

What Is Relay For Life?

1. Opening Ceremony

The opening ceremony kicks off the official start time of the event.

- High energy, high emotion ceremony
- Recognize event leadership team and sponsors
- Share American Cancer Society mission
- Honor survivors and caregivers



2. Luminaria Ceremony

The luminaria ceremony provides participants an opportunity to remember loved ones lost, grieve in a supportive environment, reflect on their own personal cancer experience, and find hope.



3. Closing Ceremony

The closing ceremony is an inspiring close to the end of the Relay event.

- Celebrate success of the event
- Celebrate the hard work of team captains, participants, the event leadership team, and contributions of donors, sponsors, survivors, and caregivers
- Tie fundraising efforts back to the American Cancer Society mission



2016 Relay For Life of Southern Wood County

May 21st, 2016

Bowling Green High School

Relay For Life is NOT a single day event. On May 21st, Southern Wood County will host Relay teams, who have been working since September 1, 2015 to raise funds to finish the fight against cancer, will come together to show their support for all who have faced a cancer diagnosis. In 2015 these teams raised over \$87,000 dollars in the fight against cancer and making Relay For Life of Southern Wood County the huge success that it is!!

From Opening to Closing the track is lined with Relay teams who have set up tents for fundraising. Throughout the event, there will be a reception to honor survivors, food, games, contests, music, & fun to partake in, all while raising funds for cancer research, treatment, prevention, & patient programs! We invite all of Southern Wood County to join us at this amazing event to support the efforts of those committed teams and support the American Cancer Society in eradicating cancer once and for all.



National Standards

These National standards are consistent with every Relay For Life event across the country. An event must meet these standards to be officially considered an American Cancer Society Relay For Life event.

Community Event with an Evening Component

Relay For Life is a volunteer-driven community event, six to 24 hours in length. The American Cancer Society Relay For Life was originally created as a 24-hour event to symbolize that cancer never sleeps. For this reason, all Relay events must have an evening or darkness component. A Relay event that honors how Relay began and is 18 to 24 hours in length is called a Heritage Relay.

Opening and Closing Ceremonies

Relays begin with an opening ceremony that includes a victory lap, led by cancer survivors, that starts and sets the tone for the entire event. The closing ceremony provides another opportunity for cancer survivors and their caregivers to both walk the track and to celebrate the success of the event.

Survivors and Caregivers

All Relay For Life events shall have a survivor and caregiver engagement focus, including activities at the Relay event (special laps, gatherings, and recognition for survivors and caregivers).

Tobacco-Free Environment

All Relay For Life events are tobacco-free, however, tobacco users are not excluded. We encourage their participation but prohibit their use of tobacco during the event.

Fundraising

Relay For Life is the signature fundraising event of the American Cancer Society. Through community support and the fundraising efforts of teams and individuals throughout the year, Relay For Life helps to fund the mission of the American Cancer Society.

Teams

All Relay For Life events shall have a team development focus with the goal of engaging more people in the fight against cancer in all communities.

Luminaria Ceremony

Each Relay For Life event includes a Luminaria Ceremony, often called the Ceremony of Hope. The ceremony includes luminaria, decorated bags illuminated by a candle or glow stick, which line the track or path where participants walk. Each luminaria is dedicated in memory or in honor of a loved one who has faced the disease. It is a powerful ceremony which provides the opportunity for participants to work through their grief and find hope.

Mission Delivery

All Relay For Life communities shall utilize the event as a portal to infuse all parts of the Society mission, such as advocacy, survivorship, education, and information on patient services and programs.

Follow Relay For Life Graphic Standards

Relay For Life printed materials, signs, and other collateral should follow national graphic standards to ensure the consistent appearance of Relay events nationwide.

No Alcohol Allowed

Relay For Life is a family event most often held on school property, where alcohol is prohibited.

Please Leave Pets at Home

For the safety of participants, attendees should not bring pets to a Relay For Life event, unless it is specifically a Bark For Life® activity. Service animals are welcome at all Relay For Life events.