

ILLINOIS

Fox Valley Marathon

Sunday, September 21, 2014 • St Charles, IL

Marathon/Ultra number:	229
State (first in state):	35 (yes)
Finish Time:	3:24:56
Overall Place:	69 of 995
Gender Place:	59 of 519
Age Group Place:	12th
Age on race day:	34



Fox Valley is the name of an area just south of Chicago which includes the city of Aurora and the towns of St Charles, Batavia and Geneva. They are all situated along the Fox River.

I flew into Chicago on Saturday and drove to Aurora where I spent the night. Stopping off in St Charles to pickup my packet.

The days leading up to the race I was battling a cold, so I knew this was going to be a bit of a struggle for me. I was hoping for a sub-3:30 marathon, but I didn't really know what to expect.

Even though I failed to run even or negative splits, I still managed to run a pretty even time. My first half was run in 1:41:33 and my second half was only a little slower with a time of 1:43:23. And most of that extra time was in the last few miles when my cold caused my breathing to be difficult and I slowed down. I knew I wanted to break 3:30 and I feared I would fail in the last quarter of the race as I was slowing down, but I pushed through and managed a sub-3:25.

The weather was near perfect. Some clouds and sun with cool temperatures. The course is beautiful and the organization of the event is very good.

The next day I went and saw the Home Alone house and visited downtown Chicago before heading home.

