UMD Challenge Course Mission:
The University of Maryland Challenge Course Program serves campus and local community organizations by providing opportunities for individual growth and group development through guided physically, mentally, and emotionally challenging experiences. Participation in this education-focused program may result in development of leadership skills, problem-solving abilities, team effectiveness, and/or individual self-confidence.

Before answering this questionnaire, there are a few concepts to consider…

What is a Ropes/Challenge Course?

A ropes/challenge course is a unique program where individuals and groups come to create more effective teams.

A ropes course IS:

- A place where participants can learn to communicate better with each other
- A place to learn the value of cooperation and group encouragement
- A place where groups can work toward a common goal
- A place to have a shared group experience outside of the group’s normal environment
- A program filled with individual and group challenges designed to help a group learn how to better work together and utilize the strengths within the group or discover new strengths within yourself.

A ropes course is NOT:

- An obstacle course or a survival course. While there are climbing portions or elements, this is only a portion of the ropes course experience.
- A place for competition against others. The activities are designed around group participation and discovering what you’re capable of.

Participants have a supportive atmosphere in which they can explore their personal potential and capabilities. Groups learn the value of cooperation and encouragement. As people move through the course, the focus is on what can be accomplished as a group.
Please take a moment to fill out this questionnaire so that we are more able to design a relevant and appropriate workshop for your group. By being as thorough as possible in your answers, we will have a better understanding of your group and the goals you would like to work towards while at the challenge course.

Please print and send this back with the Group Agreement, or as an email attachment

1. How long has this group been together, and what are the approximate ages of the group members?

2. Does your group have a website, and if so, what is the address?

3. In your own words, why do you want to bring a group to the challenge course?

4. What do you hope the participants get out of the experience, and how do you feel the experience will benefit your group?

5. Are there any specific issues or special medical considerations the facilitator staff should be aware of and potentially plan for? This could include specific individuals or the group as a whole.

6. Are you looking for more of a recreational team bonding program (Getting to know each other and having a common group experience), or are you looking more for a more serious team building program (team building goal oriented activities and challenges that focus on group development)?
7. Does your group know why they are coming to challenge course and what to expect from the experience?

8. Are you going to follow up with the group in any way after the workshop about their experiences?

9. How large a focus would you like to see on the team building activities compared to the climbing portion? (if your workshop includes both portions, not all do so be sure to discuss your specific program with the UMD Challenge Course Director to help us design a program that meets your expectations.) Some groups place a large importance on the low group activities, while others want to focus on the climbing portion.

   % Team Building Low Activities____________ % Climbing Activities ________________

10. Has this group been out to the UMD course in the past? If so, what were the highlights that stood out and that you would like to possibly see incorporated again?

11. Any other comments you feel we should know in order to plan a more appropriate workshop for your group?