

# Notes for Topographical Maps

- Topographical Maps – Detailed representations of part of Earth's surface, drawn to scale, showing changes in elevation.
- Relief – shows changes in elevation using contour lines that mark places of equal elevation.
  - Index Lines – darker lines marked with the elevation
  - Contour Interval – tells the difference between lines of elevation (meters or feet)
  - Scale – tells the difference between points on the map and the same points in real life.
- Reading the Map
  - Contour lines spaced far apart – gentle slopes
  - Contour lines spaces close together – steep slopes

- **Contour lines spaced far apart – gentle slopes**
- **Contour lines spaces close together – steep slopes**
- **Circles of contour lines – hills**
- **Hashmarks in circle of contour lines – depression (hole)**
- **V shaped Contour Lines – Water flows out of the open part of the V's.**
- **U shaped Contour Lines – Ridges**
- **Colors – blue/water, brown/contour line, black/man made road or structure, green/vegetation.**
- **Symbols – Use Symbol key**