Introduction to Geocaching
by
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&
GeocacheAlaska! members

Kincaid Park

5 June 2010
What is Geocaching?

First the disclaimers:

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Geocaching, hiking, backpacking and other outdoor activities involve risk to both persons and property. There are many variables including, but not limited to, weather, fitness level, terrain features and outdoor experience, that must be considered prior to seeking or placing a Cache. Be prepared for your journey and be sure to check the current weather and conditions before heading outdoors.
What is Geocaching? (con’t)

• Always exercise common sense and caution.

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• Cache seekers assume all risks involved in seeking a cache.
A GPS user hides ‘treasure’ (a container and its contents… the ‘Cache’)

The GPS user publishes the exact coordinates so other GPS users can come on a ‘treasure hunt’ to find it.

The basic rules are:
if you take something from the cache, you must leave something for the cache, and you must write about your visit in the logbook.

Of course, there are the extra details…
The *JOY* of geocaching is found in…

*Companions on the trail…*
A journey across the land...
New vistas to discover…
And of course, finding the cache!
Who is GeocacheAlaska! Inc.?

The purposes of GeocacheAlaska! are to:

- Promote geocaching as an exciting, family-oriented activity that increases awareness of parks and trail systems.
- Provide opportunities for the geocaching community to enjoy geocaching in the area and to meet and socialize with like-minded geocachers.
- Increase awareness of geocaching issues in the area through interaction with other outdoor activity groups, geocaching clubs, and the public.
- Educate geocachers on low impact geocaching and promote stewardship of our natural resources.
- Educate other outdoor enthusiasts on geocaching.
- Represent geocaching interests in public forums and to recreation land managers.
- Actively promote the "Cache In Trash Out" (CITO) program to help in the maintenance of parks and trail systems.
Basic Gear

GPS

Garmin - Magellan

Data transfer

GPS Antennas:
- Patch Antenna (small – compact)
- Quadrahelix Antenna (stubby – larger)

Compass / Map

Don’t leave home without them on an off-road trip...

Map

No Map

Cache Bag

Trade Items

Spare Batteries

1st Aid Kit

Water

CITO bag

Digital Camera

Gloves/Hat

Sunblock

Snacks

Mosquito Headnet
The Geocacher’s Creed – ‘Safe • Legal • Ethical’

When placing or seeking geocaches, I will:

Not endanger myself or others
Observe all laws & rules of the area
Respect property rights and seek permission where appropriate
Avoid causing disruptions or public alarm
Minimize my and others' impact on the environment
Be considerate of others
Protect the integrity of the game pieces

CITO  CACHE IN – TRASH OUT
TRADE EVEN
TRADE UP
7 BASIC STEPS

1. Set up your geocaching.com account
   2. Pick out your first cache to hunt
3. Get your coordinates into the GPS
   4. Get to the Cache
5. The Search
   6. The Find
7. Log your find online at Geocaching.com
www.geocaching.com
5 June 2010

Introduction to Geocaching

LOG-IN PAGE

Login to Geocaching.com

Been here before? Login:

Username: Northwes
Password: ********

Remember me (requires cookies)

Login

Create a new account - It's free!

Forget your password? Click here

Validate my account
If you received a validation email and are having problems using the link, go here.
### CACHE LISTING BY PROXIMITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTANCE FROM HOME</th>
<th>CACHE TYPE</th>
<th>TRACKABLES IN CACHE?</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY/TERRAIN/SIZE</th>
<th>CACHE NAME/OWNER</th>
<th>DATES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>0.4mi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>21 Nov 04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>0.6mi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>01 Apr 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1.5/1.5)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>GeoJoy by Beluga183 (GCM4AK) Alaska</td>
<td>17 Jan 05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1.5/2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Prox by kitty_whipped (GCP15C) Alaska</td>
<td>17 Dec 05</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 May 05</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11 Jun 05</td>
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Resources

• GeocacheAlaska! Education page: http://www.geocachealaska.org/education.htm


• GeocacheAlaska! Forums: http://geocachealaska.proboards.com/index.cgi

• Geocaching.com Resources: http://www.geocaching.com/resources/default.aspx

• Geocaching Glossary of Terms: http://www.geocaching.com/about/glossary.aspx


• Geocaching.com Forums http://forums.groundspeak.com/GC/

• Geocacher University: http://www.geocacher-u.com/