

## Alonzo Stagg 50/20 Hike – Waypoint Operations (2014 Update)

It is recommended that all Waypoint Staffers (except the Shirlington Waypoint Staffers) read the “Hike Guide” before reading this Instructional Guide, then read this Guide.

The Hike has single or multiple adults at a few critical locations. In the simplest terms, except for the Shirlington Waypoint (which will have some minimal liquids and snacks), these staffers are *de facto* Traffic Cops. They are positioned at busy road crossings or at locations where we have had past difficulties with “confused” hikers. In addition, Waypoint staffers may be tasked with placing surveyor flags, signs, or chalkmarks at specific points; however, this is unlikely unless the Hike is short-staffed. **Waypoint personnel must also carry charged cell phones, the POC List** (at least the Head of each Waypoint), **and** (except for St. Agnes/Morning) **the Operational Time Frame Tracking Sheet**. Except for the Key Bridge, St. Agnes/Afternoon, and Shirlington Waypoints, they are “on duty” until the last of four pairs of Tail-End Charlies (10s, 20s, 25s, and 50s) have gone through their position; the Key Bridge Waypoint Staffers won’t see the 25 Miler TECs (they end at Fletchers), St. Agnes/Afternoon will only see the 10 and 20 Miler TECs), and the Shirlington Waypoint Staffers will only see the 50-Miler TECs. Waypoints are located at:

- 1) St. Agnes to Military Rd (4, morning) and at Quincy St (2, afternoon)
- 2) Military Rd/Old Glebe Rd/Randolph St/N. 41st St (3)
- 3) Chain Bridge/both ends (2)
- 4) Key Bridge/both ends (3)
- 5) Shirlington Road (2)

### Enhanced Descriptions

**St. Agnes – Morning:** Personnel are placed at the respective intersections leading from the Parish Center to Lee Highway to Military Rd for all three sets of hikers – note that the morning intersections are DIFFERENT for the 10 Milers than for the 20 and the 25-to-50 Milers (refer to the cue sheets for details on where each group goes). Number of People Recommended: 4 or 5. Time Frames: 5:30 – 5:45 am, 7:00 – 7:15 am, and 8:30 – 8:45 am. You must be on site before the hikers start! Set-Up Duties: None. Primary Tasking: To direct the various hiking groups to safely cross Lee Highway to the northbound sidewalk on Military Road. The staffer(s) at Lee Highway can assist by triggering the crossing light as groups are approaching, to minimize waiting times. When the Tail-End Charlies from each of the three respective groups (25-to-50s, 20s, and 10s) have passed your location, return to the Parish Center for other duties as assigned (you are not asked to stay on site for 3+ hours, but rather only when each respective group starts!) Cautionary Notes: The crossing of Lee Highway is clearly the most hazardous aspect of the start of the hikes. Be wary of anxious Scouts attempting to cross unsafely. This is most critical for the 10 Milers, who are usually our youngest hikers and who are also starting at the time of heaviest traffic (8:30 – 8:45 am). Finally, the staffers will be on location for half an hour at a time, and so should be dressed appropriately.

**St. Agnes – Late Morning/Early Afternoon:** Personnel are placed at the respective intersections leading from the Quincy Exit off the Custis Trail back to the Parish Center, using Quincy, N.

17th St., and N. Randolph St. Number of People Recommended: 3 or 4. Time Frames: 11:00 – 3:00 pm. You must be on site before the first 10 Milers return! Set-Up Duties: None. This tasking ends when both the 10 miler and 20 miler Tail-End Charlies have finished (the 25-to-50 Milers will not return via this location). When finished, return to the Parish Center for other duties as assigned, if any remain. Staffers need to be appropriately dressed for the conditions!

**Military Rd/Old Glebe Rd/Randolph St/N. 41st St** – Morning – Personnel are placed at the intersection of Military Road and the ramp to northbound Glebe Rd (i.e., by the sign indicating a right turn to Chain Bridge), at the intersection of Old Glebe Rd and N. Randolph St (by the bicycle route sign), and at the intersection of N. Randolph St and N. 41st St (i.e., at the top of the bike trail). Number of People Recommended: 3. Time Frame: 5:45 am to 9:30 am. Set-Up Duties: None. Tasking: To prevent any hiker from attempting to use Glebe Rd to access Chain Bridge (**this is extremely dangerous!**), and instead direct them down the correct route to N. 41st Street. Close-out Duties: When the Tail-End Charlies from the 10-Milers (the last group) have passed, call the Acting Hike Coordinator to indicate that your location is officially closed. After completing the Operational Time Frame Tracking Sheet, you are free to leave. Cautionary Notes: These are moderately exposed locations that can get cold – Staffers need to be appropriately dressed for the conditions! You are also recommended to have a vehicle on site that you can stay in between the three groups. Parking is readily available at all 3 intersections.

**Chain Bridge** – Morning – Personnel are placed at the Virginia end of Chain Bridge (i.e., at the intersection with Route 123) and at top of the ramp on the Maryland end of Chain Bridge (i.e., at the ramp leading down to the C&O Canal Towpath). Number of People Recommended: 2. Time Frame: 5:45 am to 9:45 am. Set-Up Duties: None. Taskings: To direct hikers safely across Route 123 on the Virginia side, and down the ramp to the towpath on the Maryland side (that is, to prevent them from walking past the ramp to Canal Road). The Maryland side staffer is also asked to remind hikers to turn outbound (left) for the 25-to-50 milers and the 20 milers, or inbound (right) for the 10 milers, respectively. Close-out Duties: When the Tail-End Charlies from the 10-Milers (the last group) have passed, call the Acting Hike Coordinator to indicate that your location is officially closed. After completing the Operational Time Frame Tracking Sheet, you are free to leave. Cautionary Notes: The crossing of Route 123 is hazardous – Be wary of anxious Scouts attempting to cross unsafely. This is most critical for the 10 Milers, who are usually our youngest hikers and who are also crossing at the time of heaviest traffic (9:15 – 9:45 am). This is a moderately exposed location that can get cold – Staffers need to be appropriately dressed for the conditions! You are also recommended to have a vehicle on site that you can stay in between the three groups. Parking is readily available on N. 41st St (on the Virginia end of the bridge). Note that while there is a parking lot just upstream of Chain Bridge on Canal Road, you cannot turn left off the bridge to get to it!

**Key Bridge** – Mid-Morning through Early Afternoon – One person is placed at the base of the staircase where the C&O Canal Towpath passes under the Whitehurst freeway overpass (this is the FIRST underpass upstream from Key Bridge!); this staircase accesses a sidewalk that leads directly to the upstream side of Key Bridge. Additional personnel are placed on the Virginia side of Key Bridge at the intersection of the Key Bridge upstream sidewalk at the G.W. Parkway (another hazardous location!) and at the intersection of N. Fort Myer Drive and Lee Highway (by the Marriott). Number of People Recommended: 3. Time Frame: 9:30 am through 4:00 pm (or

whenever the 25-to-50 miler Tail End Charlies – the last set of Tail-End Charlies – come through). Set-Up Duties: One directional sign should be placed on the Custis Trail just after it crosses over I-66, and turns sharply right (just east of N. Uhle St.) – this has been a problem during past Hikes, where hikers missed the turn and instead continued up the sidewalk. This sign should be picked up at St. Agnes on Friday night before the Hike. Taskings: A) To direct hikers up the staircase to access Key Bridge (and prevent them from continuing into Georgetown), and to remind the hikers to cross Key Bridge on the upstream side; B) To facilitate hikers crossing the G.W. Parkway safely (again, this is a hazardous location!); and C) To direct the 10-Milers and 20-Milers to Turn Right at Lee Highway and continue up the Custis Trail, and direct the 25-50 Milers to turn Left at Lee Highway, cross Ft Myer Drive and Lynn St, and continue on the Mt. Vernon Trail to Gravelly Point. Close-out Duties: When the Tail-End Charlies from the 20-Milers have passed, collect the sign on the Custis Trail. When the Tail-End Charlies from the 25-to-50-Milers have passed, call the Acting Hike Coordinator to indicate that your location is officially closed. After completing the Operational Time Frame Tracking Sheet, you are free to leave. Please remember to return the sign to St. Agnes. Cautionary Notes: These are moderately exposed locations that can get windy and cold, and there is no convenient parking close by (do NOT park in the Marriott!; you will get towed!) I recommend parking off Lee Highway on N. Oak St. (one block uphill from the Marriott), and walking to the intersections. If you have never been to this location before you should scope it out before Hike Saturday. Be sure to dress very warmly if the weather is non-ideal.

The Shirlington Waypoint – Afternoon – Personnel are placed at the intersection of 4-Mile Run Trail and Shirlington Road. Number of People Recommended: 2. Time Frame: 1:00 to 6:00 pm. Set-Up Duties: Please walk down to the far end of the 4 Mile Run Bypass and place a surveyor flag and chalk mark a “50/20” and an arrow directing hikers onto the bypass (you will need to pick up signs and flags on the Friday night before the Hike). In addition, try to arrange the use of the bathroom at the adjacent service station (they will sometimes leave the bathroom unlocked if we ask); note that Port-a-Johns are usually available in the park across Shirlington Rd, but they’re often pretty nasty. Taskings: Record the names and other data for all arriving and departing hikers. Provide light snacks and beverages. Point out the location of the bathroom, and (very importantly!) the start of the W&OD Trail (1 block north). If the hikers have never hiked this stretch before, go over the map with them. If necessary, make arrangements for pickups of exhausted hikers (be sure to notify the Bluemont Support Stop Chief that these people are dropping out!) Close-out Duties: When the Tail-End Charlies from the 40-to-50-Milers have passed your location, call the Acting Hike Coordinator to indicate that your location is officially closed. Also call the Bluemont Support Stop Chief and let them know how many hikers continued on from your stop (if it’s a small number, you may want to relay their names as well). Please complete the Operational Time Frame Tracking Sheet. If you placed any surveyor flags, please recover them. At that point you are free to leave. Cautionary Notes: This is a noisy and rather dirty location (lots of traffic and dust). It can also get cold quickly there after dark – though that shouldn’t be an issue. Nonetheless, be sure to dress very warmly if the weather is non-ideal. Parking is available in the area, but I recommend that you request permission to park in the service station lot. [Additional information concerning the Shirlington Waypoint is provided in the Support Stop Setup and Operations Guide.]

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