

Hungry Mother State Park is looking for better days ahead for all of us. We hope your family and friends stay well through this time. We would like to provide guidance on using the park as a favorite area for outdoor exercise and a possible place to get out, reduce stress and get some fresh air. But remember that just being outdoors doesn't protect you from getting COVID-19. A crowded park, trail or bike path isn't any different than crowded stores or apartment buildings.

### Be Mindful

- Follow all CDC Guidelines and local orders.
- Remember to social distance, at least 6 feet apart at all times. When passing individuals, step off the trail and let them pass.
- Do not use the park if you or anyone in your family has shown any signs of sickness.
- If you need to cough or sneeze, step off the trail and face away from all people, cover your mouth and sneeze into a tissue and then dispose of this tissue in a trash can. No spitting at anytime.
- If you touch a surface, please always wash it down whether it is a sign, picnic table, trash can, etc. Bring your own sanitary wipes and germ-x.
- Do not congregate in family groups larger than 25.
- Smile, wave and yell out at friends or neighbors. Save the hug for later.

### What is Geocaching?

Geocaching is a game that combines technology with old fashioned treasure hunting. Played world-wide, the game is a great family activity that gets you outside together.

Gamers track caches using GPS systems and coordinates. Caches are small containers with "treasure" inside, perhaps a dime-store trinket or other unique souvenir. Gamers can sign the logbook and see how many other people have found the cache. Geocaching can be done anywhere. Caches have been hidden in parks, cities and across all seven continents. There are probably dozens in your hometown.

### VSP Geocaching Adventure

Virginia State Parks created Geocaching Adventures, a state-wide game that will take you to all of Virginia's 38 state parks. Each park has hidden caches and a collectable card that is unique to each park. Find all 38 cards and earn a special treasure. This program will be reinstated after Covid 19 restrictions are rescinded.



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*Virginia State Parks*

Hungry Mother State Park

# Geocaching

"Using multi-million dollar satellites to find Tupperware in the woods"



[www.virginiastateparks.gov](http://www.virginiastateparks.gov)

## Geocaching Basics

*Before you go:*

- Learn how to operate your GPS device and bring extra batteries.
- Log onto geocaching.com, search for nearby caches, and load the coordinates into the GPS. Read the description and don't forget to write down the hints.
- Pack supplies such as water, food and extra clothing. Take a map.
- Invite others to join you - geocaching is a great social activity.

*On your way:*

- Mark your car or the trailhead as a waypoint, to ensure a safe return.
- Rely on your eyes rather than your GPS within 50 feet of the geocache.
- Geocaches are never buried, but often cleverly camouflaged.
- Be mindful of the environment; practice Cache In, Trash Out.

*After the find:*

- Sign the cache logbook.
- Leave the cache in its original location.
- Share your stories and photos online at geocaching.com

*The above information is courtesy of Groundspeak, Inc., owner and operator of geocaching.com.*

## Cache in, Trash Out

Help clean up the world around you while having fun. Started in 2002, in the early days of geocaching, this movement has helped clean up parks and other cache locations worldwide. When you go out geocaching, take a bag with you and pick up any garbage you find along the way.

## Gear and Supplies

- GPS Unit & batteries
- Cache coordinates
- Park map
- Boots or sturdy footwear for hiking
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen & hat
- Bug Repellent

## More Information

**geocaching.com** - search for local caches, find other geocachers and events, and research GPS devices. Free to join.

**virginiastateparks.gov** - locate a park, register for campgrounds and cabins, and find out more about the Virginia State Park system.

## Parking Fees

All visitors are required to pay a daily parking fee. This fee helps with the day to day operation of state parks. Parking fees will apply daily. Yearly parking passes can be purchased at the office for \$75, which is good for all state parks.

## Geocaching Mobile Apps

Android:

- **Geocaching** by Groundspeak Inc., **C:Geo** and **Cache Maid**

iPhone:

- **Geocaching** by Groundspeak Inc., **Cachly** and **Looking 4 Cache Pro**

## Local Geocaches

Check out these caches, planted by other gamers throughout the park.

NAME	COORDINATES
Beaches have sand, but beeches have nuts	N 36° 52.648 W 081° 31.760
How Not to Treat A Tree	N 36° 52.835 W 081° 31.217
Surrounded by water	N 36° 53.216 W 081° 31.354
Bring Your Fishing Pole	N 36° 52.560 W 081° 31.399
Quiet Time on the Lake Trail	N 36° 52.904 W 081° 31.401
Treasure Chest	N 36° 52.509 W 081° 31.118
Zip Line Overlook	N 36° 52.404 W 081° 31.169
Wh-ooo Lives Here	N 36° 53.362 W 081° 31.251

Hwy 16 Park Geocaches	COORDINATES
Rock-A-By	N 36° 53.720 W 081° 32.297
Mtn. Top Cache	N 36° 54.288 W 081° 32.296
Soup Time on Stone Lick	N 36° 53.076 W 081° 31.855