

# Puerto Rico

## Regional Geocaching Policies Wiki

An evolving, community-created wiki on where you can and can't hide geocaches.

Reviewer for Puerto Rico

[GeoDesertTiger](#)

### Table of Contents

- 1 [General Information](#)
  - 1.1 [When will my Geocache be published?](#)
  - 1.2 [Include a complete Reviewer Note about your geocache](#)
  - 1.3 [Puzzle/Mystery/Wherigo caches](#)
  - 1.4 [Disabled Caches](#)
  - 1.5 [Health Score](#)
  - 1.6 [Event Stacking](#)
- 2 [El Toro Wilderness](#)
- 3 [Little Free Libraries](#)
- 4 [San Juan National Historic Site](#)

## General Information

### When will my Geocache be published?

In Arizona, we have 2 Volunteers who review and publish geocaches. We strive to begin review of geocaches within 7 days. Typically, it is much sooner. If some of your geocaches are published by one reviewer and some are still unpublished, please be patient. The other reviewer will get to them as schedules permit. If for some reason one reviewer gets behind, it is possible that another reviewer will help out.

### Include a complete Reviewer Note about your geocache

We ask all cache hidere to provide basic information in a Reviewer Note about their cache. In your private response to me, please describe your cache container in detail, as well as how and where your cache is hidden and how a visiting geocacher finds and retrieves the cache. If your cache is attached to anything, please describe the attachment method. Be specific about how the cache is hidden. And please do not say something like "The same as the rest". Each cache page needs it's own description.

Some examples: pill bottle in a hole in the tree in 'Name of City park', hide-a-key on guardrail on 'Name of Road', in water, retrieved by pulling up line from Name of Park fishing pier, a keyholder magnetically attached to a lamp post in commercial parking lot.

Please be specific about what the container is and the size. Just saying a "plastic container" or a "Metal box" is incomplete. Is it a tupperware container, a film canister, a camoed pill bottle on guard rail, a 5 gallon bucket, or a pipe resembling a stick of dynamite? We want to know in case there is some question in the future by Law Enforcement or a property owner.

If you need to include a picture, please upload the image to a Reviewer Note. When the cache is publishes, the image will be archived and not visible to the public.

### Puzzle/Mystery/Wherigo caches

- We need to know how your puzzle/mystery cache is solvable, please include this information in a Reviewer Note.
- A coordinate checker is required. We do test your coordinate checker for accuracy. If a keyword is needed to get a positive answer or coordinates other than the Final waypoint coordinates, please include this information in a Reviewer Note.
- Please do not put your 'posted' coordinates in areas where people should not search such as freeways, private residences, railroads, off-limits locations, or other areas where access is restricted. Lakes and street corners are fine. I know your cache page says the cache is not at the posted coordinates, but people do search those coordinates. We have many new cachere who are using cell phones and may not look at the cache page. If you have any questions about a location, feel free to ask one of us.

### Disabled Caches

If the cache owner intends to keep the cache in the game, they should:

- At least monthly post ongoing status updates on the cache page using a Write Note log
- Confirm when a maintenance visit has been completed using an Owner Maintenance log

### About This Guide

The local laws and guidelines for geocaching placement vary from place to place. As community reviewers learn geocache placement policies for a certain location, they can add it here. This site may not be a complete or accurate list of land policies. These policies are made by the land owner or manager, they are neither the reviewer's nor Geocaching HQ's. This guide is just for reference, if no policies for the area you're looking for are listed, that doesn't mean no policies exist. You must still obtain permission to place your geocache from the landowner or land manager, comply with all applicable laws, and follow the [Geocaching Listing Requirements](#).

If you have an update, email the community reviewer(s) listed.



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- Use the Enable option when it has been confirmed the cache is ready to be found

A Reviewer may Archive the cache if the cache owner has not posted an update within 14 days.

## Health Score

- To help improve the overall caching experience, [Geocaching HQ created an algorithm to calculate a hidden Health Score](#) for each geocache.
- A low Health Score provides an indication that the cache may need attention from the owner.
- The goal is to improve the overall geocaching experience and avoid frustrations due to missing or broken caches.
- The algorithm isn't perfect; it cannot read and interpret the text within a cache page - however it does take the following aspects of a page into consideration:
  1. Did Not Find logs (DNF)
  2. Needs Maintenance logs (NM)
  3. Needs Archived logs (NA)
  4. Last find date
  5. Difficulty and terrain rating
- If the Health Score of a cache is calculated below a dynamic threshold, an automatic alert email is sent to the cache owner by Geocaching HQ.
- A Community Volunteer Reviewer may follow up to perform further actions on the cache page.
- Neither Geocaching HQ or the Community Volunteer Reviewer can assess the true status of a cache; **it is the responsibility of the cache owner, as part of cache maintenance.**
- If there are a multiple DNFs logs on a cache - **the community may not know if the cache is missing or is simply hard to find.**
- If a cache page has several posted DNFs - and the cache owner knows that the cache is in definitely in place - they should reassure the community by posting a Note log.

*e.g. "There have been a few DNFs, however it is a clever hide! I checked on it this morning. Check the hint!"*

- If a Community Volunteer Reviewer does not see a posted response from a cache owner on their cache page after several DNF/Maintenance requests, it may be Disabled.
- If a cache owner knows with certainty that their cache is in place and ready to be found, they may Enable the cache page, with an explanatory note.
- If a cache owner is unable to definitively confirm the status of their cache, the cache page should remain Disabled and a Maintenance visit should be scheduled.
- An Owner Maintenance log should only be posted **after** a maintenance visit has occurred.
- Only when a cache is confirmed to be in place and ready to be found should a cache page be Enabled.

The number of "false positives" flagged with this process are minimal compared to the number of abandoned caches that this process will remove from the game.

## Event Stacking

An event must be a minimum of 50 kilometers distance or 5 hours before or after another event. This is a regional rule to prevent event stacking. A registered series of events can also be rejected as unique events, even if the distance is over 50 km, if it is essentially the same group traveling from event to event. The intention of an event is to be central; a social gathering for and with geocachers.

## El Toro Wilderness

Web: <https://www.wilderness.net/NWPS/wildView?WID=679>

Geocaches not allowed in Wilderness Parks. <http://www.wilderness.net/index.cfm?fuse=toolboxes&sec=geocaching#>

## Little Free Libraries

The libraries are privately owned and permission must be obtained from the library owner.

## San Juan National Historic Site

Web: <https://www.nps.gov/saju/index.htm>

If you share information from this site, you must mention "These regional land policies came from the [Geocaching.com Public Wiki](#) and are licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-No-Derivatives 4.0 International License](#)."

And, you agree to keep content current by checking back regularly for updates.

No geocaches allowed.