

Welcome to Bethlehem. Many people have worked long and hard, so I hope your weekend is pleasurable. The first time I saw these woods, I was convinced that we could do some great orienteering here. It has been about four years in the planning / mapping/ designing stage, and we are proud to present our work to you. Although Randy's sprint was on the same map, I am sure that you will find Monday's event to be a completely different experience. The sprint courses will be run in a very urban setting, while the longs will be in mostly white woods, but don't be surprised when you suddenly find some streets and buildings surrounding you.

Star Village is named after the Star of Bethlehem, which can be seen from twenty miles away. Several courses will go through the clear cut in front of the star, which will give you the reverse vista. It will be difficult for you to remember you are on the clock if you look to the north at this point or a few other locations.

Mountain Drive is the main road that tri-sects the map. Please remember that this is the main bypass around the center of town, and people often drive at 50 mph or better. The white and yellow courses cross Mountain Drive one time, at a manned crossing, and the split for that leg will not be used for our event. The crossing guards are under orders to stop orienteers, not cars, so listen to them and be safe. The other courses cross South Mountain Drive, and North Mountain Drive once each. These will be unmanned, and should be done at your own risk. North Mountain Drive is much busier, and you will be a bit more tired, so I have added a reminder to your clue sheet.

As Mike Minium has stated in his notes, poison ivy and ticks are both making their appearances known. Use the standard precautions, and, if possible, shower before your journey home.

Finally, please note that there are two special features that are used as controls. One is a concrete basin that is part of a water diversion system, and the other is a man-made fire ring that someone has maintained. Pictures have been available on the web, and at the model on Saturday, and at registration today.

Good running to all,

Steve