GEOCACHING - Create Your Own Geocache

ASK

How do you place geocaches in your community for others to find? Where can you place geocaches? In this section, you will learn how and where to place geocaches.

INVESTIGATE

By placing a geocache in your community, you not only contribute to the sport, but you can share special places that people may not see otherwise. You might be surprised how many cachers will travel to your town if you create geocaches for them to find! Be sure the locations you choose are places that won't mind strangers coming to visit.

What places are of interest in your area? Some ideas include public places like parks, old buildings, churches, or unique landmarks. Regulations for cache placement are listed on the http://www.geocaching.com. Be sure to follow the guidelines and regulations, and if you place a cache, you need to maintain it.
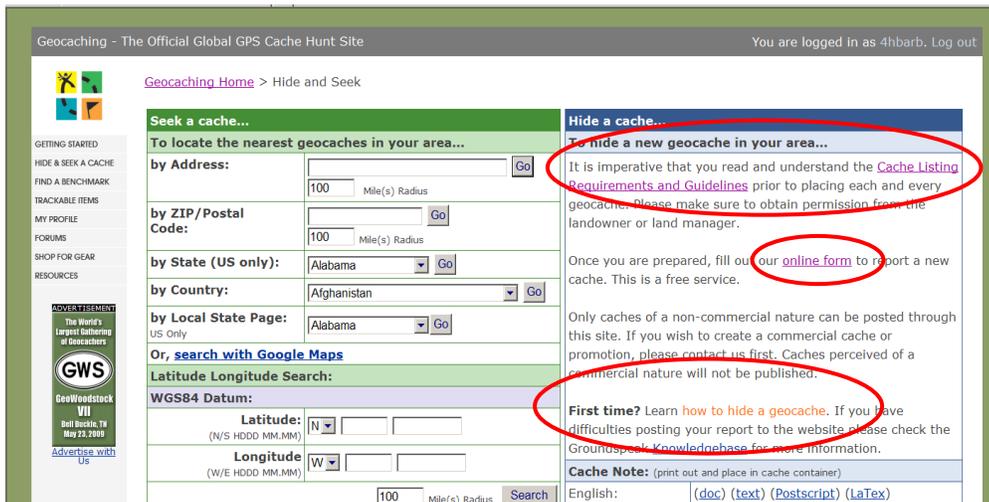
CREATE

Getting Started:

- Computer with internet connectivity
- GPS receiver
- Waterproof container
- Logbook
- Pencil or pen - depending on cache size
- Small items to trade (It is customary to leave a small "treasure" for cachers to take. It is also customary for cachers to leave something behind.)

Prepare your cache and decide where you would like to place it.

Helpful Tip: Be especially careful to have permission from the landowner, choose a safe location and not a place within .10 mile (as the crow flies) from another cache.

1. Go to **www.geocaching.com**
2. Log in (this is a safe site. You will need to set up an account using your email address.)
3. On the upper left, click "Hide & Seek a Cache."
4. Look at the upper-right of the page, under "Hide a Cache." There are three important areas in this section. Click and review each of them to prepare for your cache placement.

a. "How to hide a geocache"

Step 1. Research a Cache Location

Step 2. Preparing Your Cache

Step 3. Placing Your Cache

Step 4. Submitting your Cache

Step 5. Maintaining your Cache

b. "Cache Listing Requirements and Guidelines"   Scroll down to the Table of Contents and check out the following

- Off-limit caches

- Cache types/sizes

- General guidelines – maintenance, contents, etc.

- Cache saturation – not within .10 mile of other caches

- CITO events (Cache In Trash Out)

c. "Online form"

Looking at this will help you gather necessary information. Then you can go back and complete the form.

- You will need:

   1. Cache type

   2. Cache size

   3. Cache name

   4. Coordinates

   5. Difficulty and terrain rating (explained on this form)

   6. Hint (is encrypted automatically)

   7. And more

- Once you have all the information, fill out the online form. (Notice there is a time limit)

- You will want to check the "Yes, this listing is active…" box to have your cache reviewed quickly.

- When the form is completed, note the area shown at the very end of the form. You must check both boxes and click on "Report New Listing" to submit the form.

☐ **Yes. I have read and understand the guidelines for listing a cache.**

☐ **Yes. I have read and agree to the terms of use agreement.**

Report New Listing

Helpful Tip: Check your spelling! It would be embarrassing to have spelling errors on your cache page.

    5. Now, go and place your geocache in the selected location.

DISCUSS

- What did you enjoy most about placing your geocache?
- What did you learn about geocaching?

REFLECT

- How can knowledge gained in this activity help you in the future?
- How can you interest others in the sport of geocaching?
- What are places of interest in your community that you can share with others through geocaching?
- How can geocaching be used to support education, community development, community service, or other goals?