

Locations in Minnesota that need Permission, Permits, or where Geocaching is Prohibited

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Aitkin County

Aitkin County requires that permission be obtained in writing before placement of caches on Aitkin County Lands.

You can contact Rich Courtemanche at rich.courtemanche@co.aitkin.mn.us for permission.

Click this link to download the registration from—> [Aitkin County Registration Form](#)

Anoka County

Geocaching policy and application forms can be found here (link updated 11/30/17)

Blaine (City)

Policy can be found here: [Geocaching Guidelines in Blaine Parks](#)

Be sure to include a Reviewer Note stating that your cache meet the policy and include park hours on the cache page

Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness

Physical geocaches are not permitted in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Brooklyn Park (City)

[Brooklyn Park's Geocaching Policy](#)

Carver County Parks

Carver County Parks permits the use of its park system for Geocaching and has created the following guidelines

Champlin (City)

All geocaches in the City of Champlin parks must be registered with the Parks and Public Works Department.

Click here to be directed to the city's website with their registration form with instructions - [Champlin Parks and Recreation Geocache Registration Form](#)

Cloquet (City)

You must notify the City when you place a geocache in Cloquet. More information may be found by contacting Brian Fritsinger at 218-879-3347.

[CloquetGeocachingPolicy.pdf](#)

Dakota County

[Dakota County Parks Geocaching Guidelines](#)

[Register a Geocache](#) Be sure to include a Reviewer Note stating that your cache has been registered.

Detroit Lakes (City)

[City of Detroit Lakes Geocaching Policy](#)

All caches placed on Detroit Lakes City Parks must be registered. Geocaching is only permitted in the GAR Park, Beaton Park, Long Lake Park, Washington Park (City Park), Sucker Creek Preserve and the Rotary Soccer Complex. The City of Detroit Lake Parks Department reserves the right to disallow geocaching in any area of any park. All unregistered caches will be removed.

When hiding, finding, and trading items in a geocache, you are subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, including park hours.

Hiding or finding a geocache should never alter, damage or otherwise negatively impact the parks, trails or surrounding area. New caches should not be placed within 1/2 mile of existing caches and should be located so that existing trails can be used to get close to them. The City of Detroit Lakes retains the right to remove or have removed a cache it feels is in an inappropriate location or is causing undue impact on the habitat. Geocaching should never interfere with or detract from other park visitors' experiences.

Individuals will be limited to 2 caches per park; 5 total in the park system. Caches need to be available to the public, no member-only or subscription caches will be allowed on park properties.

The hider is responsible for maintaining the quality of the geocache, and it must be of value to other geocachers. Caches are not to contain items that are offensive, dangerous, or illegal.

The hider is responsible for the upkeep of relevant information about the park and area the geocache is located in.

Duluth (City)

City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Department Geocaching Policy

Geocaching is a recreational pursuit that brings technology and nature together. A geocache is normally a hidden container containing trade items and a logbook. The location of the geocache is recorded with a Global Positioning System receiver and is posted online. Other individuals then try to find the geocache, sign its logbook, trade an item, and later record their find online.

The Duluth Parks and Recreation Department welcomes responsible geocaching and has developed the following policy in the interest of all park users and geocachers.

1. When hiding, finding, and trading items in a geocache you are subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws including park hours.
2. Hiding or finding a geocache should never alter, damage, or otherwise negatively impact the parks, trails, or surrounding areas. Geocaching should never interfere with or detract from other park visitors' experiences. New geocaches should not be placed within 1/10th of a mile (528 feet) of existing geocaches.
3. Geocaching is not allowed in sanctuaries, campgrounds, zoos, environmental preservation areas, and places that are ecologically sensitive. The City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to disallow geocaching in any area of any park.
4. **A geocache hider must notify the City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Department with the geocache name, coordinates, URL of geocache listing, and valid contact information when a geocache is hidden. The hider is responsible for maintaining the quality of the geocache and it must be of value to other geocachers. The hider is also responsible for the upkeep of relevant information about the park and area the geocache is located in. The City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Department will notify the hider if there are any seasonal restrictions or relevant policy changes concerning the park or geocache area.**

If you have any questions about this policy, or if you hide a geocache in a Duluth park, please contact Judy Gibbs with the City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Department at 218-269-4712 or by email at jgibbs@duluthmn.gov.

Eden Prairie (City)

Eden Prairie Geocaching Policy

Isanti County

Geocache Policy

Lake County

Caches in Lake County are currently allowed only in the Demonstration Forest with permit obtained from the Lake County Commissioner. There is a limit of 5 caches in the Demonstration Forest at any time.

Download the Registration Form here — > [Lake County Registration Form](#)

Maple Grove (City)

The Maple Grove geocaching policy has been updated effective May 26, 2010 and allows for caches without registration.

Maple Grove Geocaching Policy

Minnesota State Parks

* State Parks ([guidelines](#), [registration form](#))

The MnDNR has asked that all permit applications be submitted electronically. Do not mail or call their office. Some PDF viewers may not work properly, so try another if the form is not editable.

[Minnesota State Parks Boundary File \(Opens in Google Earth\)](#)

Minnesota State Forests

* State Forests ([guidelines](#) and [MN DNR Recreation Compass](#))

Pay particular attention in State Forests to paragraph 4.0. Be sure to include a Reviewer Note stating that your cache meets the State Forest Guidelines.

[Minnesota State Forest Boundary File \(Opens in Google Earth\)](#)

Minnesota State Wildlife Management Areas

Geocaching is prohibited on all other Minnesota DNR land including, but not limited to: Aquatic Management Areas (including Fishery Management Areas), Scientific Natural Areas, and Wildlife Management Areas.

[Minnesota WMA Boundary Files \(Opens in Google Earth\)](#)

Minnesota Scientific and Natural Areas

Geocaching is prohibited on all other Minnesota DNR land including, but not limited to: Aquatic Management Areas (including Fishery Management Areas), Scientific Natural Areas, and Wildlife Management Areas.

Earthcaches are currently allowed in SNA's. Please download the Application here if you have one planned—> [Earthcache Application for Minnesota SNA's](#)

[Minnesota SNA Boundary Files \(Opens in Google Earth\)](#)

Minnesota Aquatic Management Areas

Geocaching is prohibited on all other Minnesota DNR land including, but not limited to: Aquatic Management Areas (including Fishery Management Areas), Scientific Natural Areas, and Wildlife Management Areas.

[Minnesota AMA Boundary Files \(Opens in Google Earth\)](#)

MnDOT Rest Areas

Geocaching is no longer allowed in MnDOT Rest Areas: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/restareas/policy.html>

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National Parks

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Geocaching is prohibited in all National Parks including the Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway. The policy can be found [here](#)

National Wildlife Refuges and Waterfowl Production Areas

The US Fish & Wildlife Service does not allow physical geocaches within National Wildlife Refuges or Waterfowl Production Areas.

Map link: [NWRs in Minnesota](#)

[Links below will open in Google Earth](#)

National Wildlife Refuges

[AGASSIZ NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[BIG STONE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[CRANE MEADOWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[GLACIAL RIDGE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[HAMDEN SLOUGH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[MILLE LACS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[MINNESOTA VALLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[NORTHERN TALLGRASS PRAIRIE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[RICE LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[RYDELL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[SHERBURNE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[TAMARAC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[TREMPEALEAU NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE](#)

[UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE AND FISH REFUGE](#)

Waterfowl Production Areas

[LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREA](#)

[OTTER TAIL COUNTY WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREA](#)

[Pelican Lake WPAa](#)

[Pelican Lake WPAb](#)

[Pelican Lake WPAc](#)

Ney Nature Center

The Ney Nature Center requires registration with the office before placing a cache on the property.

Pelican Rapids (City)

[Pelican Rapids Geocaching Policy](#)

Ramsey County

[Ramsey County Parks Geocaching Policy and Application Form](#)

River Bend Nature Area

Southdale Shopping Center

Southdale Center in Edina does not allow geocaches to be placed. Cachers have been approached by security and asked to leave in the past.

Springbrook Nature Center (City of Fridley)

[Click here for Springbrook's Geocaching Policy and Registration Form](#)

Superior National Forest

[Download the permit application form here](#)

When approved, email an image to your Reviewer or upload a copy to a Reviewer Note.

Physical geocaches are allowed in the Superior National Forest but they must be registered at a Forest Service District Office before being placed.

1. All caches placed on the Superior National Forest must be registered at the appropriate District Rangers Office prior to placement.
2. Caches must be at least a ½ mile apart.
3. Caches need to be public, no member only or subscription caches.
4. Unregistered caches will be removed and violation notice issued.
5. Caches will last no more than one year and the District Ranger's Office notified upon removal.
6. Physical caches must not be placed in the Boundary Waters Canoe area Wilderness, Research Areas, Natural Areas, or National Natural Landmarks. Only virtual caches are allowed in these areas.
7. Caches must be placed following Leave No Trace principals.
8. To protect threaten and sensitive species, caches must be only in uplands to protect wetlands and placed in such as a way that there is no disturbance of the ground or vegetation.
9. Caches must not contain food or hazardous materials.
10. Containers must be no smaller than a pint and no larger than two gallons.
11. Containers must be labeled on the outside so that it would not be mistaken as containing hazardous substances.
12. Do not direct people through or near identified archeological sites. This does not work towards maintaining or preserving heritage resources and could lead toward further degradation of the site.
13. Return registration to the District Office for approval by the District Ranger.

St. Paul (City)

[City of St. Paul Geocaching Policy](#)

[Online Geocache Registration Form](#) Please mention in a Reviewer Note that you have completed the geocache registration.

Superior Hiking Trail

Geocaching Policy: The Superior Hiking Trail Association does not have the authority to grant permission for geocaching or similar placement of items on the trail. Anyone wishing to place such items must have the advance, written permission of the landowner involved and follow any

guidelines or requirements established by the landowner. In addition, any geocache must be registered with, and follow the guidelines established by, www.geocaching.com. On any parcel of land actually owned by SHTA, any geocache must follow the requirements set by the Minnesota DNR for geocaching in State Parks.

Three Rivers Park District

[Three Rivers Park District Geocaching Policy and Application Form](#)

Three Rivers Regional Trails

From the above link: **Geocaching is not allowed** at Noerenberg Gardens or The Landing – Minnesota River Heritage Park, or **on their Regional Trails**.

[Click here for Three Rivers Parks Regional Trails Map](#)

UMore Park (Rosemount and Dakota County)

Caching is prohibited in UMore Park.

U.S. Corp of Engineers property

[Geocaching at Civil Works Projects](#)

Washington County Parks

[Washington County Parks Geocaching Policy](#)