



**Become a NorWALKer!**

**EXPLORE THE JEFFERSON SCHOOL NEIGHBORHOOD**

Enjoy the view from one of the highest points in town.

**Loop 1**

Start at the parking lot on Van Buren Ave., next to Jefferson Science Magnet School. Turn right out of the parking lot onto Van Buren Ave. Turn right up Bedford Ave. Turn left on Prospect St., heading toward Norwalk Hospital. Then, turn right on Maple St. Turn right on Fairview Ave. Turn right on Dover St. Turn right on Prospect St. Turn left on Bedford Ave. Turn left on Van Buren Ave and return to the parking lot to end your walk.



**PROCEED WITH CAUTION WHEN FOLLOWING NORWALKER ROUTES!**

The *Healthy for Life Project* is not responsible for any injuries or accidents that may occur while following NorWALKer routes. Consult your doctor before beginning an exercise program. Use pedestrian crosswalks when available, obey all traffic laws, and if no sidewalks exist, walk against traffic. Wear proper footwear and reflective gear, and bring water with you while walking. Have fun!

**JEFFERSON SCHOOL NEIGHBORHOOD**

(The landmarks listed below are located in this neighborhood but not necessarily along the NorWALKer Route.)

**JEFFERSON SCHOOL** was named after the third president of the United States, Thomas Jefferson. He was not only the author of the Declaration of Independence, he also signed it. Jefferson was a diplomat, a political thinker, a musician, and an architect. As president, he bought what was called the “Louisiana Purchase”, which doubled the size of the United States.

**GRANDVIEW AVENUE**—The reason for this street’s name will become obvious once you reach the top of the hill! You can see almost all of the City of Norwalk and even Long Island Sound.

**SPRINGVIEW AVENUE** was almost certainly named because it is in the area where numerous springs came out of the ground, and provided water for the early settlers and their cattle. At the end of Springview Avenue, there used to be a gate to contain the cows belonging to many families. One person could take the cows to pasture, watch over them, and bring them home at milking time.

**PROSPECT STREET**—Prospect Street has the dubious honor of having a flourishing crop of poison ivy. Remember the saying “*Leaves of three, leave them be.*”

**DOVER STREET**—Look up the hill; what do you see? A large water tower built in 1910. In earlier times, there were large horse farms in this area.

**STONE WALLS** were everywhere during the farming years of early Norwalk. Most trees had been cut down and used for heating, ship repair, house building, and manufacturing. Stone was the most available material to use for walls to retain the animals. Today, masons build walls like these. Some stone walls have cement between the stones, while others have selected stones that fit together.

**NORWALK HOSPITAL**—The first hospital was in a small house with six beds. It opened in July of 1893 and was adequate for only a few short years. Then, a new hospital was opened on what was called *armory hill*, right near where Norwalk Hospital is today. You can see Norwalk Hospital from the corner of Prospect and Maple Streets.

**THE 1890 RESERVOIR** lies east of Maple Street, between Fairview Avenue and Magnolia Street. For over 100 years, Norwalk has been using water from this source.

**58 SPRINGHILL AVENUE**—Old records reveal there were lots of springs along this road. The house at 58 Springhill Avenue has a little door in the floor of its basement where water from an old spring still runs.

**PONUS AVENUE** lies at the eastern end of Springhill Avenue. Originally it was a path named after Native American Chief Ponasses and called the “Ponasses Path”. It existed before the white men’s arrival and went all the way to New York’s Hudson River. It has also been called “Old New Canaan Road”.

**RIVERSIDE CEMETERY** was authorized in 1888. Many important Norwalkers and military men are laying at rest here in the area between Springhill and Riverside Avenues. Riverside Cemetery also has its own NorWALKer routes, so be sure to visit this historical and scenic location at your leisure.

*Compiled by Richard (Dick) Booth, 2004  
Edited by Kaitlin Latham and Deborah Lewis, 2016*

Don’t forget to visit Jefferson Science Magnet School’s website to see what makes the school so special!

<http://jes.norwalkps.org/>





**Healthy4LifeCT**

For more information about NorWALKer Routes, call (203) 854-7776 or visit [www.healthyforlifeproject.org](http://www.healthyforlifeproject.org)



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