

## Privacy and Security:

Lawhorn Scouting Base and Camp Bel-Tel are private property. Use of these areas, this geocache program and the Pine Mountain Backcountry Trail System is restricted to members and guests of the Flint River Council, BSA.

**Please do not register or share any of our geocaches or your own new caches, Geocoins, Cache Cooties,<sup>™</sup> Travel Bugs<sup>®</sup> or other known trackable objects you intend to leave in our caches with a public geocache website or social media internet service. [You cannot use camp property for Geocaching Merit Badge requirements #7, 8ab, 9]**

Public knowledge of our geocache program locations could inadvertently invite trespass of strangers and non-members onto Lawhorn Scouting Base or Camp Bel-Tel and degrade this youth resource.

**tread lightly!**<sup>®</sup>  
ON LAND AND WATER



## Geocaching Resources:

### BSA National Supply

Website: <http://www.scoutstuff.org>

*Geocaching Merit Badge Book*, No. 35836

### Geocachers' Creed

Website: <http://www.geocreed.info>

### Geocaching.com

Website: <http://www.geocaching.com>

### Geoscouting<sup>®</sup>

Website: <http://www.geoscouting.com>

### Tread Lightly!<sup>®</sup>

<http://www.treadlightly.org/page.php/possible-geo/Recreation-Tips.html>

## The 10 Essentials:

Don't begin this activity without these basic items for yourself and group members.

1. Pocketknife or multipurpose tool.
2. First-Aid kit.
3. Appropriate clothing/jacket/shoes/socks.
4. Flashlight or headlamp.
5. Rain gear or poncho.
6. Water bottle per person.
7. Map and compass/GPS.
8. Matches and fire starter.
9. Sun & bug protection, sunglasses.
10. Trail food or snack.



# GEOCACHING GUIDE

## for Pack, Troop and Crew Leadership



**18 FEB 2012**

## **PINE MOUNTAIN BACKCOUNTRY**

*ADVENTURE AWAITS*



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## Geocaching:

A high-tech treasure hunting game played throughout the world by adventure seekers equipped with GPS devices. The basic idea is to locate hidden containers, called geocaches, outdoors and then share your experiences online. People who enjoy geocaching come from all age groups and have a strong sense of community and support for the environment.



## Geocaching Guidelines:

- Geocaching participants must be registered Scouts, volunteers, family members, or guests of the Flint River Council, BSA.
- **Obtain a listing of active cache locations and multi-cache challenges by contacting the Flint River Council staff or the Camp Headquarters in Howard Lodge.**
- GPS coordinates are not exact, so a cache may be 20-40 feet away.
- Sign the visitor log in the cache.
- Take SWAG only if you leave one.
- Reseal and conceal the cache in the same place you found it, usually under a rock cairn.

## SWAG: Stuff We All Get (& Swap)

Imagine discovering what others have left for you in a cache that's fun. Return that favor. And it's small (1") to fit.

### SWAG Ideas:

- Patches
- Neckerchief slide
- Handicraft
- Foreign Coins
- Matchbox Cars
- Trading Cards
- New Pens or Pencils
- Flashlights
- Mini Tools
- Small Camping Gear
- Mini Books
- Novelty Items
- Ornaments
- Office Supplies
- Miniature Decorations

### Do not use as SWAG:

- *Scout Awards*
- *Food*
- *Scented items*
- *Natural items*
- *Rocks*
- *Trash*
- *Money*
- *Explosives / Fireworks*
- *Lighters*
- *Knives*
- *Drugs*
- *Business cards*
- *Broken toys*

## New Caches:

You may add caches, but *please coordinate and register your proposed cache location with the Camp Headquarters first*. Unregistered caches will be removed.

All caches should be placed adjacent to existing trails to prevent negative impacts on habitat and property.

Due to the sensitivity of habitat and safety, geocaching is prohibited on the Dripping Rocks and Moss Falls.

While concealing the cache, there should be no earth disturbance or vegetative impact to any site.

Cache containers must be identified as a geocache, either with an official label or clearly printed script.

Caches should be waterproof, but do not use a plastic (PVC) pipe or ammunition box. These become damp inside and harbor mold and mildew which spoil the contents.

Caches will not contain food or scented items, or other material not appropriate for youth.