



1.2 Geocaching and Hidden Objects Policy

Effective Date: August 1, 2024
To be Reviewed: August 1, 2026

Approved by: Jacqueline O'Connell, Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. O'Connell", is written over a horizontal line.

Purpose

To ensure the safety of guests and the integrity of the parks.

Policy

Privately owned hidden objects (geocaches) are permitted in MetroParks of Butler County under the following conditions:

1. All hidden objects (geocaches) must be registered on www.geocaching.com.
2. Geocaches must be placed within 15' of an official, authorized nature or shared-use trail.
3. No geocaches may be placed in the following locations: campsites, planted gardens, shelters, buildings, horse trails, bridges, street signs, electrical boxes, guard rails, or in any conservation areas or ecologically sensitive areas such as wetlands, ponds, and wildflower areas.
4. Geocaches cannot be placed in an area that would require any climbing or digging.
5. Geocaches must be in an area that is free of obvious dangers that could cause harm to a person.
6. The hidden object must be placed in a clear, sealable plastic container with the official Geocaching.com identification number placed on the container. Ammo cans, PVC pipes, or containers that have the appearance of a dangerous object or could cause public alarm may not be used.
7. Geocaches must be family-friendly and should not contain food, tobacco, alcohol, drugs, firearms, dangerous items, adult items, smellables or other wildlife attractants.
8. Any hidden object that is not in compliance with these conditions or that is determined to be a nuisance will be removed and discarded without notice. MetroParks is not responsible for the security of any geocache.
9. All other MetroParks Rules and Regulations apply.
10. Please use good eco-manners when seeking a cache. I.e., don't step on wildflowers or leave litter. "Cache in, trash out".