

The Stow Minutemen to Re-enact Original Massachusetts Patriots' Day "Marathon" Monday April 15, 2024 4:30am-Noon

STOW, MASS.—The Stow Minuteman Company will once again march along the 9.5 mile route taken by the Stow colonial militia in April of 1775 upon hearing the news that the British Regulars were marching on Concord. The pre-dawn Trail March muster starts at 4:15am at the Stow Lower Village Shopping Center. The music and marching begins promptly at 4:30am when the air is crisp and all is quiet (but not for long.) The Company will march in step to its own colonial fife and drum music while the sounds of musket volleys raise the alarm with the townsfolk along the way. At around 9:00am the Trail March will end at the Minuteman National Park North Bridge Visitors Center where the Company will join Concord's Parade. This annual Stow Minutemen Company Trail March is a rain or shine event.

Please come out and join us in this truly unique experience to honor our community (past and present) on Patriots' Day. Non-Company participants (children MUST be accompanied and supervised by an adult) may fall in behind the Company column for the march at their own discretion. [The Stow Minutemen do not actively organize, supervise, or chaperone non-Company marchers so the participation liability rests solely with the participant.] We encourage all non-Company marchers to bring water and snacks. There are three short breaks along the route with an extended breakfast break at the Rideout Playground in Concord (7:00am). Limited bus transportation may be available back to Stow after the Concord parade but please contact us if you desire to use that option.

The Stow Minutemen Company is always looking for new members (men and women) to join our ranks as musket militia, musicians, craftsmen, artisans, or general camp followers. We can provide limited clothing pieces for anyone wanting to try out the hobby. We also provide free fife and drum lessons for adults and kids and 1764 Manual of Arms musket instruction for those who can obtain a Massachusetts Firearms Identification (FID) card.

For more information on the Trail March, e-mail us at <u>info@stowminutemen.org</u> or call us at 978-206-1775. You may also find more information about the Stow Minuteman Company at <u>www.stowminutemen.org</u>.

Stow Minutemen to Re-enact the Country's Original Marathon on Patriots' Day

The 2024 schedule for the annual Trail March is as follows:

- 4:15 Muster at the Stow Shopping Center (near Papa Gino's)
- 4:20 Musket safety inspection
- 4:30 Step Off
- 4:35 Volley at Old Cemetery Pompositticut Rd. & Great Road (Rt. 117)*
- 4:35 March up Pompositticut Rd. into Maynard becomes Summer St.
- 5:08 Left onto Concord St. in Maynard
- 5:15 Meet Assabet Village Minute Men at Concord St. and Acton St. (Rt. 27); 5 minute break; volley fired*
- 5:20 Cross Rt. 27 on Concord St., heading for Acton
- 5:36 Enter Acton; continue on Parker St.
- 5:45 Cross High St. in Acton; follow Parker Street to end
- 6:10 Brief stop at Cucurbit Farm (5 minute necessary break)
- 6:15 Depart Cucurbit Farm and continue down Parker Street
- 6:22 Right turn onto School Street
- 6:30 Continue straight on to Laws Brook Road
- 6:45 Pass Hillside Ave (it gets hilly here)
- 7:00 Arrive at Rideout Playground (food and necessary break)
- 7:20 Depart Rideout Playground
- 7:40 Through the Concord Rotary, and march on Barrett's Mill Road
- 8:05 Brief stop at Col. Barrett's house (necessary break)
- 8:15 Depart Col. Barrett's house
- 8:35 Cross Lowell St. onto Barnes Hill Rd. (this is our "Heartbreak Hill")
- 8:55 Arrive at North Bridge Visitors Center, Minuteman National Park
- 9:00 Commemoration of battle at Old North Bridge
- 9:15-9:45 Join parade as it passes through the Park (scheduled to reach North Bridge at 9:30)
- 11:00-11:15 Parade end at Armory (Hunt's Gym) on Stow St.

Total Trail March distance: approx. 9.5 miles (11 including the parade)

* (Items above in bold are prime locations to get good photographs of Company)

The Stow Minutemen are always looking for new members to join our ranks! If you are interested either reach out to <u>info@stowminutemen.org</u> or see our web site for more information about the group: <u>http://www.stowminutemen.org</u>.

Map of the route: <u>https://goo.gl/maps/ezQJ86Kh9Vr</u>