



AMHERST VS AMHERST WALKING CHALLENGE GROUP HIKES TO BE HELD IN AMHERST TOWN PARKS

(Amherst, NY) – The Town of Amherst is locked in an international battle known as the [Amherst VS Amherst Walking Challenge](#). Now in its second year, the friendly competition has Amherst, New York; Amherst, New Hampshire; Amherst, Massachusetts; and Amherst, Nova Scotia, facing off to see which community can walk the most miles/kilometers from Feb. 1 to Feb. 28. New this year, as part of the competition, Amherst Town Parks has organized four community walks/hikes to enjoy the outdoors while logging miles.

“The Amherst VS Amherst Walking Challenge is a fun competition to promote a healthy lifestyle during this tough winter month. Getting together and safely enjoying the outdoors is a great way to celebrate community spirit, explore our beautiful town parks, and, most importantly, log miles to win the challenge,” said Elizabeth Graczyk, Resource Coordinator.

As a reminder, please dress for the elements, including proper footwear. All walks and hikes average 1-2 miles and are geared to beginner walkers. Each guided walk is free, and open to any member of the public.

Amherst VS Amherst Walking Challenge Walks will be held on the following dates:

- **Walk 1: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 pm. Sunday, February 6 at Billy Wilson Park, 1290 Hopkins Road, Williamsville, NY 14221**

Participant level – Beginner

Meet at the last pavilion next to the playground. Participants will walk the back loop of the park. Portions of the paved trail do become flooded at times. Participants are advised to wear the proper footwear (hiking boots, weather-proof sneakers, or rain boots). Walk is approximately .75 – 1 mile.

- **Walk 2: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Sunday, February 13 at Saratoga Park, 200 Yorktown Road, Snyder, NY 14226**

Participant level - Beginner

Parking is available on Yorktown Road (dead end) – please be mindful of residential driveways when parking on the street. There is a park entrance at the end of the dead-end. Participants will meet at the park entrance and enjoy a walk around the rear area of the park. The trail around the park is partially paved/stone dust, but this trail is not handicapped accessible. Walk is approximately .75 of a mile.

- **Walk 3: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Sunday, February 20 at Walton Woods Park, 400 John James Audubon Parkway, Amherst, NY 14228**

Participant level – Beginner

Parking is available in the senior center lot (please do not park in the Meals on Wheels parking lot). If no snow or ice is present on the trail, this walk is fully accessible to those using motorized wheelchairs or other devices. Trail is fully paved with no significant inclines. Join the Parks Administration for a guided walk through a beautiful forested area, as well as a waterfront stroll around the lake at Walton Woods. Participants are advised to wear the proper footwear (hiking boots or weather-proof sneakers). Walk is approximately 1 mile.

- **Walk/Hike 4: 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Sunday, February 27 at Amherst State Park, 390 Mill Street, Buffalo, NY 14221**

Participant level – Moderate or beginner who has participated in previous guided walks for the challenge. There are some small hills and/or inclines on this walk.

Meet in the parking area closest to Mill Street. We will walk past the Veterans Memorial, down through the orchard and meadow, to Reist Street and back. Please be advised that the trail is not paved portions are not handicapped accessible. Participants are advised to wear the proper footwear (hiking boots or sneakers). Should snow be present on the trail, we welcome participants interested in snowshoeing. Walk is approximately 1-1.25 miles long.

The guided group walks/hikes are subject to weather and trail conditions. In the case of severe weather, a walk/hike may be canceled (check [Track Us](#) for updates).

After the walk, please be sure to log your miles by clicking the logo below:



For additional information, please visit the Town's Amherst Town Parks website: www.amherst.ny.us/content/parks.php or www.facebook.com/visitamherstparks.