

Geocaching Policy

General Provisions:

Geocaching is an adventure activity for people who use hand-held global positioning satellite devices (GPS). This device, along with a set of coordinates, enables the user to locate hidden caches around the world. We have developed this policy regarding placement of geocaches within Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD) facilities and parklands to minimize their impact on the environment as well as staff and other park visitors. All requests for geocache placement in any LARPD facility or parkland must be in writing using LARPD's Geocaching Permit Application form. Completed Permit Application forms must be submitted to District staff for approval. Any geocaches not meeting the guidelines in this policy will be removed and disposed of by LARPD staff at their discretion. LARPD reserves the right to amend this policy and/or remove any cache at anytime for any reason.

Required Information:

To place a Geocache in any LARPD facility or parkland a Permit Application must be submitted to District staff and approved **before** the physical cache is placed.

- 1) Permit Application
 - a) Proposed geocache location, including specific coordinates.
 - b) Name and contact information for person(s) requesting authorization for placement of geocache.
 - c) Geocache container and site descriptions.
- 2) Picture of each cache container (containers will be subject to LARPD approval).
- 3) Picture of proposed cache site.
- 4) List of items at time of placement.

Geocache Placement Requirements:

- ◆ Geocache name must be clearly visible on the exterior of all geocache containers. An "Official Geocache" green and black sticker is preferred.
 - Alternatively, "Official Geocache" and cache name must be written on the outside of the cache in a minimum of half-inch letters.
 - Micros and other special caches/containers will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
- ◆ Include a "cache note" in the cache to explain what geocaching is.
- ◆ Caches need to be public – no "Members Only" caches or "Subscriber Only" caches.
- ◆ Caches must not contain any organic items (such as food, plants, etc.).
- ◆ Caches must not contain any inappropriate, offensive or hazardous materials.
- ◆ Caches must be placed adjacent to already existing trails. NO trailblazing. Any off-trail hiking is prohibited due to negative impacts on the native flora and fauna.
 - Sensitive habitat areas are off-limits for caches.
- ◆ Cache must be in a secure, waterproof container.
- ◆ Caches must not, in anyway, resemble an explosive device (such as pipe bomb, etc.).

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Geocache Placement Requirements Continued:

- ◆ Caches will be permitted for up to a six-month duration, depending on the cache and its location. Extensions may be applied for, and they are subject to LARPD approval. Extensions require a new permit application to be filled out. Extension applications must be submitted one month prior to current permit expiration.
- ◆ Any Web site address where the cache will be listed must be provided to, and approved by, LARPD.

Requirements for Geocache Owners:

- ◆ Cache must be physically checked once every 60 days and maintained as a family-friendly cache. No pornography, drugs, alcohol or weapons; or racially, ethnically, politically or religiously oriented materials, or references thereto, are allowed.
- ◆ When a cache is removed, the responsible party will deactivate or archive any online postings for the removed cache within seven (7) days of removal.
- ◆ “Caches that solicit are prohibited. Geocaching is supposed to be a light, fun activity, not a platform for an agenda.” – Geocaching.com

For more information or to submit your application contact the Ranger Staff at:

LARPD
Attn: Rangers (Geocaching)
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925-960-2400
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