



2015 Race Numbers

- More than 27,680 runners are registered, the largest field in its history (up from 27,390 in 2014).
- This is the 38th annual race
- More than 70 charities benefit from the race, 40 of which are official charities of the Marathon (in the past two years alone the event has raised over \$5M and on pace to raise another \$1.5M+ this year)
- The race relies on more than 3,000 volunteers to help throughout the weekend to make it a success
- Economic impact to the city of Detroit is estimated at over \$5M
- Talmer Bank has been the co-title sponsor for the past five years. Other major sponsors include Metro Detroit Chevy Dealers (Half Marathon sponsor); New Balance (official race gear); American Home Fitness (5K sponsor); Powers Distributing/Miller Beer (official beer sponsor); Detroit Medical Center (race medical team); Meijer (Kids Fun Run).

Detroit Free Press Marathon Fun Facts

- This is the largest race event in the state of Michigan.
- Runners from 50 states, 9 Canadian province and 19 countries are registered. The furthest country represented is Australia. And the most common country, other than the U.S. and Canada, is Great Britain.
- It is the ninth oldest consecutively run marathon in the U.S.
- Detroit Free Press/Talmer Bank Marathon is the only race to cross international borders twice – the Ambassador Bridge and Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. Also the only marathon with an “underwater mile” with is the Tunnel under the Detroit River.
- Four men – Mark Bauman, Terry Elsey, Garry Watson and Ed Yee – have run every Detroit Free Press Marathon and will run again this year.

2015 Event Details

Friday, Oct. 16	
Health and Fitness Expo Friday, 2-8 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.	The Expo, which is open to the public, will host approximately 100 exhibitors at Cobo Center and will provide the opportunity to see the latest in running gear and technology, and buy 2015 Marathon gear. Race participants also pick up their packets at the Expo.
Saturday, Oct. 17	
American Home Fitness 5k 9 a.m.	This event Saturday morning takes runners through the Rivertown Warehouse District and around the Detroit RiverWalk before finishing outside of the DNR Outdoor Adventure Center.
Meijer Kids Fun Run 10:30 a.m.	Kids ages four through 12 can participate in this one-mile fun run/walk on the Detroit RiverWalk. Starting and finishing at the 5K's finish line.
Sunday, Oct. 18	
Disabilities Division 6:58 a.m.	In this event, handcycle and pushrim participants navigate the half- or full marathon course.
Full Marathon 7 a.m.	The 26.2-mile course offers international appeal, traversing downtown Detroit and Windsor, crossing the border at the Ambassador Bridge and Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. Starting and finishing on W. Fort St. at Cass, runners trek through historic neighborhoods, around beautiful Belle Isle and along the spectacular RiverWalk. There is a slightly updated course this year, with a new start/finish line.
Marathon Relay 7 a.m.	Teams of three to five runners will cover the entire 26.2 mile distance. Each runner will run designated legs of three to seven mile starting and finishing on W. Fort St. at Cass throughout the course.
Metro Detroit Chevy Dealers International Half Marathon 7 a.m.	The international half marathon runs the first half of the full marathon course, ending back at the W. Fort St. and Cass finish line.
Metro Detroit Chevy Dealers U.S. Half Marathon 10:30 a.m.	The U.S.-only course takes place on the back half of the Marathon, starting at W. Congress near Bates St. and finishing at the same location as the full and international half marathon runners.



Conquered Afterparty 8 a.m.-2 p.m.	Participants and friends and family are invited to celebrate the event with live entertainment, official gear and great food at the Conquered Afterparty on Lafayette between Cass and Washington.
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Course Records

Male – 1980, Greg Meyer, from Boston, 2:13:07

Female – 2004, Elena Orlova, from Russia, 2:34:16

Accolades/Awards

- *Marathon & Beyond* magazine has included Detroit in its ranking of the Top 25 finisher medals for North American marathons five years in a row.
- *Competitor* magazine has included Detroit when picking its 26 most memorable miles from marathons across the country. The magazine called the mile over the bridge as the “more scenic,” but the mile through the tunnel the “more memorable.”
- Rodale publishing, parent of *Runner’s World* magazine, has selected Detroit as one of its 10 best events for first-time marathoners.
- The 2013 Detroit Free Press/Talmer Bank Marathon received the Governor’s Fitness Award for Extraordinary Event/Organization.

Detroit Free Press/Talmer Bank Marathon History

- 1963 – The Marathon started as the Motor City Marathon.
- 1978 – The Detroit Free Press acquires the Marathon. (Making this the 38th annual Free Press Marathon.)
- 1998 – A relay category was added to the race.
- 1999 – The Ambassador Bridge was first added to the race course in 1999. Before that, runners only ran through the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel.
- 1999 – The Marathon finished in Tiger Stadium.
- 2002 – Handcycles were added to the Marathon.
- 2004 – A half-marathon category was added to the race.
- 2002-2006 - The Marathon finished in Ford Field.
- 2010 – Talmer Bank signs on as co-title sponsor.
- 2014 – The 5K category was moved to Saturday and a Kids Fun Run category was added.
- 2015 – The Marathon celebrates its highest registration numbers yet.