

## Permanent Orienteering Course

This orienteering course was designed to offer an introduction to orienteering for school groups, youth groups, scouts and families. 31 permanent control points will be installed throughout the "Villages of Eastridge" subdivision green belts and play ground areas. Upon project completion in December 2010, there will be four courses complete with maps and control description sheets that youth leaders can use to introduce, teach and test their youth's skill sets as they relate to orienteering. The courses will range in distance from a half mile to over three miles!

One of the driving forces behind this project is to help provide readily available resources to leaders so that they are prepared to help their youth understand what orienteering is. Many have been taught that orienteering is simply following a prepared list of bearings and distances. While those skills are important to successfully navigating an orienteering course, rarely are bearings and distances provided. Instead, by properly orienting a map to one's surrounding, general direction of travel can be derived and then fine tuned by reading the map provided. Once in the general vicinity of the control point, the control description sheet will provide further information as to the points exact location. However, in order to do so, one has to know the international control description symbols and their meanings. The symbols can be found at the following website: [www.orienteering.org](http://www.orienteering.org)

When complete, these courses will provide opportunities to learn and practice all of these skills as well as providing the tools and know-how to help youth set up their own cours(es) utilizing all or part of these permanent monuments.

Please visit [www.hubbardengineering.com](http://www.hubbardengineering.com) for more information and to download maps or control description sheets.



Example of aluminum cap control point

## Safety Note

Time to complete courses will vary depending on ability and experience. Remember to bring sufficient water for yourself and those in your group and don't forget to wear sturdy footwear. Please be responsible for you and your group's safety.

## Courtesy Note

Many of the areas on the maps are designated as "off-limits" because of people's residences. Please respect their privacy and stay on pavement or sidewalks when navigating the different courses. Be considerate of landscaping areas throughout the subdivision.

## Credits

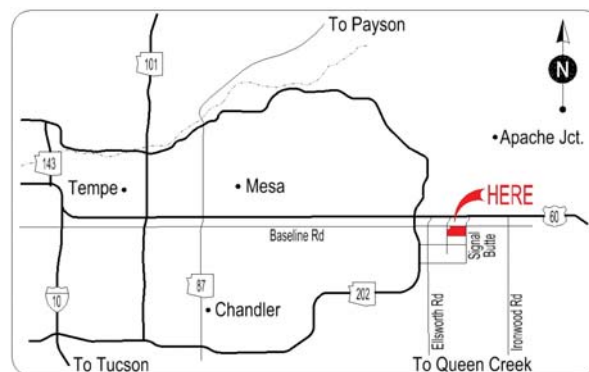
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# ORIENTEERING at The Villages of Eastridge



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# Orienteering

What is it?

Orienteering is a recreational activity and sport for people of all ages. With the help of a map and compass, one navigates their way through unfamiliar terrain to a series of distinctively marked control points. The goal is to make it through the course in the least amount of time possible.

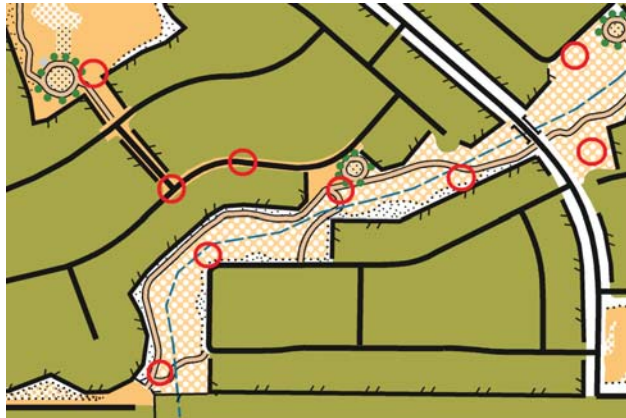
# Instructions

1. Visit [www.hubbardengineering.com](http://www.hubbardengineering.com) and download the course map and corresponding control description sheet.
2. Participants should familiarize themselves with the map before they begin. Note the different vegetation areas, buildings, roads and landmarks visible from the starting point and relate them to the features on the map. This is best done if you hold the map flat in front of you and rotate it until it is "oriented" to the terrain. Most maps will have a magnetic north line on them; however these do not. This map is detailed enough you should not need one for these courses.
3. Set out to visit the control points on the selected course. All courses will start and end at the church on the northeast corner of Crismon Rd. and Madero Ave., just north of Desert Ridge High School in Mesa, Arizona.
4. The control points themselves will be at the exact center of the red circles printed on the map. Upon reaching each control, record the three digit control code stamped on the aluminum cap on your control description sheet in the appropriate column. For Line Orienteering courses, control points will not be shown on the map--only the route you are to travel will be shown.
5. Each of the 31 permanent control points has been assigned a control number ranging from 1 to 31 and a unique control code. The order these are to be visited, if used as a cross-country or point to point orienteering course, will be the order shown on the control description sheet.

If courses are used as score orienteering courses,

leaders should assign point values to the different control points, with control points further from the start worth a higher point value than those closer to the start. Please also set a time limit for the course. The time limit should be age and experience appropriate so that it is impossible for participants to visit all control points within the allotted time.

6. Please direct comments or suggestions to Jeremy Haws at [jhaws@hubbardengineering.com](mailto:jhaws@hubbardengineering.com)



Sample of orienteering map that can be downloaded for use. This particular section of map shows the same area as shown below with the circles indicating locations of control points.



Aerial view of greenbelts in "Villages of Eastridge" subdivision. The majority of control points are located here.

# Additional Uses

In addition to the orienteering course, Hubbard Engineering wants to help enable those youth who may be interested in learning more about surveying the ability to do so. The Surveying merit badge, as currently published by Boy Scouts of America, does a great job of introducing youth to surveying and its different elements. For those not affiliated with BSA, some of the main principles taught in the merit badge are:

- Running a traverse around a five-sided parcel of land (measuring angles and distances)
- Computing error of closure
- Using a rod, level and a known benchmark elevation to establish elevations for other points
- Writing simple legal descriptions
- The opportunity to learn a little more about surveying from a registered professional

Latitude and longitude coordinates will be published for each control point and can be downloaded from Hubbard Engineering's website. With these coordinates, youth leaders can create GPS courses of their own to use in teaching their youth the fundamentals of handheld GPS units.

Two of the permanent 31 control points will be established as "caches" and registered on-line for geocachers from all over the world to visit.