

### **GEOCACHING POLICY**

Adopted June 6, 2013 Amended August 31, 2016

#### LAKEHEAD REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY GEOCACHING POLICY

Geocaching is permitted on LRCA properties that are open to the public, so long as participants adhere to the General Regulations as outlined by the Conservation Areas Act, and so long as the activity is conducted in a safe, respectful nature. The rules of geocaching must be followed, as outlined by <a href="https://www.geocaching.com">www.geocaching.com</a>. By participating in the activity of geocaching, the cache seeker assumes all risks and liability involved. Neither the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA), nor any employee, volunteer, board member nor administrator of the LRCA shall be held liable for any injuries, losses or damage to property occurring whilst participating in the activity of geocaching on LRCA-owned lands. Geocachers must pay all applicable fees (i.e. \$2.00 per vehicle parking fees; Explore Cards) and adhere to all rules and policies including: using only designated access points or parking areas; visiting only during regular hours of operation; and respecting all trail closure signs.

The placement of geocaches on LRCA property is permitted, so long as the procedures as outlined by <a href="https://www.geocaching.com">www.geocaching.com</a> are followed. If you wish to place a geocache on LRCA property, you must first apply to the LRCA for permission.

#### **Geocaches placed on LRCA property must:**

- 1. Not to be placed in sensitive ecological areas, areas that may harm the flora and fauna of the Conservation Areas (CAs), or in areas that are potentially dangerous to individuals searching for the geocache.
- 2. Follow a "leave no trace" ethic: no digging or disruption of the ground is permitted when placing the cache, including disturbing the habitat of wildlife. No screws or nails are to be placed into trees. No trash is to be left in the CAs.
- 3. Ensure that the directions to the cache follow established trails as much as possible. Off-trail hiking is not permitted as it may negatively impact the environment and could be a potential safety concern. Caches must be placed within 3 m of trails, or be within a maintained public area (e.g. picnic areas and clearings).
- 4. Be external to any buildings or structures on LRCA property.
- 5. Be properly maintained by the cache owner, who is responsible for the geocache, and to ensure that the contents are "family friendly" (i.e. no food, no dangerous items, no adult materials, no drugs, etc.)

The LRCA reserves the right to remove or alter any caches at any time if the site of the cache is deemed to have become too dangerous or inaccessible due to fallen trees, high water levels, etc., or if the cache is found to be in disrepair or contain inappropriate items.

Geocaching is a fun, family-friendly activity. We would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation and compliance with the Regulations and Policies of the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority.

\*Approval Notification- Once you have received approval from the LRCA you will be asked to copy and paste the following line to your <a href="https://www.geocaching.com">www.geocaching.com</a> "Edit a Geocaching Listing" under the "Note to Reviewer" section:

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority has approved the placement of this geocache in the specified Conservation Area. Please contact the LRCA office at (807) 344-5857 for verification from the Field Operations Supervisor or the Public Relations Officer.



# GEOCACHE PLACEMENT PERMIT

Name:
Geocaching.com User Name:
Address:
Phone: Fax:
Email:
Proposed Conservation Area:
GPS Coordinates (UTM):
Physical Description of Area/Landmarks:
Cache Name:
GC Code:
Type of Cache:
Physical Description of Cache Container:
Is this cache accessible year round?
Approved by:
Date of Approval:

## Please Fax, Email or hand deliver completed form to:

(geocache coordinates are not to be published prior to this date.)

Fax: (807) 345-9156 info@lakeheadca.com 130 Conservation Road (off of Oliver Road)