

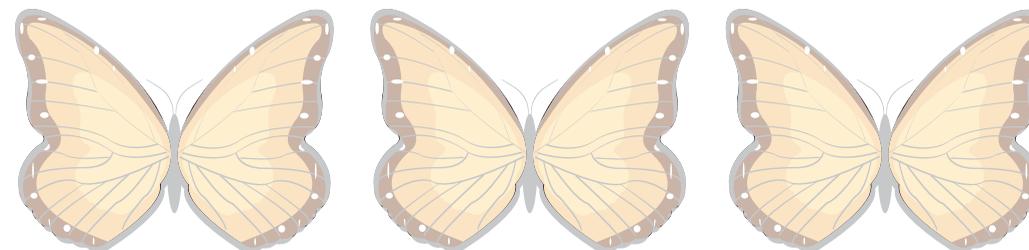


Use this space to place the stamp you have found.

Don't forget to stamp the book in the letterbox with your thumbprint and the date you found it. And, be sure to put all the items back in the box and hide it in its original spot.

Did you like this activity?  
You may want to check one of the letterboxing  
websites for more information.  
Try <http://www.letterboxing.org/>.

# Letterboxing at Prince William Forest Park



What is it?

Letterboxing is a fun family activity that combines hiking, treasure hunting, navigation and even a little bit of arts and crafts.

What do you do?

Follow the clues inside the booklet. They will lead you to the hidden letterbox, somewhere in the Piedmont Forest Trail.

What's in the box?

The letterbox contains a logbook, a rubber stamp representing the box, and a stamp pad.

What next?

Stamp logbook that you find in the box with your rubber stamp and the date you found it. Then stamp the back of this booklet with the stamp you found in the box. Hurray--you're done!

# Piedmont Forest Trail Letterbox Clues

Difficulty: Easy  
Walking Conditions: Paved path  
Type: Forest, Natural  
1 Pace = 2 steps

**1** Welcome to the park, it's open from dawn to dark!  
Come join the quest, to find the box and do your best,  
To preserve our park for all to enjoy, man, woman, girl and boy.

**2** Begin the task at the Piedmont Forest sign,  
Near where picnickers come to play and dine.

**3** Walk on the path until you see, a green mark painted on a tree.  
This BLAZE is used to show the way, for hikers to trek in the woods all day.

**4** Walk ahead down the trail and see the tree that is hurt,  
People carved their names, so please be alert.  
A tree cannot heal, instead it forms a seal,  
To protect itself from rot and disease,  
But this shortens the lives of these beautiful trees.

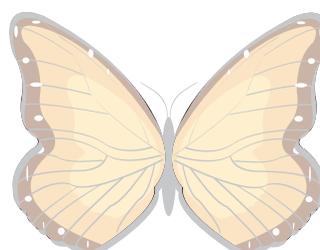
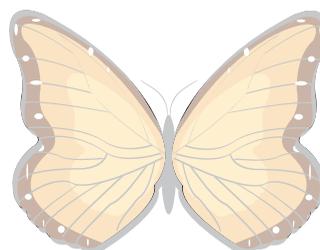
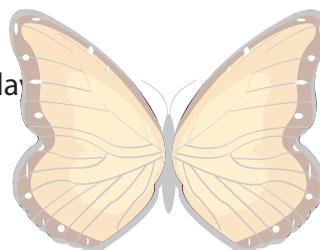
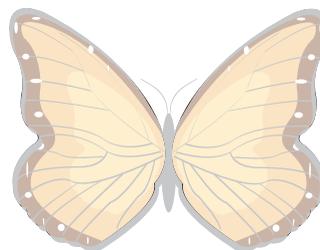
**5** On the tree to the left, beware the Tarzan rope  
Wrapped around the trunk, now don't be a dope,  
It's poison ivy by name, so you've got yourself to blame  
If you begin to itch and sting because you touched the thing.

**6** As you continue along, a stone bench seems to call  
You to sit for a bit as you ponder it all.

**7** Walk a few steps, then make a decision,  
To take the fork to the right, when you see a division.

**8** Next you will see two blazed guards astride the path  
Take care of the forest or you might incur their wrath.

**9** Follow along, on the right there's a stump,  
That serves as a home for insects, happy and plump.



**10** On the left grows a tree, or maybe even three.  
Either way, it's a giant, don't you agree?

**11** You'll come to a bridge that you'll use to check your paces.  
If you count 7, then you'll be aces.

**12** Straight ahead for a bit, then the path takes a curve  
To a longer bridge this time that makes a big swerve.

**13** Rocks along the side of the path on the right  
Will lead you to turn left to see an interesting sight.  
A tree with a hollow fit for hobbits or a gnome  
Or any small creatures to make a nice home.

**14** Walk across the small bridge, then begin your count--  
9 paces, turn right and from the path dismount.

**15** Count 12 paces more to where the gravel begins  
And 14 paces on rocks, turn left and face the twins:

**16** Two tall trees side by side bid you walk  
8 paces more toward the treasure you stalk.

**17** The tree on the left has a space on its side  
where rocks cover the letterbox hidden inside.

**18** Take care with the box and please take a look  
For creepy, crawly creatures before you stamp the book.

**19** Use your thumb and the date to leave as a sign  
That you were there and then take the time  
To use the stamp in the box to mark this little pad,  
Then put the box back so others will be glad  
When they find the box after you and they can letterbox too.

**20** Now that you've found what you sought in the park,  
Continue on the trail, but not after dark.  
Enjoy nature's bounty, the trees, birds and bugs .  
You've gotten your reward and deserve some hugs!