

Naperville Riverwalk
Saturday June 2, 2012
Check-in 8:30 am
(with advance registration)
Walk begins 10:00 am



Annual Walk for
Neurofibromatosis

NF Midwest
473 Dunham Rd., Ste. 3
St. Charles, IL 60174
630-945-3562 (ph)
greatsteps@nfmidwest.org
www.greatsteps.org

Naperville Walker Information

Get Motivated—Start Fundraising Now!

Thank you for showing your support by signing up to join in the 11th Annual **Great Steps for NF** walk. It's not just about enjoying the day with family and friends, it's also about the awareness and funds that are raised in the months and weeks before using the energy of your team. If you need advice, motivation or ideas we have people with experience that would love to help you, help the NF cause. Just give us a call!

How do I Fundraise? There are 3 easy ways:

Online Donations

Design an online fundraising page with your photos and a personal story at www.firstgiving.com/nf. Be sure to add your team name and number.

Send it to everyone you know!

Letter Writing/Donor Forms

Send out a letter along with a donor form and return envelope to family,

friends, co-workers, and classmates.

Go to your bank, insurance company, hair salon, mechanic, etc.

Hold a Fun Event

Some of our top teams are successful because they hold separate events to reach their fundraising goals. These are especially wonderful because they raise awareness. We've seen bowling nights, vendor nights, trivia nights, sock hops, fun fairs and more. Give us a call if you need an idea or need help with a creative one of your own.

Pledge Envelopes

Pledge envelopes work well door to door or take them to the office, school, etc. Call the office if you need one.

Special points of interest:

- One t-shirt will be given for every \$100 raised or for every person on the team if more than enough was raised. **Please, encourage EVERY member of your team to try and raise \$100.**
- Checks should be made payable to **NF Midwest**.
- Volunteers needed! Please sign up by May 19.
- Get the word out! Display a poster at your office or local business.
- The Naperville Riverwalk Grand Pavilion park area is available to Great Steppers throughout the day. You are welcome to stay and visit with other families after the event if you wish.



Fundraising Tips

- The main reason people donate is because they are asked! You are the key.
- **The goal is for each participant to raise at least \$200.** How can you do that? Here are 3 easy steps: start by sponsoring yourself for \$50, ask four family members to sponsor you for \$25, then ask five friends to donate \$10. How easy is that? Don't stop there! What about your boss, co-workers or local merchants? The possibilities are endless!
- Ask your employer about matching gifts. A form can be obtained from your Human Resources Department. Matching gifts must be secured by Thursday, May 31st to be eligible for prizes.
- You may photocopy the donor forms or go online to greatsteps.org to print more. Contact the NF office if you need them by mail.
- Enclosed is a sample letter that can be used or re-designed to fit your needs.
- Make sure your name and participant number are written on the donor forms. Donor forms are used to write "Thank You's" and for team/individual donation summaries.

Where does the money go?

All the money raised will help improve the lives of those affected by neurofibromatosis. We use the funds to support research studies, which have led to discoveries about not only NF, but also cancer and learning disabilities; and for programs of support and to raise awareness. Keep the hope alive for the one and one half million people challenged by NF!

Before the Walk

Additions to your Team?

It's easy to add more family/friends to your team. Have new team members fill out a registration form, sign the waiver and send it in or sign up online. One registration form per family. Feel free to photocopy the registration form or go to greatsteps.org for more.

Morning of the Walk

The entry to the parking lot is marked on the enclosed map. Signs and volunteers will direct you to the Grand Pavilion. Please let the volunteers know if you require any special assistance. The walk is wheelchair and scooter (if required for disability) friendly.

Early check-in starting at 8:30 a.m. is available for those who are registered in advance. Be sure to check-in to pick up a map and complimentary raffle tickets. Team Captains are responsible for picking up their team prizes.

Please note: T-shirts are available at the Grand Pavilion for everyone who has raised \$100.

Head over to the food tent to enjoy your free continental breakfast.

The walk will begin at 10:00 with Naperville Mayor George Pradel leading the way! The path is constructed mainly of brick pavers and the beautifully scenic route will take approximately one hour. (This of course depends on your speed.)

Walkers may be added to your team the day of the walk. The late registration fee will apply (\$25 per person). **Monies collected by late registrants cannot be added to your team total so be sure to have everyone register early!**

Help us go green! Candy is distributed at stations along the walk. In the past we have passed out plastic bags to collect those goodies. **Bring your reusable shopping bags or purchase an NF reusable bag for \$3.**

Time to Celebrate!

After the walk, please join us in celebrating our "Great Steps" for NF. At this time prizes will be given to the top 3 fundraisers. The top fundraising team receives a traveling plaque displaying all the previous top winners. Their name will be added to the group for 2012.

For those who enjoy having a little fun, we will be awarding a prize for that individual, family or team who displays the most creative accessory/costume to express themselves.

Be sure to stay and win some of the fantastic raffle prizes (must be present to win). There will be music, pizza, hot dogs, snacks, and more! Baskets will be raffled after the awards ceremony. Every participant has a chance to win. Tattoos and games are available for the young at heart.

Other Items to Note

- Foot traffic and strollers are allowed on the Riverwalk. Bicycles, roller skates, roller blades, scooters, etc. are prohibited except as required for a disability
- Parents should keep their children away from the edge of lower walks, off the railings and away from the banks of the waterways.
- **All pets must be on a leash at all times!**
- We will have volunteers along the walk with communication devices should you need assistance. Please note there will be no emergency services at the Grand Pavilion or along the walk.
- We will be walking rain or shine. Please dress accordingly. Use your best judgment in case of lightning.
- If you have ANY questions please give us a call at 630.945.3562 or drop an email to greatsteps@nfmidwest.org.
- **Please note: we will not be collecting cell phones or print cartridges this year.** You may drop them off at our office or we can provide you with a mailing sticker that can be attached to a box to be sent directly to Funding Factory at no cost to you (provided you drop it off at a UPS location). This fundraising through recycling is a great way to clean up our environment and help those affected by NF.
- **The city requires that any team tents set up at the walk must be secured with stakes.**

Donation Summaries

A summary of your Individual/Team donations will be sent to team captains periodically. As a team captain you are the liaison between the team and the NF office. Please update your team members of your fundraising success.

**Congratulations Team Doodle,
the 2011 Top Fundraising Team!**



**Don't forget to have a little fun
and accessorize! .**

