

## 22ND ANNUAL CARLISLE FAMILY YMCA

# COUCH TO 5K WALK TRAINING SCHEDULE 

PLEASE NOTE: To participate in this Couch to 5 K walk training program, you should have no major health problems and be in reasonably good health. Discuss this program with you doctor if you have any doubts about your health prior to starting. (Adapted from Hal Higdon's 8-K Training Guide)

| DAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| WEEK \# | SEPT 29 | SEPT 30 | OCT 1 | OCT 2 | OCT 3 | OCT 4 | OCT 5 |

Friday: Rest or walk. Use this day of rest if you experience any fatigue, or if your leg muscles are sore after your longer walks on Wednesday \& Thursday. If you're not sore or feeling tired, take a nice relaxing walk, but don't push it.
Saturday \& Monday: Many training programs have a 48-hour break between bouts of hard exercise, so it's time to train again. In this 8-week program, begin by walking 15 minutes at a comfortable pace. Every other week, add another 5 minutes. By increasing gradually, you should be able to improve your walking ability without discomfort or risk of injury.
Sunday: Rest or walk. Hard/easy is a common pattern in most training plans.
You train hard to exercise your muscles, then rest to give them time to recover. You might want to take today off, but if yesterday's walk went well, feel free to walk again, regardless of distance.
Tuesday: Another rest day. You need to make sure your muscles are well rested so you can train hard on Wednesday \& Thursday.

Wednesday: Wednesday workouts are in miles rather than minutes. This is to give you an idea of how much distance you can cover over a specific period of time as well as to give you confidence in your ability to walk a 5K ( 3.1 miles). Thursday: At least one day a week, it's a good idea to go for a long walk without worrying about exactly how much distance you cover. For instance, walk in the woods over unmeasured trails. Some people may be able to walk continuously for an hour at least once a week, even if it means walking very slowly or pausing to rest. If walking an hour seems too difficult the first week, start with 30 minutes. Add 5 minutes each week until you can walk continuously for 60 minutes.
PLEASE NOTE: Depending on your own particular schedule, you may want to juggle workouts, substituting one day's workout for another. It doesn't matter much on which day you do specific workouts as long as you are consistent with your training.

