

Best Practices

When playing the game of geocaching, try to keep these fundamentals in mind:

- Always re-hide a geocache in the **same** place you found it.
- Respect the environment by leaving the cache area as undisturbed and clean as possible.
- Mark your own geocache containers clearly so people know it is a cache.
- Be aware of your environment and not your GPS! Geocaching can take you to many different kinds of places so always be safe.
- **NEVER** put food in a geocache. Animals will smell it a mile away and destroy the container to get at the food.
- Keep your trade items and cache contents family friendly. Avoid things like lighters, knives, etc.

Local Geocaching Associations

Cache Up NB (www.cacheupnb.com) is the only geocaching news and community based website dedicated to the province of New Brunswick.

There is also a registered non-profit organization that represents all of Atlantic Canada: **The Atlantic Canada Geocaching Association** (www.atlanticgeocaching.com).

Events / Challenges / Contests

Geocaching in our province offers some of the best events and geocaching challenges around. Some highlights are:

- **Fredericton Geocaching Tour**
 - 30 geocaches highlighting some of the best locations in our provincial capital. Find them all and be rewarded with an official city geocoin.
- **Fundy Park Geocaching Challenge**
 - A yearly program put on by Cache Up NB and Parks Canada. Find a series of geocaches within Fundy Park and be rewarded with an official park geocoin.
- **Moncton's Race For Cache**
 - Moncton's largest annual geocaching event. Cachers gather every year to "race" through the city performing tasks and gathering points to win the race.
- **Come Out & Play Contest**
 - An annual winter geocaching contest that helps to inspire NB cachers to get out of the house and go caching during the winter season
- **The Ice Walk**
 - Geocachers hike across the bay to Shediac Island & Cocagne Island every year to try and grab those difficult to get to geocaches.



"Catching Up on all things geocaching in New Brunswick"

Cache Up NB is a geocaching news and community website dedicated to all things geocaching within the province of New Brunswick. We've got tutorials, guides, suggestions, stories, links, anecdotes, an event calendar, FAQ and much, much more.

Geocaching (pronounced "Geo-cashing") is an international "treasure hunt" game that combines technology and a love of the outdoors.

Players of the game utilize the internet, a location-aware device such as a **handheld GPS or mobile phone**, and their keen observational skills to search for hidden "treasure" items located anywhere in the world. There's even a geocache on the International Space Station!

Right here in New Brunswick alone, there are **around 9,000 geocaches** hidden and more being published every week.

If you enjoy the outdoors, or like the adventure in seeking out hidden treasures, geocaching might be the perfect activity for you and your family.

In May of 2000, the US government officially made it possible for civilian GPS units to achieve accuracy of within a few feet of any given object. Within a matter of days a man by the name of **Dave Ulmer** hid a container just outside of Portland, Oregon, and invited his online friends to find it using their GPS. That launched the sport of **Geocaching**.

Since then, over **one million geocaches** have been published and the game continues to grow every day.

Getting Started

For first time geocachers, it's pretty easy to get started. All you need is access to the internet, and a GPS-enabled device.

- Log on to www.geocaching.com and use the search feature using your postal code or address to find caches near your home.
- Choose a "traditional" geocache with a low difficulty and terrain. This will make your first hunt easier so you get the idea of how it all works. As you do more caches, you can start looking for ones with a higher level of difficulty.
- Enter the coordinates into your GPS-enabled device and print a copy of the geocache description for reference.
- **Go find it!** Your GPS will lead you to the general area where the cache can be found but accuracy will vary from unit to unit so keep that in mind. Use any hints and clues on the cache page to help you find the container you are looking for.

- When you find the cache, open it up and take a look. As a general rule, all caches must have a log sheet/book for you to sign your name.
- Depending on the size of the container, you might also find items for trade. If you decide to take something as a memento, be sure to leave something else in it's place.
- When you get home, you then log back onto www.geocaching.com and share your experience of finding that cache with other geocachers. Owners of the caches you find receive emails with your "log" telling them of your experience.

Geocache Sizes

Geocache containers can be many different sizes.

- **Micro** – 35mm film canisters, magnetic keyholders, and other tiny containers usually only contain a log sheet for you to sign. Some are smaller than your pinky finger!
- **Small** – These are usually small plastic containers no larger than your hand. They might contain small trade items.
- **Regular** – A normal sized geocache which could be an ammunition container, a plastic lock-n-lock, tobacco cans, peanut butter jars, ice cream tubs, and countless others.
- **Large** – Rubbermaid tubs, 18gallon jugs, large barrels, and other oversize containers can be found but are far less common than regulars and micros.

Geocache Types



Traditional – The most common cache type, this is the original. You obtain coordinates and go find the actual container.



Multi-Cache – You find one location which leads you to another which leads you to another until you find the final location which has the geocache container.



Puzzle/Mystery – These require the finder to solve a puzzle of some kind which will then allow them to find the actual container. There are endless possibilities with puzzle caches.



Events – Geocachers love to socialize so events that gather geocachers together are listed as caches and can be logged online.



CITO – Cache In Trash Out events are organized to clean up a particular park or other area. Keeping the outdoors clean is a good geocaching trait.



Earthcache – "An EarthCache is a special place that people can visit to learn about a unique geoscience feature or aspect of our Earth" – Geocaching.com