

Geocache Program



Find Geocaches hidden in Platte County Parks!



Geocaching is an ever growing adventure sport much like treasure hunting that combines the outdoors with technology. It is a game of hide-and-seek with the use of a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver. To find the hidden caches, participants retrieve coordinates from www.geocaching.com, they upload the cache coordinates to their GPS, then head outside and search for the hidden cache. Caches, which usually consist of a plastic container, log book, and inexpensive toys or “treasures” can be hidden anywhere, from under a rock to in a tall patch of grass!

Geocaching is a great activity for the entire family, it can also be a very enjoyable solo sport. Geocaching is geared towards all ages. Platte County Parks has hidden caches in six different park places. The coordinates have been posted on www.geocaching.com. You must become a member to retrieve coordinates from the website; membership is free. Once you are a member you can retrieve coordinates from all over the world! The possibilities are endless as new caches are hidden every day! Platte County Parks and Recreation is very excited to have this program in our parks. Find our caches at Platte Ridge Park, Barry Platte Park, Prairie Creek Greenway, Missouri Riverfront Trail, Platte Purchase Park and Green Hills of Platte Wildlife Preserve. Geocaching is a new way to explore, experience, and enjoy Platte County Parks and Trails. Get outside and start the hunt!



Official Geocaching Placement Policy

This policy establishes the guidelines for geocaching on Platte County Park property.

Guidelines:

- Any person wishing to place a cache on Platte County property is required to complete and have an Official Geocaching Placement Permit approved. Permits can be obtained at no cost.
- Caches are not to be placed in sensitive archaeological, historical, or ecological areas such as historical buildings or locations that contain rare plant species.
- Caches that are located in areas where prescribed burns are performed will be removed during the burn period. The cache will either be replaced to the original location by staff or the cache owner.
- Staff is required to inform applicants of any areas that have been recognized as off limits for placing caches.
- The environment must not be destroyed or negatively impacted during the placement of the cache.
- Caches are not to be placed in areas that could potentially cause danger to visitors trying to locate the cache, i.e. climbing cliffs/bluffs, underwater, in trees, etc.
- Multi-caches are limited to two per site, yet treated as one cache and require only one permit.
- If any staff determines that the location of the cache poses a risk to park visitors, the owner will be contacted and required to move it to a safer location. All information regarding the risk is to be recorded on the original permit. If the owner relocates the cache, a new permit is to be generated.
- If at any time the terms of the permit are violated, Platte County Parks has the authority to void the permit, remove the cache from its location, and attempt to notify the owner or indicate on the appropriate website that the cache has been removed. Justification for these actions is to be recorded on the permit.
- If a non-permitted cache is discovered, Platte County Parks will attempt to contact the owner to request that a permit be completed for approval or denial. Caches that do not have a permit may be removed.
- A cache owner is limited to two cache permits per location.
- Cache owners are required to notify the County of the removal of their cache and termination of their permit.
- Permits do not have an expiration date but can be voided at any time.

Procedures:

- Cache owners wishing to place a cache on Platte County Park property must complete an Official Geocaching Placement Permit. The Parks Department will review the permit and the cache for policy compliance.
- The cache must display the words "Official Geocache" clearly on the outside of the container.
- An explanation of the geocaching activity is to be included in the container (explanation notes can be printed from www.geocaching.com).
- The cache owner is to monitor the site monthly and maintain family friendly contents. This means the cache is not to contain food, alcohol, firearms, drugs, dangerous items or other inappropriate items.
- Once the cache is placed, the applicant is to return to the Parks office to record the exact location information for completion of the permit. Platte County Parks will keep a park map indicating the exact cache location on file with the permit.
- The cache owner must submit a photograph of the cache(s) with the approved permit.
- The original copy of the approved permit will remain on file at the Parks office. A copy of the permit, approved or denied, will be given to the cache owner. If the permit is denied, the justification will be recorded on the permit.