



Traffic and Road Closure Information

The following information is provided to help people who live, work, and worship near the **Publix Georgia Marathon & Half Marathon** course plan their drive during 7am-2pm on **Sunday, March 18, 2012**. With this information, you'll be able to see which roads will be impacted by the race and plan an alternate driving route to your destination to minimize traffic delays. Check out the following topics for detailed information about the race course, each street on the course, suggested driving directions to various sections of the course, and other logistics information.

Date, Time, and Course

The Publix Georgia Marathon is on **Sunday, March 18, 2012** and includes a Marathon (26.2 miles), Half Marathon (13.1 mile), and Wheelchair Half Marathon (13.1 miles) that start and end at Centennial Olympic Park in downtown Atlanta. Start time is 6:55 a.m. for the Wheelchair Half Marathon and 7:00 a.m. for the Marathon and Half Marathon. The finish line closes at 2pm.

Beginning at Centennial Olympic Park, the course passes through many intown neighborhoods, historic sites, colleges, and parks in Atlanta and Decatur, including: Five Points, Georgia State University, Atlanta Civic Center, the birthplace of Martin Luther King, Jr, Little 5 Points, The Carter Center, Olmstead Park, Agnes Scott College, Decatur Square, Emory University, Druid Hills, Virginia-Highland, Piedmont Park, and Georgia Tech.

Click to view the [Course Map](#), which shows the Start-Finish area in Centennial Olympic Park (lower left section of the map), the Marathon course (solid line), and the Half Marathon course (dotted line).

Click to view the [Street List with Traffic Lanes](#), which provides detailed information about each street along the course including the following information, from left to right:

- Each street on the course, from the Start Line to the Finish Line
- The number and direction of lanes open to vehicle traffic
- The number and direction of lanes for race participants (closed to vehicle traffic)
- The approximate time when the race participant lanes will close and reopen, after which the runners' lanes reopen to vehicular traffic.

Traffic Information

Police Officers and Right of Way | Police officers at each traffic intersection control traffic and maintain public safety. During the race, participants in the designated runners' lanes have the right of way. Police stop race participants only for an emergency vehicle to pass. **Police make non-emergency vehicles wait to cross the course until there is a gap in the runners.** There will be extended periods when there are no gaps in the runners, during which non-emergency vehicles will be required to wait or turn back.

Access Points that Cross the Course. The Marathon and Half Marathon course is a counter-clockwise loop that starts and ends at Centennial Olympic Park. There are several access points that are open throughout the race and enable drivers to cross the course via a bridge or underpass and drive from inside the loop to outside, or from outside the loop to inside, anytime during the race:



I-75/I-85 Exits - The following I-75/I-85 exits are inside the loop of the course and enable driving to/from inside the loop via I-75/I-85 anytime during the race:

- North Ave (Exit 249D, SB Only)
- International Blvd/Freedom Pkwy (Exit 248C)
- Butler St/JW Dobbs (Exit 248D)
- Courtland St (Exit 249A, SB Only)
- Pine St/Peachtree St (Exit 249B, NB Only)
- Williams St (Exit 249C)

North Ave - On the west side of the course, North Ave goes under the course on Marietta St via an underpass, enabling drivers to go eastbound or westbound on North Ave between Northside Dr and inside the loop. Until 11:00 a.m., eastbound traffic is detoured off North Ave from Luckie St to Fowler St to North Ave. Including this detour, there is always at least 1 eastbound and 1 westbound traffic lane on North Ave between Northside Dr and Freedom Pkwy.

East Lake Rd - On the southeast side of the course, East Lake Rd goes under the course on College Ave via an underpass near the East Lake MARTA station, enabling drivers to go northbound or southbound on East Lake Rd between Ponce De Leon via Ridgecrest Rd and Memorial Dr or I-20 via 2nd Ave.

MARTA - The following MARTA rail stations are inside or near the loop of the course and enable riding to/from inside the loop via MARTA rail anytime during the race.

- Five Points
- Peachtree Center (Red Line)
- Civic Center (Red Line)
- North Ave (Red Line)
- Midtown (Red Line)
- Dome/CNN/GWCC (Blue and Green Lines)
- King Memorial
- Inman Park/Reynoldstown (free daily parking, up to 24 hours)
- Edgewood/Candler Park (free daily parking, up to 24 hours)
- East Lake (Blue Line) (free daily parking, up to 24 hours)
- Decatur (Blue Line)

Driving inside the Loop of the Course

East-West Streets – The main east-west corridors inside the loop of the course are:

- **Ponce De Leon** - There is always at least 1 eastbound and 1 westbound lane on Ponce De Leon between Peachtree St and N Highland Ave and between N Highland and Decatur Square. The intersection of Ponce De Leon at N Highland is closed during approximately 7:13 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. but reopens to traffic at approximately 9:30 a.m., after which Ponce is open to 2-way traffic from Peachtree St to Decatur Square.
- **North Ave** - Until 11:00 a.m., eastbound traffic on North Ave is detoured off North Ave from Luckie St to Fowler St to North Ave. Including this detour, there is always at least 1 eastbound and 1 westbound



traffic lane on North Ave between Northside Dr and Freedom Pkwy. The intersection of North Ave and N Highland is closed during approximately 7:09am-9:30am but reopens to traffic at approximately 9:30am.

North-South Streets - The main north-south corridors inside the loop of the course are:

- **Spring St** (1-way southbound) – During the race, Spring St is open to traffic from 5th St southbound to Baker St.
- **West Peachtree St** (1-way northbound) – During the race, West Peachtree St is open to traffic from Peachtree St northbound to 5th St. After W. Peachtree & 5th reopens to traffic at approximately 10:10am, W. Peachtree is open from Peachtree St northbound to 12th St. West Peachtree & 12th St reopens to traffic at approximately 1:30pm.
- **Peachtree St** – During the race, Peachtree St is open to 2-way traffic from 5th St to Marietta St. After Marietta St & Peachtree St reopens at approximately 7:45am, Peachtree St is open to 2-way traffic from 5th St through Downtown to Memorial Dr.
- **Juniper St** (1-way southbound) - During the race, Juniper St/Courtland St is open to traffic from 5th St to Decatur St. After Marietta St & Courtland St reopens at approximately 7:45am, Juniper/Courtland St is open to southbound traffic from 5th St through Downtown to Washington St.
- **Piedmont Ave** (1-way northbound) – Piedmont Ave from Decatur St to North Ave is part of the course during approximately 6:45am-8:05am. After approximately 8:05am, Piedmont Ave is open to northbound traffic from Capitol Ave to 10th St. Piedmont & 10th is closed to traffic during approximately 7:21am-10:00am. Piedmont & 12th is closed to traffic during approximately 8:45am-1:15pm.
- **Boulevard/Monroe Dr** - During the race, Boulevard/Monroe Dr is open to traffic from Auburn Ave to Park Dr. After Auburn Ave reopens to traffic at approximately 8:30am, Boulevard/Monroe Dr is open to traffic from south of I-20 to Park Dr. Monroe & Park Dr are closed to traffic during approximately 8:35am-1:00pm.
- **N Highland Ave** – N Highland Ave from North Ave to Virginia Ave is part of the course during approximately 7:13am-9:30am. After approximately 9:30am, N Highland Ave is open to traffic from Baker-Highland Connector to Los Angeles Ave. N Highland & Virginia is closed to traffic during approximately 7:13am-9:30am. N Highland & Los Angeles is closed to traffic during approximately 8:30am-12:45pm.
- **Briarcliff Rd** – Briarcliff Rd from Stillwood Dr to The By Way is part of the course during approximately 8:25am-12:30pm. During the race, Briarcliff Rd is open to 2-way traffic south of Stillwood Dr and north of The By Way.
- **Oakdale Rd** – North-south traffic on Oakdale Rd is blocked at McLendon Ave during 7:30am-9:45am, after which Oakdale Rd is open to 2-way traffic from DeKalb Ave to Ponce De Leon. The northbound lane of Oakdale Rd from Ponce De Leon to N Decatur Rd is part of the course and closed to traffic during 8:15am-12:00pm, but the southbound lane of Oakdale from N Decatur to Ponce De Leon is open to traffic throughout the race.
- **Clifton Rd** – Clifton Rd from McLendon Ave to South Ponce De Leon is part of the course during approximately 7:30am-9:45am. Clifton Rd from N Decatur Rd to Fishburne Dr is part of the course during approximately 8:05am-11:30am. After approximately 9:45am, Clifton Rd is open to 2-way



traffic from DeKalb Ave to N Decatur Rd. After approximately 11:30am, Clifton Rd is open to 2-way traffic for the entire length of Clifton Rd.

No Parking Zones

Some streets will have **Temporary Emergency No Parking in forced during 2:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 18, 2012**. The Emergency No Parking signs will be posted on these streets at least 72 hours before the effective period.

Emergency No Parking zones are posted for various reasons, including:

1. Parking lane(s) are needed for traffic during the race. Example – On-street parking is allowed on Sunday on Juniper St, but on race day the 2 parking lanes are needed for traffic since the runners use the other 2 lanes.
2. The entire street is needed for the race. Example – Both lanes of North Ave between Freedom Pkwy and N Highland are needed to separate Half Marathoners in the left lane and Marathoners in the right lane before the upcoming split in the course at N. Highland.
3. No parking is required to maintain separation between the runners and traffic. Example - The race takes 1 lane but a parked car in the runners’ lane will cause runners to swerve into the traffic lane. A parked car in the traffic lane will cause cars to swerve into the runners’ lane.

Emergency No Parking zones include:

Street	Side of Street
Euclid Ave from Washita Ave to Moreland Ave	Both sides
North Ave between Freedom Pkwy and N. Highland Ave	Both sides
N. Highland between North Ave and Virginia Ave	Both sides
Juniper St between 10 th St and 5 th St	Both sides
Park Dr between Virginia Ave and Piedmont Park	Both sides

Other streets may be added to the Emergency No Parking zones as needed to facilitate traffic flow. Signs will be posted at least 72 hours before the Emergency No Parking period.

For any streets that have Emergency No Parking signs posted before the race, **please plan to move any cars by 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 18, 2012**. Cars parked in posted areas after 2:00 a.m. are subject to ticketing and towing, at the owner’s expense.

Travel Suggestions for Race Day, Sunday, March 18, 2012

Plan your Itinerary before Race Day – If you expect to drive near the race on Sunday, March 18, 2012, look at the [Course Map](#) and determine if your usual itinerary will encounter the race course during the street closure times on the [Street List](#). If so, plan a different itinerary for race day, using the Traffic Information and these suggestions to reduce delays:

Avoid Trying to Drive Across the Race Course – Plan your itinerary to avoid driving across closed lanes during the street closure times on the [Street List](#). Instead, drive around the course or through one of the **Access**



Points that cross the course, even if the driving distance is longer. Police and race officials will only allow non-emergency vehicles to cross the closed lanes when there are gaps in the race participants. There will be extended periods during the race when there are no gaps in the participants, so the best strategy is avoid trying to cross the race course.

If you Reside on a Street on the Course – The evening before the race, position your car in your driveway to face the street so you can drive forward into the street rather than back out. This will enable you to watch for gaps in the runners, watch the Police or race officials for directions, and exit your driveway more quickly when there is a gap.

Consider MARTA Rail – If MARTA rail is convenient to the start point or end point of your race day travel, taking MARTA can be your fastest option. Park at any of the 23 MARTA rail stations that offer free daily parking (up to 24 hours) and ride MARTA to your destination. Note that MARTA bus routes may have temporary detours on race day due to the street closures.

Walk Rather than Drive Across the Course – It can be quicker and easier to walk across the course when there is a gap in the runners than to drive across the gap, particularly if only 1 lane of the street is closed to traffic. If the start point or end point of your race day travel is near the course, consider parking your car and crossing the course on foot when there is a gap in the runners.

Practice Driving Any Unfamiliar Itineraries before Race Day – If you plan to take a different or unfamiliar itinerary on race day, practice the new route before race day, ideally at the same time of day. This will help familiarize you with the itinerary and drive time, so you can allow sufficient time on race day to reach your destination.

On Race Day, Start Early and Allow Extra Time for your Travel - If you must arrive at your destination by a specific time, start early and allow additional travel time. Consider driving before the applicable roads close, even if that means you may arrive early at your destination.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact us at info@georgiamarathon.com or at 404-832-0786.