



Regulations and Requirements for Placing a Geocache on Forest Preserve District of Kane County Property

The Forest Preserve District of Kane County manages properties under its jurisdiction in a manner consistent with its enabling statute to protect the lands for the purposes of conservation, recreation and education. Responses to requests for placement shall weigh the relative impact of this use on District preserves. All requests for placement of Geocaches shall be regulated by the rules and regulations found in the Requirements for Geocache Placement and Requirements for Geocache Owners Sections of these Regulations and Requirements. The Forest Preserve District of Kane County encourages the use of “Earthcaches” and “Wherigo” caches. No Geocache may be placed on District property without a specific special use permit.

I. General Provisions

All Geocache sites on Forest Preserve District of Kane County properties must be approved and authorized by the Operations Department and receive a permit from the Permit Office administered through the Executive Assistant.

II. Required Information

A completed application must be submitted with all information properly filled in. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

III. Requirements for Geocache Placement

To be approved for placement, the geocache must meet the following requirements. Violation of any of these requirements will prohibit placement of the geocache or necessitate immediate removal of the geocache by the owner or Forest Preserve District of Kane County personnel.

- A. The container must be a clear (see through), waterproof or sealable container with a size no greater than 385 cubic inches (approximately 4” x 8” x 12”) and contain at least one surface that the Forest Preserve District of Kane County can affix a 2 ½” x 6” vinyl sticker giving notice that the container is a permitted geocache. The vinyl sticker must be able to be adhered where it will be visible to Kane County Forest Preserve personnel and preserve users.
- B. The geocache shall not contain any food items.
- C. The geocache shall not contain any inappropriate, offensive, explosive or hazardous materials.
- D. The geocache shall not be buried.
- E. The geocache shall not be affixed to or disturb any trees, vegetation, natural features or structures.

- F. The geocache can not be located in any area restricted by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County including, but not limited to, Illinois State Nature Preserves, crop fields and mowed recreational areas (except event caches). See site maps for restricted area.
- G. Only five (5) geocache sites will be allowed per preserve. The exception will be a one-time or limited time event cache.

NOTE: Through land management procedures in the Forest Preserve District of Kane County, geocaches may be inadvertently burned, mowed, or destroyed. A list of proposed prescribed burn sites is available on our website or can be made available for pick up so geocache owners may determine if they would like to remove their cache prior to a prescribed burn season. The Forest Preserve District of Kane County will not be held liable for damaged geocaches.

IV. Requirements for Geocache Owners

Once approved for placement, the geocache owner shall meet the following requirements. Violation of any of these requirements will necessitate immediate removal of the geocache by the owner or Forest Preserve District of Kane County personnel.

- A. The geocache owner shall meet with a Designated District Representative for initial placement of the geocache at the geocache site to discuss placement and rules.
- B. The geocache shall be checked at least every 60 days. The inspection date and time will be written in the cache log and notice of the inspection and any concerns will be sent by e-mail, letter, or fax to the Designated District Representative.
- C. Notice on the geocache web site must state the following information:
 - 1. This geocache is placed on Kane County Forest Preserve property with permission.
 - 2. Do not place the following items in the geocache: Food items, inappropriate, offensive, explosive or hazardous materials.
 - 3. Kane County Forest Preserve hours are 8:00 a.m. to sunset. Preserve users must not be in the preserves during closed hours.
 - 4. Please stay on designated trails as much as possible.
 - 5. It is the visitor's responsibility to be aware of the policies, rules and ordinances pertaining to this preserve. For more information on preserve rules, see the information kiosk in the parking lot of the preserve, check our website at www.kaneforest.com or contact the District office at (630) 232-5980.
 - 6. All Forest Preserve District of Kane County ordinances and subsequent policies, rules, and regulations are applicable.
- D. Renewal of the geocache permit is required by January 15 of every year or the geocache must be removed from the preserve. Geocache permits not renewed by January 15 will be removed and disposed of by forest preserve personnel. The only exceptions will be geocache permits received June 1 – December 31, 2008. Renewal for these caches will be January 15, 2010.