

REFUGE - CACHING

at Erie National Wildlife Refuge

What is Geocaching?

Geocaching is a great outdoor activity in which the participant uses a Global Positioning System (GPS) or other navigational equipment to hide and seek specific locations or "caches" anywhere on the planet. The caches are organized by other geocachers. Sometimes the cache is a hidden object or it may be a virtual cache – a riddle or a question to be answered.

Use this booklet to get the coordinates to the virtual caches on the Erie National Wildlife Refuge. You can either use your own navigational equipment or you can borrow a GPS unit from the visitor's center during office hours. Visitors of the refuge are not allowed to place their own geocaches on the refuge, but our staff has placed a few on our trails for you, as you enjoy the outdoors.

In this booklet you will find the coordinates to many of the trail heads and other sites on our refuge. Under the title you will find the coordinates that you will need to answer some questions. After completing the requirements bring your booklet and answers to the headquarters to get your Refuge-caching Patch.

Please remember to stay on the trails so that our wildlife and its habitat will not be disturbed. Please also wear orange during the hunting seasons.

Now go play outside!

Quick instructions for using the DeLorme GPS.

To turn on:

Press the power button for 3 seconds.

Press the QUIT button to get to the satellite page. It may take a minute to pick up the satellite signals.

Press the PAGE button to view the map page, compass page, coordinate page or satellite page.

Go to the satellite page. The message in the upper left corner of the screen will read "no fix" or "3-D".

When "3-D" appears you are ready to begin Geocaching!

To enter a coordinate:

From any page press the PINPOINT button.

Use the arrow button to scroll up to "Coordinates: Lat/Lon". The coordinates will be highlighted.

Press ENTER. Use the arrow button to highlight each digit and change the coordinate.

Press ENTER when you are finished entering your coordinates.

Use the arrow button to scroll down to "Save". Press ENTER.

Use the arrow button to scroll to "Route". Press ENTER.

Press enter for navigation choices. Choose Drive or Hike, then press ENTER.

You can view the map, compass, coordinate and directions pages to help you find your way.

To turn off the GPS unit:

Press the power button then press the ENTER button.

ENWR Headquarters

N 41° 37.6018'

W 079° 57.5958'

Q. What are at least 3 types of plants growing in our Native Shrub Garden?

A. _____

Encryption: "Revr Angvbany Jvyqyvsr Ersht
– jurer jvyqyvsr pbzrf svefg"

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

What are our hours of operation?

Did you know there are lots of things inside for you to borrow and enjoy?

Are there any animals at the feeders today?

Tsuga Trailhead

N 41° 37.5745'
W 079° 57.6121'

Name That Tree

In case you are here in the snow, there are marble markers at the base of the trees.

N 41° 37.5031'
W 079° 57.7064'

N 41° 37.5243'
W 079° 57.7982'

N 41° 37.5967'
W 079° 57.9813'

N 41° 37.5031'
W 079° 57.9323'

N 41° 37.4485'
W 079° 57.7061'

N 41° 37.4553
W 079° 57.6738

N 41° 37.5043
W 079° 57.7062

What other kinds of plants
can you find?

Tsuga Trail:

Sounds of Nature Sign

N 41° 37.5438
W 079° 58.0435

Q. According to the sign what animal can you hear during much of the year?

A.

Tree House

N 41° 37.5043
W 079° 57.7062

Q. What could have caused this to happen?

A.

Dead Tree Sign

N 41° 37.5043
W 079° 57.7062

Q. What could use this tree?

A.

There is a whole rot going on here

N 41° 37.5043
W 079° 57.7062

Q. According to the sign what are some types of decomposers?

A.

What are the smallest living
things you can find?

What are the biggest living
things you can find?

Deer Run Trail

This trail is a 2.6 mile loop with a .25 accessible spur.

Deer Run Trail Parking areas

N 41° 34.9679'
W 079° 58.7230'

N 41° 35.3446'
W 079° 58.5718'

Q. According to the sign, how long does it take for an eagle egg to incubate?

A.

Q. Do eagles reuse their nests?

A.

Observation Deck

N 41° 35.2768'
W 079° 58.8352'

Q. According to our sign what kind of mammals might you see from the observation deck?

A.

New Road

N 41° 34.5259'
W 079° 58.6720'

Q. Look at the snags (dead trees) on the side of the road. What do you think made those holes?

A.

N 41° 36.5478'
W 079° 58.0432'

Q. According to the kiosk what months are the best times to see some of the large flocks of migrating waterfowl that visit the refuge?

A.

What else have you learned about eagles?

Walk over to the fishing pier. How many geese do you see today?

What have you learned about raptors?

Observation Blind Parking

This blind overlooks "Pool 9" on the refuge.

N 41° 34.5413'

W 079° 58.5413'

Duck Duck Goose

N 41° 34.5259'

W 079° 58.6720'

Encryption: Guvf cynpr vf sbe gur oveqf!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

What can you observe here today?

Beaver Run Trail

N 41° 39.1407'

W 079° 57.8118'

Back in the day (Early Life Sign)

N 41° 39.0542'

W 079° 57.5916'

Q. How much did a gallon of gas cost in the early 1900's?

A.

Encryption: Svyy 're hc!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Stumped

N 41° 39.0801'

W 079° 57.6547'

Q. How did this tree stump get this way?

A.

Stand still and just listen.
What do you hear?

Muddy Creek & Holly Trail

This trailhead is on Johnson Rd.

Caution – this trail is VERY slippery when wet.

N 41° 48.1633'

W 079° 58.8343'

This trail is .75 mile, one-way

The Boardwalk

N 41° 47.5761'

W 079° 59.1176'

Q. What is the name of Pennsylvania's largest salamander and how big does it get?

A.

Encryption:

Zbz, ybbx jung sbyybjrq zr ubzr!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Can you see any signs that animals are using the water?

Trolley Line Trail

This trail has 2 trailheads and is 1.75 miles, one-way.

Trailhead on Rt. 408:

N 41° 45.3759'

W 079° 57.1357'

Trailhead on Swamp Rd.:

N 41° 46.4094'

W 079° 58.3519'

Q. How many bridges are on this trail?

A.

Many of the trees on this trail are covered in vines. What kind do you think they are?

Hint: don't touch them or you'll get itchy!
