



For Immediate Release

Contact: Laura Barbrick
City of Kentwood Parks and Recreation, 616.656.5272
or
Lisa Taylor
City of Kentwood, 616.401.5137

City of Kentwood's Valentine's Dash 5K set for Feb. 12 *Annual Event to Benefit Kentwood's Little Free Pantry*

Kentwood, Michigan, Jan. 31, 2022 – The City of Kentwood will host its fifth annual Valentine's Dash 5K at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 12 to benefit Kentwood's Little Free Pantry, which provides food and personal care items to community members in need.

The 5K [route](#) will include a combination of trails and paved pathways starting and ending at Kent District Library – Kentwood (Richard L. Root) Branch, 4950 Breton Ave. SE.

Valentine's Day-themed costumes are encouraged. While intended to be a fun run, the race will be chip timed and awards will be given for the fastest runner overall and in each age group.

An awards ceremony will follow in the library's community room around noon, including refreshments, candy, music and a photo booth.

“Our Valentine's Dash 5K is a great way to kick off the holiday weekend and help foster or fuel a love for running, even in the winter months,” said Spencer McKellar, race organizer. “This course is great for first-time runners or walkers but will also provide a challenge to more experienced racers. All are invited to come out and join us. Bring a friend or a loved one – or meet someone new.”

[Online registration](#) is \$30 until Feb. 11 and includes a long-sleeved shirt and other participant-packet goodies while supplies last. Day-of registration is \$35. Runners who sign up as a couple save \$5 each. Participants who bring a nonperishable item or monetary donation for Kentwood's Little Free Pantry will be entered to win a special door prize.

Kentwood's first Little Free Pantry opened to the community in 2017 at the Kentwood Activities Center, where it remains available year-round during business hours. The City last year launched a second pantry at the Kent District Library – Kentwood (Richard L. Root) Branch. More information, including a list of suggested donations, is available at kentwood.us/LittleFreePantry.

For more event information, visit kentwood.us/ValentinesDash.

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