Patapsco Orange Grove

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March 25
Sunday

Welcome to the first Avalon event of 2018, featuring a full set of 7 classic courses (white/beginner through blue/advanced) courses for you to choose from, courtesy of course setters Jan & Alexis Merka. Final course stats and comments will be posted soon below.

The event parking and registration will be in the "far" parking lot, located 1.5+ miles further (northwest) along the park road from the "closer" Avalon parking area that we used for our last Avalon event. Event timing is our usual: register any time between 10:45 - 1:15, start any time between 11 - 1:30, and be sure to check back in before 3pm.

A few additional notes:

- **BE CAREFUL crossing or walking along the park road.** Getting to the start requires walking along the park road, so please pay attention!
- This park is steep, and the advanced courses may be on the long side, so take that into account when choosing your course.
- Map scale will be 1:5000 for white and yellow courses, and 1:10000 for all other courses. Green, red and blue courses will be on legal size paper.
- Dogs are allowed in this park and should be on a leash at all times.
- Restrooms will be near the parking/registration area.
- Speaking of parking: carpooling is encouraged for the sake of all park users.

- This section of Patapsco is pretty steep, so take that into account when choosing your course.
- Remember: No Drinking Directly Out of the Water Bottles! Use the provided cups.
- Have any questions? Just use our handy Contact Us [2] form.

As usual, youth groups and other large groups planning to attend this event should contact the Event Director [3] well in advance so that we can coordinate pre-registration for your group; the group registration and waiver form [4] is part of the information on our Group Leaders [5] page.

Location	Patapsco Valley State Park, Avalon area, Elkridge, MD (Classic)
Registration	No advance registration required. Just show up and have fun!
Start Times	You may start your course any time between 11 - 1:30, and be back before 3pm.
Schedule	**Sunday, March 25** 11:00 am - 3:00 pm Classic:

Volunteers

Event Director:	Dagmar (Dasa) Merkova [6]
Course Designer:	Alex Merka [7]
Course Designer:	Jan Merka [8]

Location Details

Classic Patapsco Valley State Park Avalon area Elkridge, MD Google Map [9]

From I-195 exit 3 in Elkridge MD, take US 1 South. Then take the first right, and very soon afterwards the first left into Patapsco State Park. Follow road to park entrance, pay the weekend park entrance fee ($2/vehicle in-state, $4/vehicle out-of-state), and then go left at the T intersection. The Avalon parking/registration area is just after the road curves to the right after crossing the river (near the large playground), and will be in one of the two pavilions.

Course Details

Classic Course Name	Length (km)	Climb (m)	No. Controls
White	1.8	135	7
Yellow	2.2	165	7
Orange	4.6	280	11
Brown	5.1	285	11
Green	6.6	340	15
Red	8.2	455	16
Blue	9.3	500	18

Course Notes

Classic

In spite of the snow storm, I am expecting very little or no snow on the ground during the event. However, the ground is likely to be muddy, which can make steep hills even more difficult. The Orange Grove area is hilly and we have tried to design courses which allow you to avoid the worst/steepest climbs, so choose your route wisely.

The North-West part of the map is very steep (west of the river) and rocky. The large number of rock features makes for an interesting terrain and therefore the advanced courses all venture there. You will not need to go into the steepest hills unless you take an unusual route choice.

Blue course runners: Two controls in the North-West part of the map are near the map printing boundary so pay attention.

Entry Fees