



# ROC the MAP Adventure



**Who:** This event is put on by the Rochester Orienteering Club, and is free of charge for individuals or small teams who want to participate, either competitively or just for fun!

**What:** A **navigation-based scavenger hunt** in the city of Rochester to be completed on foot or bike. The object is to visit, in any order, as many as possible of the spots (checkpoints) indicated by red circles on the map provided, and verify that you were there by answering a question whose answer is found at the spot.

**Dates:** Due to COVID-19, we will not be having our usual one-day event, where everyone shows up and starts at the same time. Instead, teams can complete the adventure challenge any time between **June 6 - August 31, 2020**. The map will be available starting June 6 on our website: <https://roc.us.orienteering.org/>

## Submitting results:

This event can be completed **on foot or bike**. Email [RLDetwiler@frontiernet.net](mailto:RLDetwiler@frontiernet.net) with your **answers, start time, and end time**. Your submission will be scored and the results reported back to you. You can scan or take pictures of your answer sheets and e-mail them, or you can list the question numbers and your answers.

## Categories:

- **5 hour competitive category:** Find as many answers as possible on foot or bike within a single 5 hour time window. You must start and finish at the Abundance Food Co-op\*.
- **3 hour competitive category:** Find as many answers as possible on foot or bike within a single 3 hour time window. You must start and finish at the Abundance Food Co-op\*.
- **Non-competitive category:** If you just want to do the course for your own enjoyment and don't care about results, feel free to do it in multiple outings, parking anywhere you'd like.

*\*but please don't use their parking lot!!! See below.*

## Event Rules and Details

### Parking and Start Location:

- The starting location is Abundance Co-op, 571 South Avenue (at the corner of Averill Avenue). **Parking at Abundance Co-op is prohibited** for Map Adventure participants. Please do not jeopardize the future of this event by using their parking lot.
- Parking is available in a lot across Averill Avenue from Abundance where parking is allowed at least on weekends (unsure if this is open to the public M-F). If this lot fills up, nearby street parking is available – read the signs to make sure parking is allowed.

## Scoring and Rules:

- One point for every control visited with the question answered correctly, and minus 1 point for questions answered incorrectly. Minus 1 point per minute or fraction of a minute overtime.

**Exception to this:** Some of the more distant controls (farther than approximately 1.5 miles, straight-line distance, from the start) are worth 2 points each, with a 2 point penalty if you answer one of these questions incorrectly. Roughly speaking, these are the controls in Mt. Hope Cemetery, the University of Rochester, and the controls east of Culver Road. Mt. Hope Cemetery is closer than the 1.5 mile guideline; these are 2 points to encourage you go visit this attractive area, and also because it can take a bit longer in some cases to navigate to these.

- It is prohibited to utilize any method of determining the answer other than by visiting the checkpoints. (Internet searches using smart phones, for example, or wild guesses, or calling a friend who you think may know.) By answering a question, you are attesting that you were at that point.
- Team members must stay together (no splitting up to visit separate locations.)
- If you're competing by bike, there is no requirement to keep the bike with you for the entire time. If you choose to do so, you can lock it up and go on foot to visit some controls.

## Checkpoints:

- Checkpoints are numbered from 1 to 116. The map is color coded in geographical regions; within a region, the checkpoint numbers will be in a sequential block. The question sheet will be similarly color coded. This should minimize paper-shuffling between the questions sheet and map.
- In the center of each control circle is a red dot indicating a fairly precise location of where the answer can be found. An example is shown to the right. Paying attention to the location of the dot will in many cases save substantial time at the controls.
- The answer should generally be reasonably obvious if you are at the right spot. We did not intentionally make any “trick” question, where the obvious answer is not the correct answer. Once you get to the center of the circle and read the question, the intention is that it generally shouldn't take you more than about 5-20 seconds to come up with the answer. We tried our best to minimize the time needed at a control to locate the answer by having a red dot in the center of the control circle, and by having hints where needed.
- Most of the checkpoints are quite permanent (things carved in stone on building walls, for example), but others could conceivably change with time. Hopefully this hasn't happened to other checkpoints, but with such a large number of points, it's not out of the question that a very small number may have changed. If you know you're in the correct location, and the question just isn't making sense (or the question makes sense but there is no correct answer to it listed), after giving it a good effort, don't agonize over it forever. All questions have answer “E” as a choice, which is “none of the above”. So if you're convinced that no answer



is the correct answer to the question, choose “E”.

## **Safety:**

- Please give safety the highest priority. There will be traffic – the people in the cars have no idea about our event. While much of the course area is neighborhood streets without heavy traffic, there are some heavily traveled main arteries on the map. Do not take risks crossing streets. Know that YOU are the one ultimately responsible for your safety – don’t assume cars see you and will avoid you. Don’t get so distracted by your map and navigation that you carelessly wander into or across roads without giving your full attention to traffic in the area.
- There are some one-way streets, especially in the downtown area. If you’re biking, be aware that it is technically illegal to ride your bike the wrong way on one-way streets (except for a few where there is a special bike lane where riding the other way is permitted). It is also illegal to ride bikes on sidewalks in the downtown area. If stopped by a policeman for riding the wrong way or riding on a sidewalk, please do NOT use our event as an excuse for your actions! That could mean that the city will prohibit future events of this type.
- If you’re on foot rather than on a bike, virtually all of the streets on the map have sidewalks, so they are pedestrian-friendly. But again, use the utmost caution when crossing streets.

## **Map and Course Notes:**

- The map is oriented to true north, not magnetic north. Magnetic north is indicated on the map legend, although there should not be any need for precise compass bearings.
- The scale of the map is 1:17,500 (1 km = 57 mm, or 1 mile = 3.6 inches). It is provided in two pdf files, to be printed on 8.5x11 inch sheets of paper. One page will have the center area and the eastern side of the mapped area; the other page will have the center area and the western side of the mapped area. Thus, there is overlap between the two pages, to minimize the need for back and forth between the two pages.
- This event is different from ordinary orienteering events: the control points are not hard to find; all are on or near roads or trails. The challenge is to choose an efficient route and allow a bailout option if time runs out. There is also the challenge of keeping track of your position, since only the major roads are named on the map.
- The course highlights outdoor sculptures, interesting places, and history.
- Try not to miss the pedestrian paths, since they can shorten the route (and cars can't use them, which makes you a privileged character!)
- Limited-access highways (I-490 and the Inner Loop) are mapped in red; no pedestrian or bike travel is permitted on these roads. Other streets are legal for foot and bike traffic, although being in an urban area, there is a wide range in terms of how busy (and thus bike-friendly) the streets are.
- Bicyclists will have to get off to get to some of the spots. Bike riding is not allowed on trails and paths in Highland Park and Cobb's Hill Park (riding on roads in these parks is allowed). Bikers will also need to find a way to carry the maps and answer sheet in an accessible way.

- The Mount Hope cemetery has three main gates, two on Mt. Hope (east side), and one on Elmwood (south side), indicated by a red crossing point symbol. Note: the Elmwood gate is sometimes closed and locked. There is a smaller crossing point symbol on the map to the west of this gate; this is a small opening in the fence that a person, and most likely, a bike, can squeeze through. You should only need to utilize this in the (believed unlikely) event that the Elmwood gate is closed.
- Please show respect to cemetery visitors (and residents). Our permission to use the cemetery is based on our low impact. Stick to roads and trails; all controls are on or very close to roads or trails. It is permissible to take established paths to cut off distance, whether these are shown on the map or not, but do not cut through grave areas when no path exists.
- This map was created in very large part from GIS data provided by the City of Rochester and the County of Monroe. These data included LIDAR contour data, edge-of-pavement data, and building footprint data. Streets are shown by the edge-of-pavement lines with no enhancement. No brown infill color is used on roads.
- As far as buildings, standard-sized city houses are not shown. Any building substantially larger than a typical house is generally shown. The buildings shown, with a very few exceptions, were not “field checked”. Over time, some buildings are torn down, and some new buildings are built. There are certainly some inaccuracies due to buildings shown that are no longer there, and buildings that are there that are not shown on the map. There has been a lot of new construction, and the GIS data of building footprints is now quite a few years old. In general, the buildings are probably 90+% accurate and can be very useful in navigating (telling what corner you’re on, etc.).
- Most parking lots are not shown. In particular, on the U of R campus, there are many lots that are not shown; same for downtown Rochester. A couple are, because they relate specifically to control points. Also on the U of R, walking paths are not shown, because there are so many of them. It’s reasonable to assume that you can walk pretty much anywhere on the campus, either on walks or on roads, or through parking lots, with the exception of a couple of areas (athletic fields, basically) surrounded by fences and shown as out of bounds on the map.

Hope you enjoy the event and find our city as interesting as we did!!

-Anne Schwartz, Dick Detwiler, Rick Lavine, and Dayle Lavine, course setters and veters