

# Meet the Folks Motivated by Running Every Corner of Their Home States

**From Vermont to Iowa, they're determined to log miles in every single town or county.**

By [Paul Snyder](#) Friday, November 10, 2017, 4:18 pm



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I thought, but wasn't sure, that I was alone in one of my peculiar tendencies when traveling via car or bus.

I'll zone out while staring out the window, admiring the rapidly changing landscape, until I fixate on a particularly lush-looking, trail-strewn hillside, or an impossibly inviting town's bricked main street, or even the crumbling asphalt of an urban waterway's neglected bike path. And I picture myself hopping out of the vehicle and going for a run right there, exploring this previously unknown-to-me place on foot. After Dave DeVarney completes a casual run this weekend in Winooski, a town of about 7,000 just north of Burlington, he'll join an exclusive and quirky club, but perhaps at an echelon he'll have all to himself.

That's because DeVarney, a native Vermonter who now resides in Rhode Island, will become the first known person to go for a run in every municipality in Vermont. A similar club already exists, [The 251 Club of Vermont](#), which welcomes members who have visited each of the state's 251 towns and cities. As far as we know, DeVarney will be the first member to do so while logging runs.

Speaking to [Vermont Public Radio](#), DeVarney explained that he was looking for something to keep him occupied following his retirement.

“Originally I was going to do a Forrest Gump and run across the United States last year,” he said. “And financially, physically, I was just not ready. And of course my wife was not ready for it, so that's when I played my card and I said what about if I do this? She let me do it.”

This sort of challenge ought to speak to the record-minded members of the running community, as there seem to be plenty of remaining states to attempt. Is there a soul brave enough to log a mile in every Alaskan city and town? Surely California, with its countless suburbs, hasn't been claimed yet. Will the person who attempts to run every Hawaiian municipality use a boat to get between islands?

As for me, if nobody else has called it, dibs on Rhode Island.