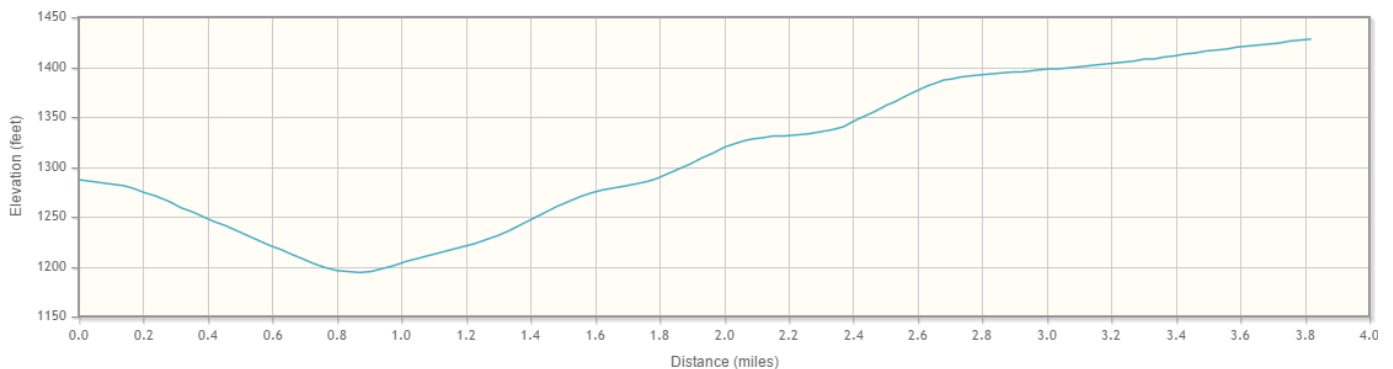
- Turnpike Through Tunnel 1: (Mile 5 – 7.5). From mile 5 to 6, you will be going flat to slightly up as you come upon the larger Sideling Hill Tunnel. You will be underground for the next 1.5 miles! Inside the tunnel, you will have an aid station along with first aid available. In the picture below the dark blue line represents the actual grade (the other blue line is gps taking you over the top of the tunnel). While the roads outside the tunnel are crumbling in disrepair, the lack of weather and a more consistent temperature have kept the roads inside the tunnel in extremely good shape. Please make sure you have a flashlight or headlamp!

Elevation Chart:



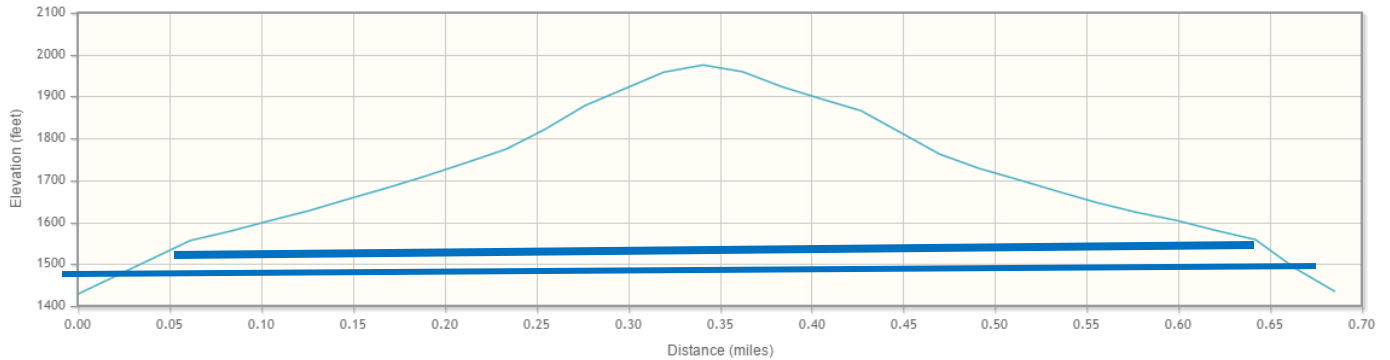
- The Between Lands: (Mile 7.5 - 11) This is the land between the two tunnels. This is a relatively flat section of the course. As you make your way from the Sideling Hill Tunnel to Rays Hill Tunnel, you will pass three water stops. Are you the only living distance runner left on the planet or is this just an awfully quiet landscape? It will be hard to tell on this section. Each of our aid station volunteers will be dressed in a different apocalyptic scene. Will you see zombies? Aliens? Who knows!

Elevation Chart:



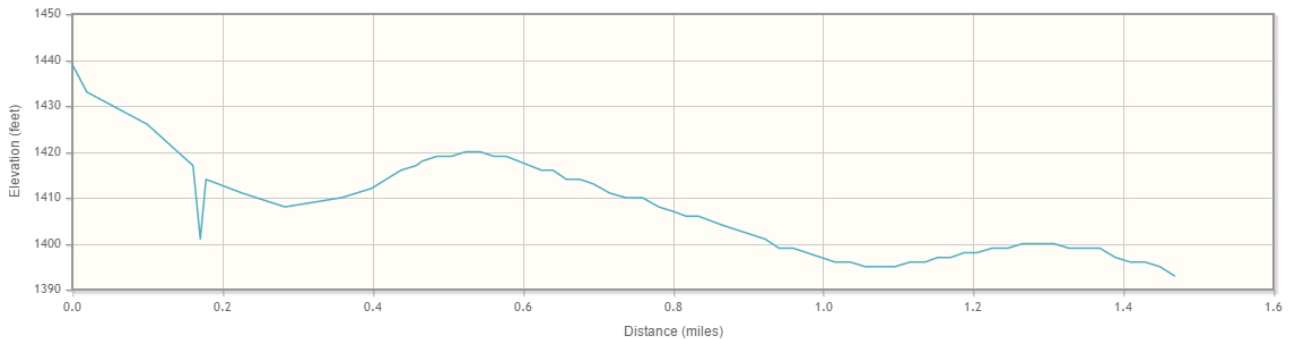
- Rays Hill Tunnel: It is said that Ray still haunts this tunnel when cocky runners dare to pass through. Nah, only kidding, but it sounds a lot cooler than, “this is the smaller of the two tunnels at .7 miles.” Just like Sideling Hill Tunnel, in the picture below the dark blue line represents the actual grade (the other blue line is GPS taking you over the top of the tunnel) There will be another aid station within this tunnel. Again, please remember your lights.

Elevation Chart:



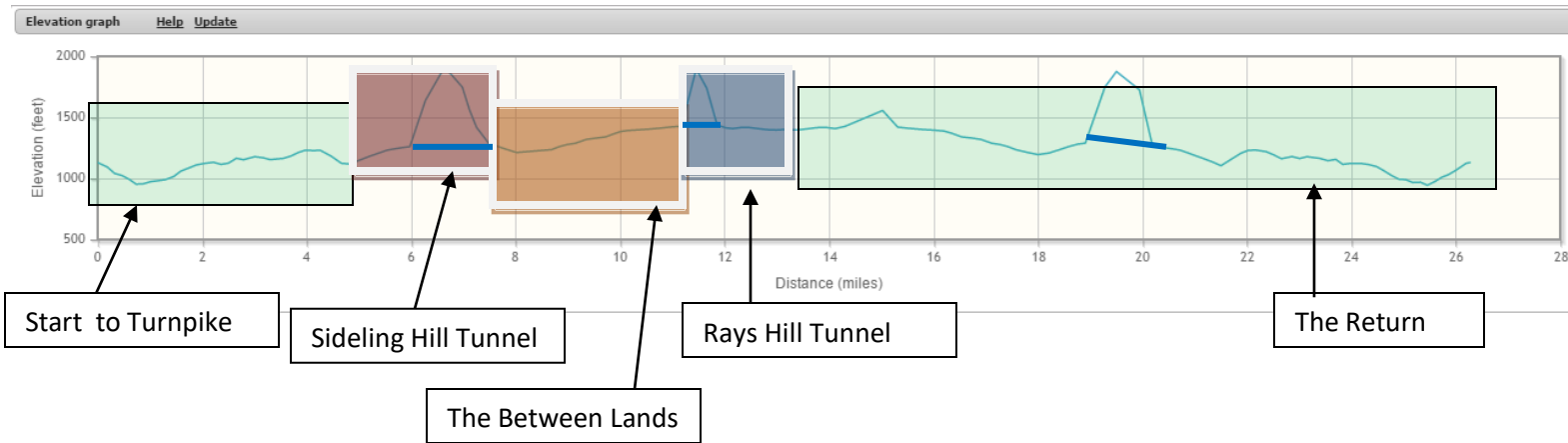
- Turn Around: From Rays tunnel to the turnaround is just less than 1.5 miles. There will be aid at the turnaround and a chance to abandon the event if needed. From here you can get a 45-minute ride back to the start line if necessary.

Elevation Chart:



- The Return: This is an out and back course. Once you turn around, you will make your way back through both tunnels, and past every water stop again. This will be a net downhill return as you can see on the elevation charts below

- Full Elevation Chart:



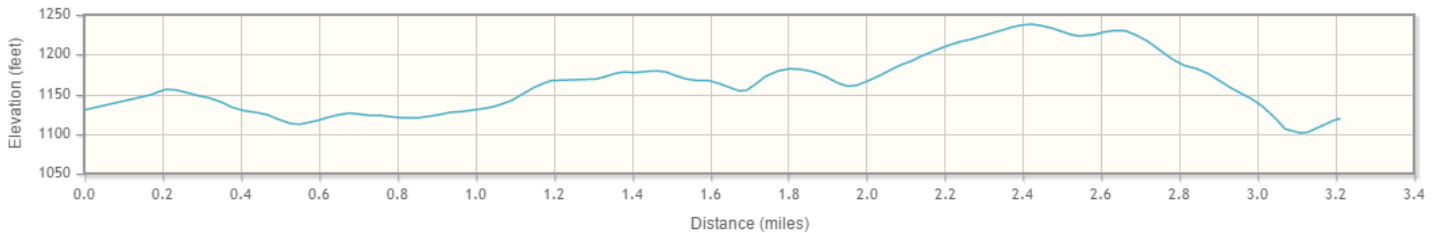
B. Marathon Aid Stations:

<i>Mile Marker</i>	<i>Aid Available</i>
1.7	Water and Gatorade
3.5	Water and Gatorade
5.0	Water and gels
7	Water, Gatorade, bananas, gummy bears, and granola bars
9.1	Water and Gatorade
11.2	Water, Gatorade, candy, and pretzels
13.1	Water, Gatorade, soda, and gels
15	Water, Gatorade, candy, and pretzels
17.1	Water and Gatorade
19.2	Water, Gatorade, bananas, gummy bears, and granola bars
21.1	Water and gels
22.7	Water, Gatorade, and soda
24.5	Water and Gatorade

C. Half Marathon Course

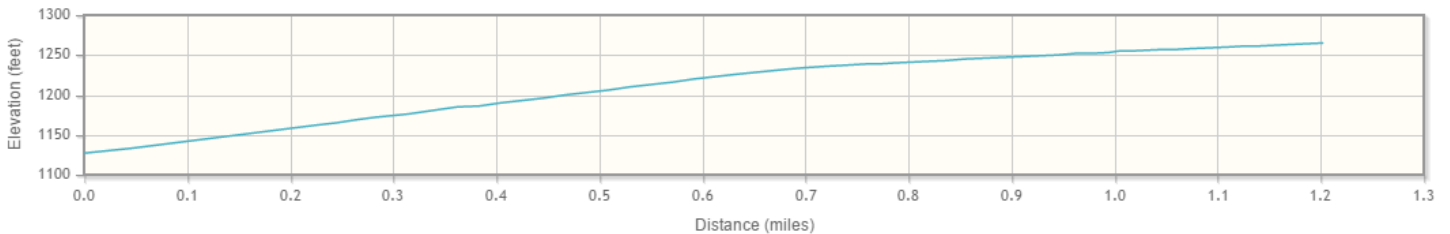
- **The Start:** To make sure the distance is correct, we have the half going a different direction than the full marathon to start the race. The first 5K (3.1 miles) will be on gorgeous farm roads leading to the turnpike. You will pass two waterstops before you enter the abandoned turnpike. This is a relatively flat portion of the course with elevation only going up about 120 ft over two miles. This will also mean a downhill finish!

Elevation Chart:



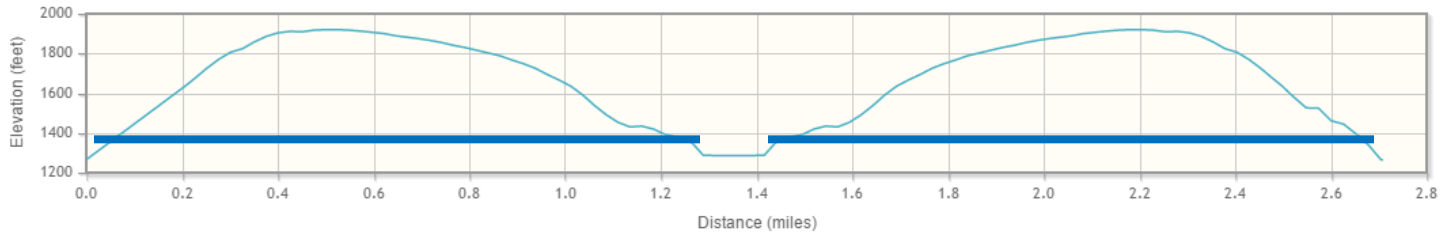
- **To the Tunnel:** You will be on the turnpike for 1.2 miles before you make your way to the Sideling Hill Tunnel. This section has one waterstop on it and is a gradual uphill leading into the tunnel.

Elevation Chart:

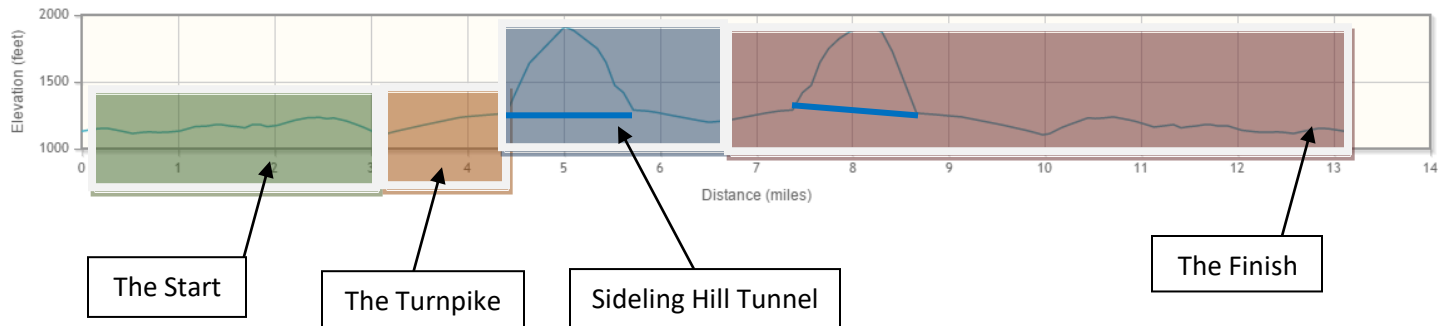


- **The Tunnel:** The Half Marathon course is setup so that you will enter the tunnel, come out the other end to daylight only to turn around right away and reenter the tunnel on your return route. This means, as a total percentage of your course, you spend more time in the tunnels than the marathoners. This inside of the tunnel is relatively flat, with a slight up on the way out and a slight down on the way back. The dark blue line shows the actual tunnel elevation. (The light blue line shows GPS, which takes you over the top of the tunnel) We will have a waterstop inside the tunnel with lights. The tunnels are the best roads on the course as they have been kept out of the weather for decades.

Elevation Chart:



Full Elevation Chart:



D. Half Marathon Aid Stations:

<i>Mile Marker</i>	<i>Aid Available</i>
1.8	Water and Gatorade
3.25	Water and gels
5.3	Water, Gatorade, bananas, gummy bears, and granolas
7.8	Water, Gatorade, bananas, gummy bears, and granolas
9.8	Water and gels
11.2	Water and Gatorade

V. Port-a-Potties

A. There will be bathrooms on the course. We are still working on final locations.

VI. USATF Certification and Boston Qualifications

A. Both the marathon and the half marathon are USATF certified courses. This means the distance will be extremely accurate! To those looking to qualify for Boston, you can do it at this race, although it may not be the fastest course.

VII. Course Markings

A. Turns and Intersections

- Volunteers - Each intersection and turn will have a volunteer helping athletes go the correct way and also to stop any traffic on the country roads leading into the turnpike. We have "soft closures" on these roads. This means that police and volunteers will delay, and stop traffic while athletes are in the area, but residential traffic will be allowed in (we cannot shutdown churches or homes for the entire day).
- H-Frame Signs - All course turns and intersections will also have H-Frame signs telling athletes which way to go. These will be different for the Marathon and Half Marathon.



- Stickers - If the weather allows for it we will have stickers on the ground that will also have turns and directions on it. These are great, but cannot be utilized in wet weather!

B. Mile Markers

- All of our Mile Markers will be on H- Frame signs connected to cones. your Bib will correspond to the color of wording on your signs. Our Half Marathoners will be orange, and our Marathoners will be black. Each mile for each event will have a sign indicating your distance!



VIII. Strollers, Spectators and photography

A. We do not suggest pushing strollers on this course due to the rough roads. Spectators are encouraged, but make sure to plan ahead as roads will be closed throughout the event. For the Marathon, your best bet is to catch your runner at the turnaround point on the opposite end of the course. You will be able to drive right up to that point and walk onto the Turnpike. We will be providing maps of road closures and alternate routes to get to certain places on the course. Please see attachment for maps to help spectators navigate the course.

IX. Entertainment and Post-Race Amenities

- A. After the event, you can plan on getting your unique finisher's medal, and awesome food. All post-race activities will take place near the finish line at Forbes Road High School.
- B. We will have music at the finish line, but no live bands this year as the event is still small. But stick around for our awards ceremony for each event!