Orienteering on this self-guided course allows you, or your group, to follow at your leisure, a permanently marked route, as an introduction to the sport.

Orienteering at
Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick
Mt. Gretna, Lebanon County Pennsylvania

Produced by
Delaware Valley Orienteering Association
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DVDA is a non-profit organization that promotes orienteering in the Delaware Valley. Contributions to DVDA make this course brochure and other orienteering activities possible and can be made using the address above.

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ORIENTEERING - What is it?
Orienteering is a sport of Scandinavian origin. The game’s objective is to locate fairly easy-to-find markers in the woods with the aid of a map and, if you like, a compass. The challenge of orienteering results from participants’ not knowing ahead of time the markers’ locations. The test lies in determining the best routes between these locations, and in the sport’s competitive form, in finding all these points (called controls) in the least possible time. At its best, not only does orienteering improve your knowledge of geography and practical navigation, it enhances physical and mental fitness as well.

Orienteering is a sport for people of all ages, abilities, and sexes. Participants can travel alone or in groups, running or strolling, to win the contest or merely to savor nature’s beauty, which, as any orienteer will attest, is winning itself. The sport provides excellent family fare.

INSTRUCTIONS
1. This orienteering course offers two variations, a short course and a long course. The short course includes controls (located on the map at the center of the magenta circles) 1 through 6 and 13 through 16. It is a distance approximately 2.5 kilometers or 1.2 miles with a total climb of 105 meters or 250 feet. The long course includes controls 1 through 16. It is a distance approximately 4.5 kilometers or 2.8 miles with a total climb of 175 meters or 575 feet.

   The course begins at the Environmental Center, indicated on the map with a triangle symbol. The course ends at the parking lot, indicated on the map with a double circle symbol.

2. Familiarize yourself with the map before you begin. You need not decide whether to include controls 7 through 12 (part of the long course) until you reach control #6.

NOTE: Familiarization with the map relative to the fields, roads, and features shown is easier if you hold the map flat in front of you and rotate it until it is “oriented” to the terrain. Magnetic North lines will help if you have a compass but you will find that the map is detailed enough that you may not need one on this course.

3. Set out to visit the controls in the sequence outlined on the map starting at the start triangle and proceeding towards control #1. Upon reaching each control, record, in the box provided on the control card as shown below. (Note that the nearby feature symbol for “boulder” is not in the circle and is therefore not included in the description.)

   Suppose, after a fairly challenging and satisfying amount of navigation, you finally arrive at the vicinity of control #12. To your delight, you sight it precisely where it should be - at the foot path trail junction.

   Take a closer look, you will notice the control number and letter code on the marker post placard.

That’s it! You’re off to your next control, and so on to the finish...at the Environmental Center parking lot.

SAFETY NOTES
At the pace of a slow stroll, the course at Governor Dick can ordinarily be completed within 80-90 minutes. It is wise to take this into consideration especially when setting off towards dusk.

On the remote chance you become hopelessly oriented, make your way north to Route 117, or west to Pinch Road. Remember that the sun rises in the east and sets in the west.

Park areas contain hazards not normally encountered. We told the Park Rangers we would remind you that you are responsible for you and your group’s safety.