

# Clopper Lake

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**April 23  
Sunday**



Orienteer on relatively new terrain near the Clopper Lake section of Seneca Creek State Park (Gaithersburg, MD), thanks to an expanded map from course setter Nadim Ahmed. There will be eight courses to choose from (2 beginner, 1 intermediate, and 5 advanced), and very complete course notes are now posted below. As with all QOC events, we will have free newcomer instruction at this event. A QOC member will show you how to read a map, teach you how to use a compass with your map and give you hints on how to navigate your choice of course. Besides that, just wear a smile and the clothes you would for a hike or run in a local park. Bring a compass, if you have one, or borrow one at the event. And dogs (on leash) are welcome at Seneca Park too. Driving directions are below; for those using ride-sharing services, this event is within the DC metro coverage area of [Uberpool](#) [2].

Event timing will be standard: register anytime between 10:45 - 1:15, start between 11 - 1:30, and be back before the controls start being picked up at 3pm.

Other event notes:

- Park entrance fees are \$3/per person or \$5/per person (MD vs out-of-state residents) at the entrance gate. Children in safety seats enter at no charge.
- Green, Red, and Blue courses will explore a new area of the State Park south and westward of Riffleford Rd.
- Registration will be at the Blue Jay Pavilion, towards the west end of the parking area shared with the Nuthatch Pavilion. Carpooling is encouraged. A park map is [here](#) [3]; the Blue Jay Pavilion is at the left (west) edge, towards the bottom.
- If we overflow the parking lot, we are allowed to park along the NW side of the road leading to it, i.e. the right hand side of the road as you drive in.
- Map scales will be 1:5000 for white and yellow courses, 1:7500 for beige and brown, and 1:10000



for all others.

- Bathroom facilities are located at the east end of the parking area.
- Dogs are welcome but must be on a leash.
- There is a disc golf course in this park (see the DNR map cited above for it's location).

**Location**

Seneca Creek State Park, Clopper Lake, Blue Jay Pavilion, Gaithersburg, MD (Classic)

**Registration**

No advance registration required. Just show up and have fun!

**Start Times**

You may start your course at any time during the start window listed below for your event.

**Schedule**

**Sunday, April 23** 11:00 am - 3:00 pm Classic:

**Volunteers**

- Event Director: [Mark Mace](#) [4]
- Event Director: [Patti Mace](#) [5]
- Course Designer: [Nadim Ahmed](#) [6]

**Location Details**

**Classic** From I-270, Gaithersburg, Seneca MD, take Exit 10 west on Creek State Rt 117/Diamond Ave. Park which becomes Clopper Lake, Blue Rd. Go west about 2 Jay Pavilion miles and turn left into Gaithersbur the park entrance. g, MD Proceed straight passing the first intersection and [Google Map](#) a parking area. If the [7] event is being held during a time of year when it's collected, pay \$3/pp or \$5/pp (MD state, vs out-of-state) at the entrance gate, then bear right at the next intersection. You may see the lake on your left. After about 0.5 mile, just before the road crosses the dam, turn right onto the small road heading to the Blue Jay and Nut Hatch Pavilions. Both pavilions are in the woods south of their shared parking lot; Blue Jay is to the west. Please carpool if possible. If the lot is full, you may park on the NW shoulder of



the road leading to the  
parking lot.

**Course Details**

<b>Classic Course Name</b>	<b>Length (km)</b>	<b>Climb (m)</b>	<b>No. Controls</b>
White	2	40	11
Yellow	2.4	35	10
Orange	4.9	135	11
Brown	3.6	100	10
Green	6.2	135	15
Red	7.7	275	13
Blue	9.6	295	21

**Course Notes**