

Thank you for registering to join us for what has become a late blast of winter running at [Rattlesnake Ridge Run!](#) Here are some important things we'd like you to know to help you and everyone else have a great event on these popular trails:

COURSE CONDITIONS AND REQUIRED GEAR FOR HALF MARATHON

Several inches of snow fell atop Rattlesnake Mountain over the past week, and runners can expect soft and slow footing for at least a couple miles from about mile 4 to mile 6 or 7 on the top of the ridge. We've laid some tracks while scouting and course marking, and of course the route will be very well marked, so navigation should not be an issue, but we expect times to be significantly slower. Please see [Wednesday's update](#) (which is still pretty accurate) on conditions and your options. **Half Marathon Runners are required to have a wind-resistant shell, a long-sleeve warm shirt (fleece, wool, or similar; no cotton), a warm hat or beanie, and a way to carry water.** We also strongly recommend long tights or pants, gloves, an emergency blanket, and a phone. If you have extras of any of these items and don't mind bringing them to loan, then it might help runners if any didn't get the word and are without the required gear. We'll transport warm-ups and any extra items from the start to the finish, where they'll be waiting for you in a covered area.

There is no snow on the trail for the 5-mile run or the final out-and-back of the Half Marathon.

DAY-OF-EVENT REGISTRATION

There will be event-day registration for both races: 5-mile and (very snowy) Half Marathon.

PARKING & DIRECTIONS

PLEASE CARPOOL IF POSSIBLE. Both Rattlesnake Lake and Snoqualmie Point Park are very popular trailheads, and parking will be in higher demand with our event.

Primary parking for both distances is at the cluster of parking lots at Rattlesnake Lake Recreation Area and, for Discover Pass holders, at the WA State Parks Palouse to Cascades trailhead parking. Please park in the State Park lot if possible, in order to take pressure off parking for other users hiking to Rattlesnake Ledge. Half Marathon runners also have the option of coordinating with a friend to do a car shuttle or getting dropped off directly at the remote Half Marathon check-in and start location at [the Rattlesnake Mountain trailhead near Snoqualmie Point Park](#).

Check-in and start for the 5-mile and the finish for both distances is across the road from the picnic and beach area at Rattlesnake Lake. [Here is a map of the check-in and start location](#) that you can use for directions to Rattlesnake Lake. Depending on your carrier, you may not have cell reception at or while approaching the park. Check our [website](#) ahead of time for written directions.

SHUTTLE FOR HALF MARATHON RUNNERS

IMPORTANT for Rattlesnake Ridge Half Marathon runners: A shuttle bus will take runners that paid for bus transport from near the finish at Rattlesnake Lake to the start near Snoqualmie Point Park. **As a COVID-19 safety measure, please wear a mask for the duration of the ~20 minute shuttle bus ride.** If you did not sign up for the shuttle bus but would like to ride, please bring \$10 cash or check, and you can be seated as long as space is available.

COURSE INFORMATION

5-MILE RUN: From the start at Rattlesnake Lake, the course crosses Cedar Falls Road (cross when directed by event staff), turns right to connect to the Palouse to Cascades Trail toward Snoqualmie Pass, reaches the turn-around point at the halfway mark, then returns to the finish at Rattlesnake Lake via the same route.

Elevation gain: about 245 feet.

HALF MARATHON: Runners will start at the Rattlesnake Mountain trailhead by Snoqualmie Point Park, traverse the entire length of the Rattlesnake Ridge Trail, do 2.5 miles out and back on the Palouse to Cascades Trail, and return to finish at Rattlesnake Lake.

Elevation gain: about 2900 feet.

WEATHER

The forecast is for cloudy skies with a chance of showers starting around noon. Temperatures at the start will be in the upper 30s or low 40s, warming slightly to the still-chilly mid-40s by the finish. Half Marathon runners will experience temperatures around freezing on the ridge, with fairly calm air to moderate winds later. We will transport any drop bags or extra clothing for Half Marathon runners from the start to the finish, where we will have a tent and tarp for your items. 5-mile runners are also welcome to stash drop bags here.

COVID-19 SAFETY

Please review and observe the simple [safety measures on the website](#). In general, masks are only required for vaccinated people on the half marathon shuttle bus and are advised if/when you are in close proximity to others for an extended period of time.

SCHEDULE, SATURDAY APRIL 16

HALF MARATHON

7:00am – Shuttle departs Rattlesnake Lake for Snoqualmie Point Park

7:00am-7:50am – Check-in/number pick-up at Snoqualmie Point Park

7:20am – Shuttle arrives at start at Snoqualmie Point Park

7:50am – Pre-race briefing

8:00am – Half Marathon Start

12:40pm – Course closes

5-MILE

8:15am – 9:15am – Check-in at Rattlesnake Lake

9:20am – Pre-race briefing

9:30am – 5 mile Start at Rattlesnake Lake

12:00pm – Course closes

See you tomorrow morning!

The Northwest Trail Runs team