

# Mason Neck

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**April 15**  
**Sunday**



Once again, it's time to enjoy the distinctive orienteering terrain of Mason Neck State Park. Mason Neck's flat ground and relatively few easily identifiable features provide a great opportunity to improve your compass work and pace counting. And the 2.5m map contour (rather than the standard 5 meters) will give orienteers the chance to develop a heightened appreciation of terrain subtleties. Jon Torrance will be putting together a set of courses that takes full advantage of the park's signature characteristics. As usual, we will set up the registration site right off the main parking area. Rest rooms are immediately adjacent. Event registration will be from 10:45am - 1:15pm. Start your course anytime between 11am - 1:30pm, but be back before the courses close at 3pm. There is an entrance fee for the park (\$5 (in state) or \$7 (out-of-state) per car).

In addition to the standard Sunday event, QOC's Bob Turbyfill will be conducting a special training course on Saturday, April 14th and Sunday, April 15th for the beginner to intermediate-level orienteer titled "**Zero to Orange in Three Days.**" See the QOC website [here](#) [2] for more information.

**Park Information:** [Mason Neck State Park](#) [3] is also a great place for exploration on the water or by bike (a very smooth and family-friendly bike path runs through much of the park). Of note:

- There's an extensive playground adjacent to our registration area.
- Dogs are welcome in the park, but must be on a leash of length 6 feet or less at all times and "with a human on the other end", as a park ranger said.
- April through October: kayaks and canoes may be rented for an hour or all day to explore Belmont Bay and Kane's Creek. It's a great way to see eagles; details are on the park website.
- Nature Programs for Kids & Families: There are three programs on April 15th at Mason



Neck--10am (Ranger at the Blind), 2pm (Guided Eagle Tour), and 5pm (Eagle Walk); details [here](#) [4].

Any youth or large groups attending, please contact the [Event Director](#) [5] so that we can coordinate pre-registration for your group; the group registration and waiver [form](#) [6] is part of the information on our [Group Leaders](#) [7] page.

**Location**

Mason Neck SP, Mason Neck SP, Lorton, VA  
(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 15** 11:00 Classic:  
am -  
3:00  
pm

**Volunteers**

Event [Charles Carrick](#) [8]  
Director:  
Course [Jon Torrance](#) [9]  
Designer:

**Classic**

Mason Neck SP  
Mason Neck SP  
Lorton, VA  
[Google Map](#) [10]