

Road Races

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Fall racing season is upon us once again, and the Monadnock Region has plenty to offer.

This is the best time of year to race, whether to run a personal record or just enjoy some fresh air. The weather gets cool and crisp, and there is no better way to enjoy our beautiful scenery than disappearing into the golden woods for a training run.

Highlights of the season include themed fun runs. You can dress up in costumes or get chased by zombies to celebrate Halloween in a handful of races in October. You can honor the long Thanksgiving weekend at one of the state's "turkey trots," most notably the annual 5K race at ConVal each Thanksgiving morning.

A competitive highlight in New Hampshire is November's Manchester City Marathon, one of the region's last chances to qualify for Boston before the new year. For recreational runners, there are plenty of chances to run through scenic places, like the Amherst Village Green or pastures of Surry and Gilsum, which you might not go to otherwise.

Whatever your reason for getting out the door, here is a sample of what the region has to offer this fall:

Get Your Rear in Gear

Distance: 5k

Location: Gould Hill Farm (Hopkinton)

Date/Time: Sept. 24, 9 a.m.

Clarence DeMar Races

Distance: Half-marathon and Marathon

Location: Main Street (Keene, finish)

Date/Time: Sept. 25, 8 a.m.

Friends of the Poor

Distance: 5k

Location: New Ipswich Congregational Church

Date/Time: Oct. 1, 9 a.m.

Pumpkin Festival 5k

Distance: 5k

Location: The Milford Oval

Date/Time: Oct. 9, 9 a.m.

Zombie Fun Run (COSTUMES)

Distance: 2 miles

Location: Winchendon YMCA

Date/Time: Oct. 29, 10:45 a.m.

The Haunting of Wilton (COSTUMES)

Distance: 5k

Location: Main Street (Wilton)

Date/Time: Oct. 29, 11 a.m.

Windblown Off-Road

Distance: 5k

Location: Windblown Ski Area (New Ipswich)

Date/Time: Oct. 29, 12 p.m.