

Cunningham Falls

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**October 24
Sunday**

Pre-registration is required and will open on Monday, October 18 at 6pm and will close at noon on Saturday October 23, the day before the event. There will be no day-of registration.



Welcome back to Cunningham Falls for the fifth edition of Platformpalooza, which is "an orienteering celebration of that rare in our area but nevertheless humble remnant of the era before fossil fuel dominance, the charcoal platform" (a grassier than usual for this event Scottish exemplar of this trace of human impact on the landscape is pictured to the right). Course stats will be available soon. The park charges a per vehicle entry fee - \$3 cash for MD residents, \$5 for out-of-staters. If a ranger states the park is too crowded to enter and tries to turn you away at the gate, since we have a permitted event, please tell the ranger on duty you are attending our event in order to be let in. Having the right/exact amount of cash will speed things up for everyone too. Registration procedures and COVID Risk Reduction policies will follow [those outlined](#) [2] in our first event of this season; basically, masks are required other than when you're orienteering. Cunningham Falls is more rugged than many of our other venues, and as a precaution, QOC has again partnered with the [Maryland and Mid-Atlantic Wilderness Rescue Squad](#) [3] to provide on-site first response in the event of participant injury. The on-site responders will almost certainly arrive faster than calls placed to 911, so, unlike other QOC events, call the Rescue Squad first if there's a serious injury. Their emergency number will be printed on each map. We also plan to offer [MapRun](#) [4] versions of the courses, and participants are encouraged to use that app while out on their courses. As always, please be off the course no later than 3 pm and remember to download at our e-punch station even if you did not finish. We want to make sure of everyone's safety and status. New to orienteering? Make sure to check out our [Your First Event](#) [5] and [For Beginners](#) [6] webpages, and if they don't answer any remaining questions you have, just use our [Contact Form](#) [7] and ask away!



There will not be any full, on-site beginner instruction, and beginners are encouraged to watch relevant videos such as [this one](#) [8] created by QOC's instructional guru David Onkst before arriving at the park. However, there will be a volunteer on hand to ensure that first-time orienteers know how to get to the start and use the e-punch.

Youth Group Leaders (other than JROTC): please see our [For Group Leaders](#) [9] webpage and then contact the [Event Director](#) [10] so we can answer questions and coordinate any logistical issues.

Other notes:

Pets are allowed in Cunningham Falls Park.

Reminders:

- there is no water on the course. Participants are responsible for their own hydration. A very limited supply of bottled water for emergency use will be on hand with the Meet Director; but it is vital to stay well hydrated. Please come prepared!
- post-event snacks are no longer provided

For more information on how our events are run in line with our COVID-19 guidelines, please peruse the details in the announcement for the [first event](#) [2] of our season.

Detailed course notes will be provided below before registration opens.

Location

Cunningham Falls St. Park, Manor Area (Classic)

Registration