Delaware Senior Olympics Walk Delaware Program Walking Tips

Preparation:

- 1. Plan your daily non-stop walk—route/location, distance, time, speed
- 2. Carry identification and cell phone or enough cash for a phone call if necessary
- 3. Inform a friend or neighbor of your walking plan and location—in case of an emergency
- 4. When possible, walk with someone—it's fun and keeps you motivated.
- 5. Wear good walking shoes, socks, and comfortable clothing.
- 6. Fill up your water bottle and stay hydrated—before, during, and after your walk.
- 7. In inclement weather, walk indoors—the mall, a community center, gym, or treadmill at home.

The Walk:

- 1. Begin with some slow walking and stretching to loosen up the joints and warm the muscles
- 2. Begin walking at a moderate pace before walking briskly
- 3. Always walk facing traffic when walking on a road
- 4. Pace yourself. You should be able to carry on a full conversation while walking
- 5. Watch for any warning signs—stop and get help if necessary
- 6. Enjoy the walk, breathe fresh air, socialize with friends...have fun!

After the Walk:

- 1. Cool down do some stretching and relax
- 2. Drink an extra glass of water stay hydrated
- 3. Log the day and distance in your log sheet

Delaware Senior Olympics Walk Delaware Program

Thanks to the support of our sponsors, the Delaware Senior Olympics is proud to provide this Log Book for your use in our Walk Delaware Program.

If you have been inactive and/or have pre-existing health conditions, obtain your doctor's approval before starting a fitness program. If you are a new walker, it may take several weeks before developing the strength and stamina to walk up to a mile per day. Don't get discouraged. Walking just 5 minutes per day, 5 times per week is a great way to get started. Gradually add a few minutes each week to your daily walk. It is important to increase walking time before increasing walking speed. To obtain the optimum fitness benefits of walking, walk non-stop aerobically (60% of your maximum heart rate) for 20—30 minutes 3 or more times per week. Make walking a part of your everyday lifestyle and stay fit for life!

Whether you are a new or experienced walker, develop a walking plan and set a goal. For more information, see the last page in this log.

For more information on the Delaware Senior Olympics, please visit our website www.delawareseniorolympics.org. Or, call the DSO office at 302-736-5698 or 888-881-6128.

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