



Dear Confirmed Credit Union Cherry Blossom Entrant:

Only a few days remain until our 2026 Race Weekend! Get ready for a great run!



A Note on the Weather

Currently, the weather forecast is calling for warmer than average temperatures for this weekend. Though we are grateful for sunshine, we would like to pass along a few precautions to ensure optimal safety for all runners:

- Hydrate! Drink plenty of water and electrolytes prior to the race and while running.
- Wear loose and lightweight clothing to allow for breathability.
- Slow down and enjoy the sights along the route to keep your body from overheating.

Get the Race App!

Get all the race info right on your phone by downloading the CUCB Race App!

- Bib Number/Corral Lookup

- Runner Tracking
- Maps
- Expo Info
- Transportation Options
- and Much More

[Download CUCB Race App](#)

Take Metro to Expo and Both Races

Expo: Nearest Metro stop is Judiciary Square on the Red Line. Metro is open during all Expo hours.

5K: Metro opens at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 11. Nearest Metro stop is Pentagon City on the Yellow and Blue Lines.

10 Mile: Metro opens at 5:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 12 (thank you WMATA for the early opening on Sunday)! Show your support by taking the train. Nearest Metro stop is Smithsonian on the Blue, Orange and Silver Lines.



Use this handy [trip calculator](#) to see what time you need to board the trains. While at the Expo on Friday or Saturday, stop by the Metro booth and pick up a [commemorative Cherry Blossom fare card](#).

Need more transportation options? [Click Here!](#)

Attention 5K and Double Blossom Runners:

We wanted to make you aware that this year's start in Arlington, VA, will be narrower than in years past, and we will use a [wave start](#). Your corral assignment is based on the expected finish time you supplied on your entry form. Race organizers estimate it will take approximately 37 minutes to safely get all runners across the start line. Many of you will be able to cheer for the winners (please do!) as you prepare to start. Even with our cozy course, we anticipate a great Saturday morning full of the joy of running.

Packet Pick-up Options

Packet Pick-up at the Expo

HEALTH & FITNESS EXPO PRESENTED BY WEGMANS:

National Building Museum
401 F St. NW
Washington, DC 20001

Friday, April 10, 2026

1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
10 Mile, Double Blossom, 5K and Kids Run Pick-up
(Bib Pick-up closes at 7:45 pm)

Saturday, April 11, 2026

9:00 am – 5:00 pm
10 Mile Pick-up only
(Bib Pick-up closes at 4:45 pm)

Remember: *The Expo opens at 1:00 on Friday! We always find people outside the National Building Museum at 9:00 a.m. on Friday morning, setting themselves up for a long wait.*

Packet Pick-up at the 5K & Kids Run Staging Area

VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS PARK, ARLINGTON, VA:

Virginia Highlands Park
S. Joyce St. at 15th St.
Arlington, VA

Saturday, April 11, 2026

6:30 am – 7:45 am

(5K Packet Pick-up, Double Blossom Bib with only standard 10 Mile/5K shirt or 5K Upgrade Shirt Pick-up only)

Tip for Double Blossom participants: If you pick up your Double Blossom bib at the Expo on **Friday, April 10**, *you can pick up any shirts you ordered at the same time*. If you wait and pick up your packet at the 5K staging area in Arlington on **Saturday morning**, *you can only pick up your standard cotton t-shirt (or 5K upgrade shirt if you ordered one)*. If you ordered a 10 Mile or Double Blossom upgrade shirt you will need to go to the Expo at the National Building Museum to pick up those shirts after the 5K is over. *So Friday Packet Pick-up is suggested for any Double Blossom participant who ordered a 10 Mile or Double Blossom upgrade!*

8:15 am – 9:30 am

(Kids Run Packet Pick-up only)

[Click Here](#) for full Expo Details.

[Click Here](#) for the Packet Pick-up schedule for all races.

Speakers Program and Hands Only CPR Class at Expo (Saturday Only)

We have a great line-up of speakers at the Expo on Saturday April 11, headlined by the inspiring elite athlete **Keira D'Amato**, who took an eight-year hiatus from the sport before storming back to become an American recordholder; **Martinus Evans**, who proves that pace doesn't determine who belongs in the running space; our very own **CUCB Training Coaches**, who wrote the programs many of you have been following on our website; and **George Lane, DPM**, who will take you on a tour through the history of running shoes. [CLICK HERE](#) for the schedule and speaker details.

Schedule of Speakers

Plus, the Red Cross is offering a **Hands Only CPR Class** every hour. Learn how to save a life in just a few minutes! [Click Here](#) for all the details.

Red Cross CPR Class

Retire Your Old Running Shoes at the Expo

Bring your old running shoes to Packet Pick-up and drop them off at the booth at the Expo near the 10 Mile Packet Pick-up area. From there, our partner Potomac River Running will give them a new life. Shoe recycling is available at the Expo only, not on site at the 5K or 10 Mile. [Click Here](#) for details.

Tips from Runna by Strava

You're almost there. Here are top race week tips from [Runna](#), our Official Training Partner: keep runs short and easy with a few light strides to stay sharp, prioritize sleep, hydration, and carb intake in the days leading up, and start controlled on race day so you can build into a strong finish. See more [here!](#) ⚡

Reaching Us Between Now and Race Weekend

We will be making a gradual transition from the race office to the National Building Museum starting on Thursday. We strongly urge that people check the [Race Website](#) and [App](#), which provide answers for 99% of the questions that we receive on race weekend, a time when we are very busy.

Thursday, April 9:

The race information line at **301-320-3350** will **close at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 9**. We will reply to all recorded messages left before 5:00 p.m. on Thursday by 9:00 a.m. on Friday morning, and none thereafter.

Friday, April 10:

BY PHONE: The only way to reach us — for critical situations only — will be on the race hotline, **202-577-1108**. **The hotline will be monitored starting at 3:00 p.m. on Friday. Texting is the preferred method to reach us on the hotline** (so we don't have to write down any information you are sending us).

BY EMAIL: (info@cherryblossom.org): We will respond to emails received by Noon on Friday. **We will not respond to emails received after Noon on Friday.**

A note regarding emails: Only send emails to info@cherryblossom.org; do not send emails to multiple other addresses. If the same email is sent to multiple email addresses, we will not respond to it at all. **Remember: The race hotline 202-577-1108 will be staffed continuously starting at 3:00 p.m. Friday.**

Saturday, April 11:

The only way to reach us is on the race hotline at **202-577-1108 (texting preferred)**. We will not respond to emails.

Sunday, April 12:

The only way to reach us is on the race hotline at **202-577-1108 (texting preferred)**. We will not respond to emails.

REMEMBER: WE WILL NOT RESPOND TO EMAILS AFTER NOON on Friday. The ONLY way to reach us is on the hotline number listed above or by coming in person to the National Building Museum during the normal Expo hours. If you come to the Expo it is possible you may receive an answer that you do not like. You assume this risk in coming.

Our Most Frequently Asked Questions

Can I Pick up Another Runner's Packet? Yes, as long as you bring a note from that runner (a text will do) and ID for yourself to Packet Pick-up. **DO NOT HAVE YOUR**

FRIEND SEND THE TEXT AUTHORIZING SOMEONE ELSE TO PICK UP YOUR NUMBER TO US AT THE CREDIT UNION CHERRY BLOSSOM. THE RUNNER SHOULD SEND THE TEXT TO YOU, AND YOU SHOULD BRING IT TO PACKET PICK-UP! The person picking up does not have to be registered for the race.

I Didn't Get My Entry Confirmation. Look up your Bib Number on the [App](#) or [HERE](#).

Can I Still Order an Upgrade Shirt or a Medal? Not at this point, as these items are pre-ordered based on those who purchased them. However, if we have extras (we usually do) we will offer them for sale on the website by April 21.

There are no transfers, deferrals or refunds available at this time. It is strictly prohibited to run with someone else's bib number. If you give your bib to someone else, you and the person running with your bib may both be banned from the race for up to five years.

Want to Know More?

- Friend us on [Facebook](#)
- Follow us on [X](#)
- Follow us on [Instagram](#)
- Follow us on [TikTok](#)

Happy Miles!

Event Director Phil Stewart, Deputy Director Becky Lambros and the Entire Credit Union Cherry Blossom Organizing Committee

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www.cherryblossom.org

Please direct all inquiries to info@cherryblossom.org