

MONOCACY MIDDLE SCHOOL TO MONOCACY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND BEYOND

By Marylou Stone

Have you ever wanted to walk on a rain filled dreary day but did not want to get your feet muddy? Or how about looking for a place where you could put the kids in a stroller and just walk with little effort. Then you need to check this trail.

You can start either at Monocacy Middle School or Monocacy Elementary School. I am a creature of habit and always start at number 1 on the map at the middle school. The trail parallels Opossumtown Pike for a short distance crossing over a bridge. Then it bears to the left back through the field. This part of the trail is a concrete sidewalk. The trail will then turn to the left towards the elementary school. This part of the trail is asphalt. The trail continues to the parking lot of the elementary school which is number 2 on the map. This is four tenths of a mile. If you turn around and go back to the start, you will have walked approximately eight tenths of a mile.

If you want to make a loop continue through the parking lots and take the short trail to Hayward Road. Turn left on Hayward Road and continue to Opossumtown Pike where you will make another left and return to the middle school. This loop is approximately 1 mile.

This loop has very few trees to shade the trail but I did enjoy it. I walked it early one spring morning when it was raining. I spotted several squirrels and one ground hog. It was also the height of spring migration for birds. I was thrilled to spot a Scarlet Tanager and several Yellow Rumped Warblers. I also spotted a flock of Robins on the soccer field that one could easily imagine were lining up to play a game. Other birds spotted were the Northern Cardinal, Chickadee, Catbird, Chipping Sparrow, House Sparrow, House Wren, and a Blue Jay.

