

## Virginia Tech Challenge Course

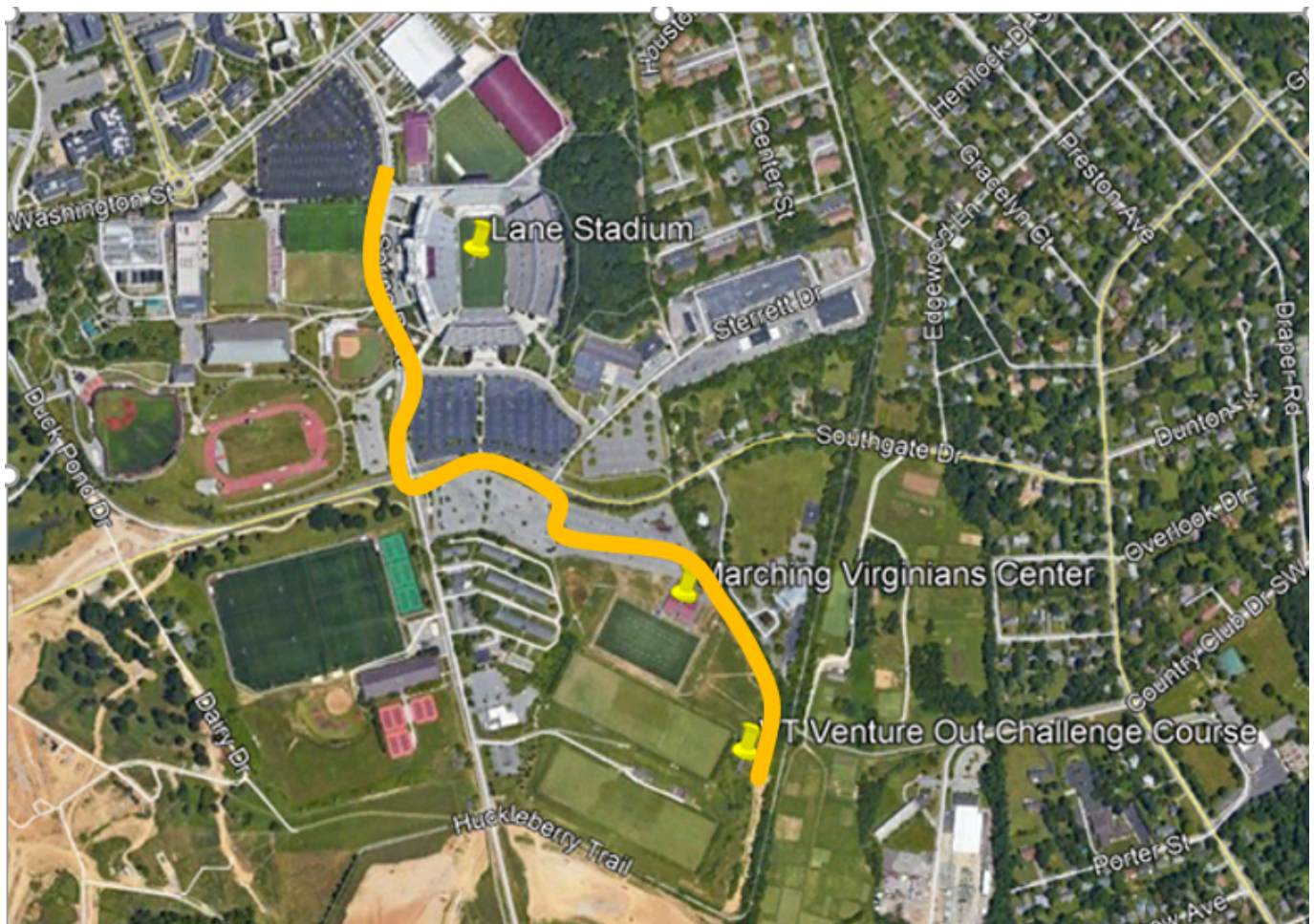
Information for Groups

We are so excited to have you on the Venture Out Challenge Course!

**ABOUT THE COURSE:** We start low to the ground so you can acclimate while you make your way to the top level at 34'. Get ready for ziplines, rock walls, and plenty of obstacles! Get ready to find *your* challenge and Venture Out of your comfort zone while expanding your self-confidence on the course!

**PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS:** The course accommodates participants ages 8 years and older, weighing a minimum of 50 pounds and a maximum weight limit of 250lbs. Health conditions that restrict participation include: pregnancy, spinal injury or weak spine, or heart condition. If you have one of these conditions please consult a physician prior to participating.

**WHERE IS IT?:** We are located at 811 Southgate Drive. Use Google Maps directions to the "[Venture Out Challenge Course](#)". You will drive through the Chicken Hill lot to the southwest corner. Take the gravel road and you can park at the course. If you have a bus or more than a few cars, we suggest parking in the Chicken Hill lot and walking down the gravel road. There are 2 paved parking spaces (handicap accessible) or overflow parking available on grass (can be muddy after rain). You should see a sign at the start of the gravel road.





**SCHEDULE ACCORDINGLY:** To maximize time on the course, please arrive 10 minutes ahead of time with the printed out waivers already completed (blue or black ink please!). The schedule for the day will include fitting harnesses and helmets, getting to know each other/warm-up activities, and a “ground school” where we instruct how to safely traverse the course, before heading up on the course.

**WHAT TO WEAR/BRING:** Wear closed toed and closed heeled shoes and consider opting away from loose/baggy clothing, excessive jewelry, or untied long hair. We suggest wearing bottoms that extend to mid thigh and below to prevent discomfort from the harness. Bring hair ties to avoid getting hair caught on course. Please bring sunscreen to protect yourself from the sun, and a water bottle to hydrate. Dress in clothing which is appropriate for the temperature or potential rain. During weather colder than 50 degrees, it is recommended to bring gloves, wear long underwear or leggings underneath a pair of pants, and bring an extra layer since the upper levels are more exposed to the wind. It is possible to wear warm hats or buffs under our helmets as long as they do not have a puff-ball on the top. We do operate in the rain, so please bring rain gear if it is in the forecast.

**YOUTH SUPERVISION:** Youth groups with participants 13 years old and younger are required to have an adult to youth ratio of 1:10 to help provide supervision and manage participant behavior. Youth groups with participants 14 years old and older must have 1 chaperone for the group. Adult chaperones required by these ratios are free to participate and will not be included in the group's final numbers. Chaperones will be responsible for the supervision of any youth on the ground while the group is in the challenge course.

**BILLING:** We send in the numbers from each group at the end of the month. You should receive an emailed invoice from the Rec Sports Business Manager during the start of the next month. You will be able to pay for your session via credit card, check, or an interdepartmental transfer.

### **WEATHER RELATED CANCELLATIONS**

At Venture Out, we adapt to the conditions and seek to thrive even in adverse weather. However, there are some weather conditions which do necessitate closing down the Challenge Course. Venture Out will cancel if the following conditions are forecasted to occur or do occur during the time of the session:

- **LIGHTNING:** within a 10-mile radius of the Challenge Course
- **TEMPERATURES:** Severe Heat (above 99° Fahrenheit) and Extreme Cold (wind chill below 35° Fahrenheit)
- **WINDS:** Sustained winds higher than 20 mph at the top of the Challenge Course, or gusts higher than 30 mph. Additionally, if there is an active Tornado Watch/Warning or High Wind Advisory.
- **SNOW/ICE:** affecting driving conditions
- **RAIN:** More than ½ inch of rain forecasted for the time of the program
- Emergency closures of Virginia Tech

A group may choose to cancel or reschedule with no consequence due to weather conditions that meet the following criteria during the scheduled program time:

- **RAIN:** 40% chance of rain
- **TEMPERATURE:** Wind chill below 40°
- **WINDS:** Sustained winds higher than 10 mph
- Severe Storm Watch/Warning

### **IF VENTURE OUT CANCELS**



In the case of a cancellation, the Challenge Course Lead Facilitator will contact the group leader the day of programming at least one hour in advance. Please ensure that the phone number listed in the Challenge Course Request Form is current and will be carried on the day of the programming. In the case of a cancellation, the group will have an opportunity to sign up for any available times on the Challenge Course in the future.

If Venture Out cancels the program during the event for weather related reasons, if less than 75% of the scheduled time was used, the group will have the option of rescheduling their Challenge Course event, or receiving a pro-rated refund based on percentage of scheduled time used (ex. During a 3 hour program, the event is canceled after 1 hour. The group will have the option of rescheduling or receiving a 2/3rd refund of their quoted price.)

#### IF A GROUP NEEDS TO CANCEL

If a group needs to cancel their event for their own reasons, we will work to reschedule another time on the course. Unfortunately, they may be subject to charges due to staffing and scheduling costs.

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 7 or more days prior  | No charge                 |
| Less than 7 days  | 50% charge of quote cost* |
| *If the group chooses to reschedule for another date ( date within 6 months of the original reservation) after canceling with less than 7 days notice, they will only be charged a 20% re-scheduling/staffing fee or \$150, whichever is lower. |                           |

**IF GROUP NUMBERS CHANGE/NO-SHOWS:** *If your group numbers change, please let us know as soon as possible so we can staff the course appropriately.* **Please communicate final numbers 15 business days prior to the program date. If the numbers decrease by 5 or more people with less than 15 business days notice prior to the session, there will be a \$10 fee for each no-show.** For example, if a group booked 15 people to use the course, and only 10 showed up the day of without prior notice, the group will be charged \$10 per no-show without at least 15 business days notice (\$50) in addition to their normal costs.

#### PETS

We love our pets just as much as you, but please leave your pets at home if you will be heading up onto the Challenge Course. If you are just watching a group on the course and are able to stay next to your pet for the entirety of the program, you are welcome to bring your pet if it remains on a leash. Thanks!