

A Walker's Guide to Rossmoor

By Peggy Spear
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With the golf courses no longer open full-time to walkers, we cast an eye around the valley for other good walking routes.

Walkers don't have to go the entire distance, but these routes will offer some great opportunities for exercise. Some are easy strolls, others require a few more leg muscles. Many may require an awareness of traffic – both cars and golf carts – while others will have sidewalks on only one side of the road. All walks require proper 6-foot social distancing.

When on the sidewalk, residents should not step into the street to avoid oncoming people, because this could put them in the path of an oncoming vehicle. Instead, county public health officials recommend carrying a face covering that can be donned when 6 feet of distance cannot be maintained while passing other walkers.



TICE CREEK TO AVENIDA SEVILLA HIKE

Terrain: Mostly flat and paved
Distance: 1.4 miles
Going southwest on Tice Creek Drive, this relatively flat walk passes Fairway Park and ends at Bird Watchers Park. It also requires caution when passing the entries, but the sidewalk on the left side of the street affords some nice views of the golf course and benches on which to rest. Parking is ample.

CREEKSIDE-GATEWAY LOOP

Terrain: Flat and paved
Distance: 1.6 miles
This flat but somewhat lengthy neighborhood walk will circle from the Creekside Grill and the Golf Pro Shop, north up Stanley Dollar Drive to Tice Creek Drive. Turn right – watching for cars exiting and entering the entries – and walk up past Gateway. Turn right down Golden Rain Road but be careful of cars turning left into the parking lot.
Follow Golden Rain back down to Rossmoor Parkway, keeping on the right sidewalk, and enjoy the open space right before the pickleball courts. Parking is ample on Stanley Dollar Drive.

GOLDEN RAIN LOOP

Terrain: Mix of flat and hills; paved
Distance: 1.2 miles
Walkers will find easy flat stretches and more challenging hills in this walk circling of Lower and Upper Golden Rain Road, bisected at the top by Skycrest Drive. Sidewalks vary, so take care when crossing the streets, and be aware of vehicles entering and exiting the entries. Parking is ample.

REDWOOD GROVE STROLL

Terrain: Combines steep hill, paved sidewalk and dirt trail at grove
Distance: 0.6 miles
Start in the parking lot at Gateway. Cross in the crosswalk across Tice Valley Boulevard and head up the fairly steep hill on Oakmont Drive. Luckily, it levels off to a gentle incline. Go up Rockledge Drive on the left and Oakmont Way on the right. Opposite Entry 9 on the left side is a small grove of redwood trees.
There is a short, single track switch-back trail just off the street that leads into the grove. There are benches throughout the cathedral-like space that is Rossmoor's miniature version of Muir Woods. Walkers can return to Gateway by retracing their steps, or by making a loop down Oakmont Way to Golden Rain Road, turning right toward Gateway.

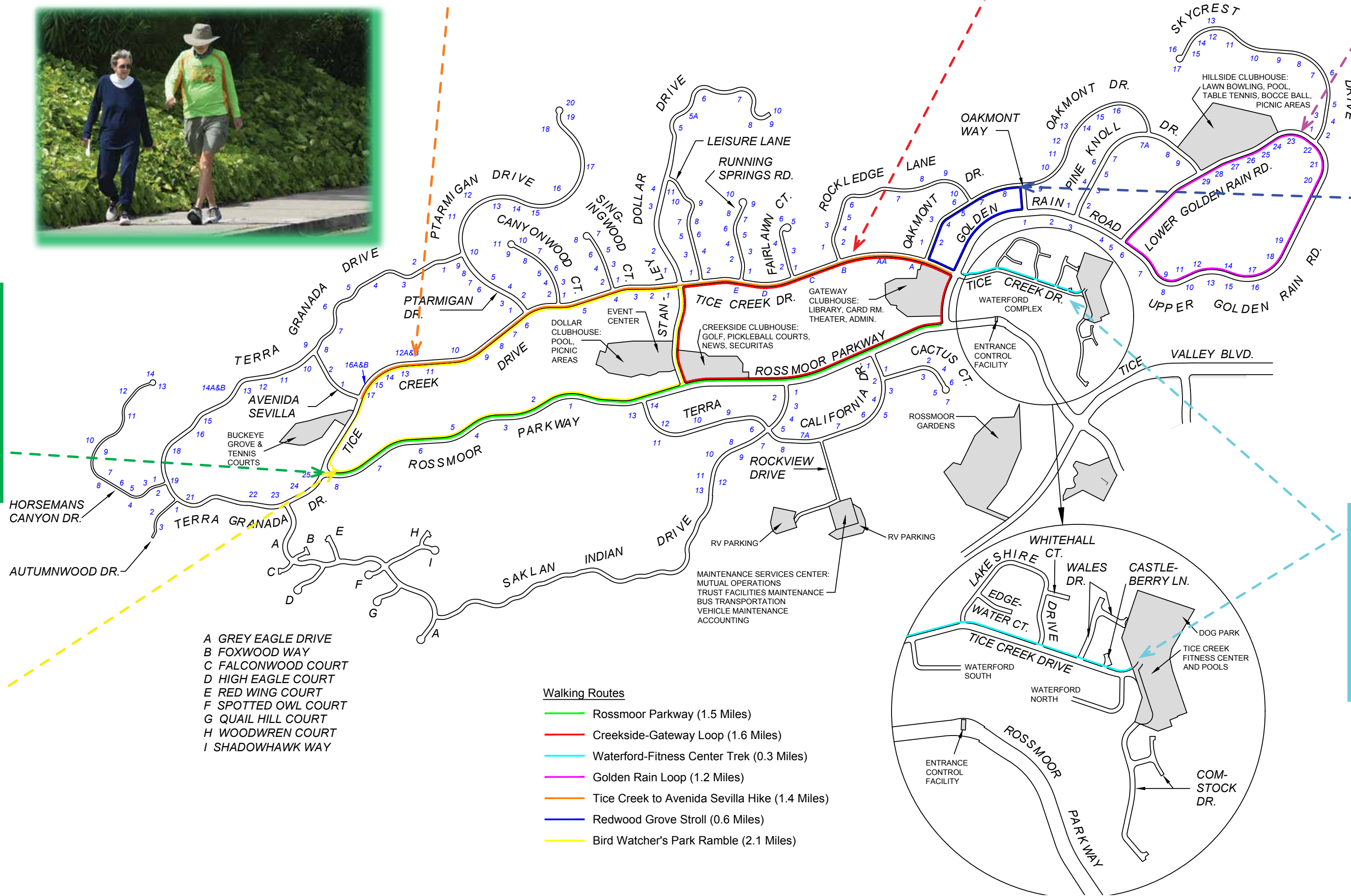
ROSSMOOR PARKWAY

Terrain: Flat and paved
Distance: 1.5 miles
This is probably one of the most popular walking routes in the community. Walkers can start anywhere they like, as parking is ample. But be sure to stay on the northern side of the road on the sidewalk. The open space near Creekside is a popular place to spy families of deer this time of year but beware of cranky wild turkeys.

BIRD WATCHER'S PARK RAMBLE

Terrain: Hills at start and finish, paved
Distance: 2.1 miles
Start in the parking lot at Creekside. Turn right onto Stanley Dollar Drive and head to Tice Creek Drive, then turn left. This is a very challenging hill, but it doesn't last forever. Those with limitations might want to drive up the hill and park on Tice Creek Drive.

The walk south on Tice Creek Drive provides an overview of several holes on the golf course, a pocket park opposite Canyonwood Court and Ptarmigan Drive, and a shady path – and bench-filled pocket park, Birdwatcher's Park – along Tice Creek Drive, opposite Avenida Sevilla and just before the Buckeye tennis courts. The street has sidewalks on both sides and for courageous walkers unafraid to brave the hill opposite the tennis courts, the sidewalk continues around the Stanley Dollar course back to Creekside.



- A GREY EAGLE DRIVE
- B FOXWOOD WAY
- C FALCONWOOD COURT
- D HIGH EAGLE COURT
- E RED WING COURT
- F SPOTTED OWL COURT
- G QUAIL HILL COURT
- H WOODWREN COURT
- I SHADOWHAWK WAY

- Walking Routes**
- Rossmoor Parkway (1.5 Miles)
 - Creekside-Gateway Loop (1.6 Miles)
 - Waterford-Fitness Center Trek (0.3 Miles)
 - Golden Rain Loop (1.2 Miles)
 - Tice Creek to Avenida Sevilla Hike (1.4 Miles)
 - Redwood Grove Stroll (0.6 Miles)
 - Bird Watcher's Park Ramble (2.1 Miles)

OTHER WALKING TRAILS IN ROSSMOOR

Last month, Landscape Manager Rebecca Pollon offered guides to some of the other walking trails.

Find the full guides on RossmoorNews.com for the April 1, 8, 15 and 22 editions on the second to last page of the A section.

A few are included here:

• **The Labyrinth** – On the eastern hillside just off Saklan Indian Drive is this Rossmoor favorite. The entrance to the Labyrinth is about a half mile from Rossmoor Parkway and Saklan Indian Drive. The entrance is on the right, where there is a paved fire road. Follow the signs to the unique rock sculpture under the oak tree.

• **Buckeye Grove Walking Trail** – Located between the Buckeye tennis courts parking lot and the courts themselves, this a flat, easy short walk that affords scenic views of Buckeye Trees. Parking is ample.

• **Fairway Park Walking Trail** – The park at the corner of Tice Creek and Canyonwood Drive features a very short and

easy walk with views over the golf course and benches to rest on. Street parking is available.

• **Rotary Peace Park Walking Trail** – Steep in sections, this park at the corner of Avenida Sevilla and Tice Creek has a grove of crabapple trees and views over the golf course. Park along Tice Creek.

• **Berm Park Walking Trail** – Spanning between the Tice Creek and Golden Rain Road intersection to Golden Rain Road Entry 1, this easy trail through the park features benches and plenty of flowers, including an Iris test garden that is best visited in May. Parking is available on the street and the Gateway parking lot.

