

Re: Making a trail map

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- *From:* Ron <ron-wongREMOVE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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In article <1146404462.590484.225050@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, "superboiler@xxxxxxxx" <superboiler@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

My son needs a detailed trail map that we can print up and mount in some sort of sign. We walked the trail and entered waypoints as key features. Now we need to transfer the data into an image, edit, and then print it. Unfortunately, the USGS topo maps have little detailed for the area whihc only about 1-2 square miles.

Well, your son could walk the trail again but this time with the tracking feature turned on. Then the rest of your task would be a cake-walk.

If he had walked the trail with the GPS's tracking turned on (the old Garmin 12XL called it a "tracking log") then he could have transferred the track to a properly scaled image (in my case a scanned, calibrated topo map) to which you could then add other elements he/you deemed necessary using a mapping/graphics program (whichever application suited your needs).

I happen to be using a Mac so I just scan the section of the topo map that would include the track, calibrate it using my mapping software (MacGPS Pro in my case but OziExplorer - among the many others - for the PC clan), transfer the track from my GPS to the calibrated map (as well as and waypoints/route -if they serve a purpose) and use Photoshop to dress it up with comments, pictures, etc.

More info:

My son is planning to put up trail signs at the local park as part of his Eagle service project. The park has about 6-8 miles of trails. Unfortunately, the city only has hand-written maps for the trails. He needs to make a better map of the trail system.

Re: Making a trail map

Your son could use your Garmin 60C and make a track log of the trail system. If your city is large enough to warrant a decent street map of the city, then scan the relevant part of the map (simpler still is to go to Google's map page and use it's map of your area. Then you would have the option of using a map or an arial photograph of the park as a backdrop), calibrate it using your mapping software, and transfer the track log to the calibrated image of the park.

Voila!

Your son should have a lot of fun with this one.

ron

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