Learn how to find your way by using a compass and a set of coordinates on the Laurel Hill County Park Compass Course. Interactive and fun for all ages, the beginner course (710m) will keep you confined to the area of the Avenue of Oaks. The advanced course (1700m) is more challenging, as you will have to navigate around obstacles, and traverse various paths.

Each course includes a series of checkpoint markers to keep you on track and prevent you from getting lost. All you need to start is a compass or a phone with a compass app.

Planning & Safety

There are some inherent risks in many outdoor activities. Always be aware of your surroundings; uneven surfaces, potentially hazardous wildlife, and weather extremes are part of the natural environment. At a couple of checkpoints on the advanced course, you might be required to step off the trail, but all off-trail checkpoints are able to be spotted from the trail. This course will not require you to step into any brush or dangerous areas, so if you think you might be endangering yourself by going in a certain direction, you should double-check that the coordinate is correct.

This course was designed and installed as an Eagle Scout project by Hunter Sutcliffe of Troop 529.
STARTING POINT: AVENUE OF OAKS PAVILION

- Step 1: Walk from the starting sign to the nearby former brick well, counting steps along the way. Divide 150 by the number of steps you took to find your pace distance. An average pace distance is roughly 2.5 feet.

- Step 2: Return to the starting sign, and orient yourself in the direction of the heading of the first point (182° for beginner course and 291° for advanced course).

- Step 3: Take the distance of the first point (251 ft. for the beginner course, 188 ft. for the advanced course) and divide it by your pace distance. The quotient of that is the amount of steps you need to take to get to that point. (distance/pace distance = steps).

- Step 4: Walk in the direction of that heading until you complete the amount of steps that you calculated. You have arrived at the point.

- Step 5: Repeat steps 2–4 until you reach the end of the course (marked by the Luke Wiggins Eagle Project Bench).

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