



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

8787 Georgia Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3760

LITTLE BENNETT'S BEGINNERS
ORIENTEERING COURSE

Welcome to Little Bennett's Beginners Orienteering Course. Below are instructions for completing the course. This is not a competitive course, but is designed to teach you the basics of using a compass. Relax and complete the course at your own speed. Enjoy the sights and sounds of nature as you travel through the woods.

Remember, you will be moving through a forest full of logs, rocks, roots, greenbriar, saplings with branches at eye-level, etc. Stay alert and aware of these hazards as you use the course.

The course consists of a starting point (telephone pole next to the Camp Store), 10 stations, and an end point (the same telephone pole). From the starting point, you will proceed from station to station using compass bearings. In this course, we will not be concerned with magnetic declination (the difference between true north and magnetic north). We will concentrate on becoming familiar with the compass, taking a bearing, staying on a straight line from station to station, and arriving safely.

To begin, stand on the red spot in front of the telephone pole and set the compass bearing on 214° SW. Holding the compass directly in front of you, turn yourself until the red portion of the needle points north. Using the fixed arrow on the compass, sight a landmark and walk to it. Remember, you do not follow the red needle; you follow the arrow above the words "Read Bearing Here". Continue sighting and walking until you reach the station. Each time you site a new landmark, make sure the red floating needle points towards the north. Also, be sure not to change the bearing until you reach your station. Then follow the instructions for setting the next bearing.

Attached is a listing of the stations, bearings, and distances between the stations. The stations consist of green wooden posts with yellow reflectors that face the direction you are coming. When you reach a station, write down the letter on the post for a hidden message you can read when you complete the course. Next, hold the compass 2 feet in front of the pole, facing the yellow reflector and take your new bearing. Continue this procedure until you return to the starting point.

If you should become lost, either join onto another group, or take a bearing due east until you reach Bennett Ridge Road or a campground, ballfield, etc. From this point, walk back to the Camp Store. OK! You are ready - have fun, enjoy nature, and remember safety!

STATION LOCATIONS

Starting point--Telephone pole adjacent to Camp Store

Telephone pole -----	Station 1 - 214 ⁰ SW, 554 Ft.	Code ___
Station 1 -----	Station 2 - 270 ⁰ W, 665 Ft.	Code ___
Station 2 -----	Station 3 - 354 ⁰ NW, 677 Ft.	Code ___
Station 3 -----	Station 4 - 248 ⁰ SW, 686 Ft.	Code ___
Station 4 -----	Station 5 - 274 ⁰ NW, 640 Ft.	Code ___
Station 5 -----	Station 6 - 30 ⁰ NE, 551 Ft.	Code ___
Station 6 -----	Station 7 - 96 ⁰ SE, 588 Ft.	Code ___
Station 7 -----	Station 8 - 330 ⁰ NW, 522 Ft.	Code ___
Station 8 -----	Station 9 - 120 ⁰ SE, 662 Ft.	Code ___
Station 9 -----	Station 10 - 100 ⁰ SE, 529 Ft.	Code ___
Station 10 -----	End point (telephone pole) - 128 ⁰ SE, 755 Ft.	