



Participant Guide

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Walk Kansas

March 28 – May 22, 2021

Welcome to Walk Kansas!

We have all been through a very challenging year. K-State Research and Extension has adapted, as you have, to new ways of working, learning and thriving. We will do our best to help you have fun, during Walk Kansas, while being active and learning about the many ways regular movement improves your health.

Through Walk Kansas this year, we will highlight how physical activity plays an important role in managing, delaying and even preventing some types of chronic disease. Specifically, we will explore mental health, heart disease, osteoporosis, Alzheimer's, obesity, arthritis, diabetes and cancer.

Walk Kansas is primarily a team-based program, meaning that you are part of a 4 to 6 member team that selects a goal and then supports one another during the 8-week program. This year, we are also offering a "solo" option for those who prefer to participate on their own.

Each team will select a challenge to work toward from these options:

Challenge 1: Discover the *8 Wonders of Kansas!* This journey requires each person to get 2 ½ hrs of moderate activity per week.

Challenge 2: Go *Cross Country* from Troy (NE) to Elkhart (SW), which requires 4 hrs of activity per person/week.

Challenge 3: *Little Balkans to Nicodemus* – a trail that takes you through SE Kansas and then up to Nicodemus with interesting stops along the way. This requires 6 hrs of activity per person/week.

During Walk Kansas, you log minutes of moderate/vigorous activity which converts to Walk Kansas miles (15 minute = 1 mile). For a complete description activities and counting steps, check your [Activity Guide](#).

Take the first step – register for Walk Kansas!

To register online at www.walkkansasonline.org

If you have a team, wait for your captain to register the team online. You will receive a message by email asking you to complete registration and give your consent to participate. Your captain will be responsible for paying fees for the entire team, so make sure you reimburse your captain for your \$10 registration fee.

If you don't have a team, and would like to join one, go online and register as an individual. The Extension office will connect you with a team that has similar goals. If you prefer to go solo (not be on a team) select the "solo" option when you register.

Register with paper forms:

Complete the registration form provided by your captain. Return it, along with payment for the \$10 program fee. You can log your minutes of activity online at walkkansasonline.org or use a paper log.

Important dates:

March 28 – Go! Log exercise minutes and cups of fruits/vegetables

April 2 – Registration closes

April 12 – Last day to order Walk Kansas apparel

May 22 – Walk Kansas wraps up!

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Walk Kansas

Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment
Station and Cooperative Extension Service

K-State Research and Extension is an equal
opportunity provider and employer.

Apparel Orders for 2021

The process for ordering t-shirts, and other apparel, has changed. After you complete registration, you can log in to your portal. On the purple bar at the top, click on the “Shop” button. This will take you to our apparel vendor site, www.shopwalkkansas.com and you can place your order. Unlike previous years, you will be required to pay shipping and the items will be shipped directly to you. Please note the dates for placing orders.

Healthy Eating is Important

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), only 10% of Kansans eat enough fruits and vegetables. While recommendations vary based on age and gender, most adults need 1½ to 2 cups of fruit and 2 to 3 cups of vegetables each day. We ask you to log the cups of fruits and vegetables you eat each day as a way to help you increase that amount and we know that fruit and vegetable consumption in Kansas increases during this program! Our goal is to help you make this a lifestyle habit. Check your newsletter each week for tips on increasing your fruits and vegetables plus other healthy eating strategies – including a tasty recipe!

Report/Log online:

Once your team is “ready” (all members have an account and have paid) you will see this “Dashboard” where you log minutes, etc., and chat with your team. **Along the top horizontal purple bar:** Click on “Events” to see what is happening in your community; “Resources” is where you will find program newsletters and other information; “Shop” is where you can purchase merchandise.

On the bottom purple bar -- See your welcome message, team name, and group (county). After you enter your activity minutes (*the system automatically converts your minutes into miles*), click on the “See Your Map” icon to find a map of Kansas with your challenge trail displayed. Here you will unlock points of interest on the trail and learn more about our great state. Click “Team Chat” to communicate with team members and check just under the purple bar for posts from your chat group. “My Team” shows all of your teammates and “Log History” shows what you have logged for activity, fruits and vegetables, etc. **Earn badges** along the way for activity, logging, reading, and more!!

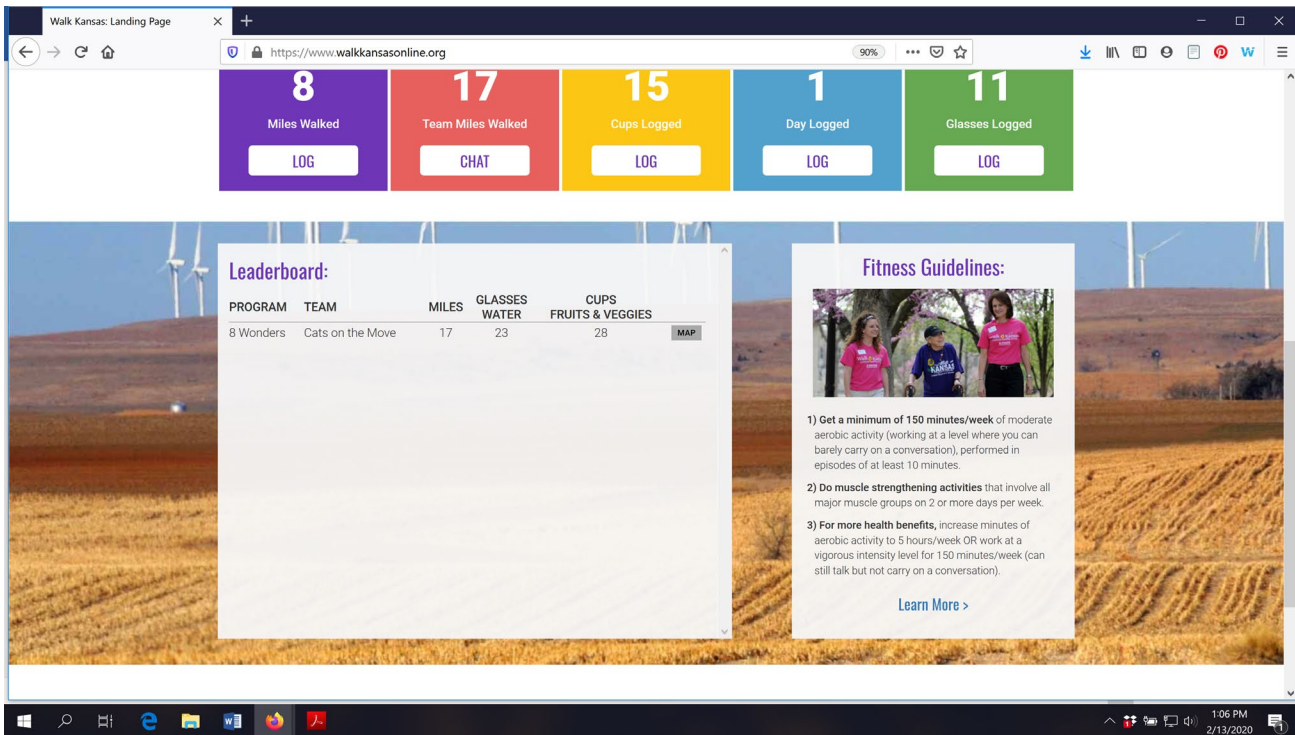
To log your progress: In the **purple box**, log your minutes of activity – the system will calculate into miles. (Read the [Activity Guide](#) to know what counts); the **red box** displays the total miles your team was walked and this also takes you to the “team chat” page; record cups of fruits and vegetables in the **yellow box**. If you do strengthening exercises that day, click “log” in the **blue box**; the **green box** is where you can log the number of 8 oz. glasses of water you drink.

The screenshot shows the Walk Kansas online dashboard for user Willie. The page is titled "Walk Kansas" and includes a navigation bar with "Dashboard", "Events", "Resources", "Shop", and "New Program Sign Up". The user's name "Willie" is displayed, along with their county/group "Kansas County" and team "Cats on the Move". The dashboard features several key metrics and actions:

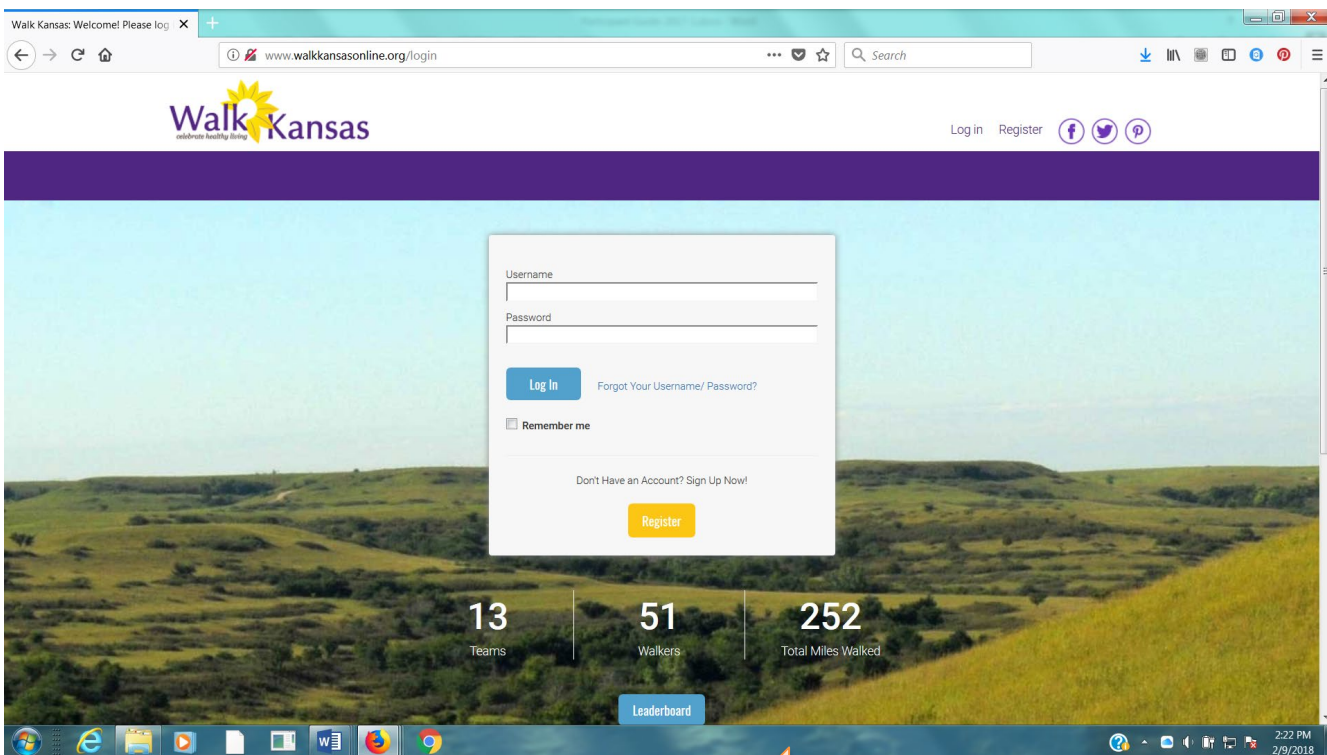
- Miles Walked:** 8 (Purple box with "LOG" button)
- Team Miles Walked:** 17 (Red box with "CHAT" button)
- Cups Logged:** 15 (Yellow box with "LOG" button)
- Day Logged:** 1 (Blue box with "LOG" button)
- Glasses Logged:** 11 (Green box with "LOG" button)

Additional information includes a "Your Challenge(s): 8 Wonders" section, a notification "You have unlocked 1 of 29 points of interest!", and a "Log History" section showing activity for multiple dates. The bottom of the page shows the Windows taskbar with the date 2/13/2020 and time 12:10 PM.

If you scroll down the page, you will see a white “Leaderboard” box. This is where other teams from your community will appear along with their progress. You can also stay connected with other participants through our Facebook page. Like *Kansas State University Walk Kansas* on Facebook.



You can see how all teams in your community and across Kansas are doing by going to the “Leaderboard” located on the login page, www.walkkansasonline.org. Click on the **blue Leaderboard box** at the bottom of this screen.



We have an app!

The Walk Kansas app is free and you can download it from the App Store. The app is available only in iOS format for iPhone and iPad. Watch for the Android version in the future!

You **cannot** register through the app so wait until your account is set up online first. Then, you can access all of your information and log minutes, etc.

The Walk Kansas app will sync with fitness trackers. However, if you have a Fitbit you will need to download *Fitbit to Apple Health Sync* (\$5.99) for this data transfer.

Using the Walk Kansas app:

- Before you use the app make sure your team is created online, that you have selected a challenge (from the 3 available), and make sure that logging is ready to go and that your team is ready. You may want to test this online first to make sure you can log minutes.
- When you open the app for the first time, you'll see a splash screen that tells you to login with the username and password you created on the WK website. When you close this screen you will see some login fields.
- After you login, the default screen should be the log activity screen; click "new log" and have at it!
- To edit an existing log just click the row you want to edit.
- All data entered through the app will transfer to the web and vice versa.

