# What is Geocaching?

Geocaching is a real-world outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices. Participants navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to find the geocache container hidden at that location.

Geocaches can be found all over the world. It is common for geo-cachers to hide caches in locations that are important to them, reflecting a special interest or skill of the cache owner.

Your device will take you to the general location, but you'll still have to comb the area to find the cache yourself. Don't give up too easily the fun is in the hunt!

When you find the cache, sign the logbook and return it to the exact place you found it. You can take an item from the cache if you like, but it is customary to leave something of equal or greater value in its place.
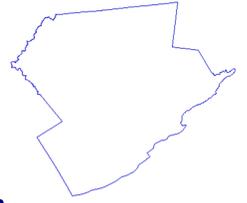
# The Geocachers Code

## Safe · Legal · Ethical

When placing or seeking geocaches,

I will...

1. Not endanger myself or others.

2. Observe all laws and rules of the area.

3. Respect property rights and seek permission where appropriate.

4. Avoid causing disruptions or public alarm.

5. Minimize my and others' impact on the environment.

6. Be considerate of others.

7. Protect the integrity of the game piece.



# Monroe County Geocaching Challenge



Did you know there are over 125 parks and open space properties within Monroe County that are open to the public?

The Monroe County Geocaching Challenge is a great way to get outdoors and explore Monroe County!
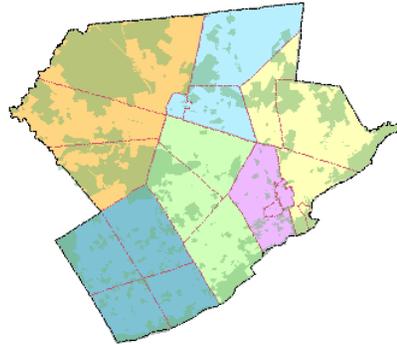
## How to Participate

Visit monroecountypa.gov and click the tabs Living - Recreation Opportunities- & Geo-caching to find the coordinates for each of the caches shown on the map. The coordinates will be written in degree - decimal - minute format. Copy coordinates in the exact format and paste them into your GPS device or the map application on your smartphone to navigate to the general location of the cache. The coordinates will get you close but you'll still have to hunt for the cache.

Remember an important part of the geo-cashing is protect the integrity of the game piece so that the next player can enjoy the challenge. When you are done place the cache in the exact spot you found it.

Many geo-cashers use geocaching websites to log their caches and share their experiences with others. One of the most popular sites is geocaching.com

## The Monroe County Geocaching Challenge



The Monroe County Green Geocaching Challenge was created to encourage residents and visitors to explore the County's natural resources while participating in a fun outdoor activity.

Each color coded region, identified in the map above, contains 3-4 traditional caches and 1 kids cache.

There is no particular order to participate. The challenge is self paced and players set their own goals.

You can play by region, treasure hunt with our kids cache series , or go big and explore the entire county to find them all!

## Types of Caches

Traditional Caches:  This is the original type of geocache. Located in a camouflage container, these caches require navigating to the given coordinates and searching around rocks, tress and fallen logs. Level of difficulty vary and some caches require hiking on steep and uneven terrain.  Be sure to read the cached details and dress accordingly.

Kid's Caches:  Similar to a traditional caches, but  more accessible for adventures little ones. The containers are larger in size and are hidden less than a 1/2-mile from the trial-head.  These treasure chest style  caches contain  kid friendly prizes and focus on a key principle of geocaching... if you take something leave something!


Sample Cache