GeoQuest

at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst
87th FSS ODR

What are Geocaches?

Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices. Participants navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to find the geocache (container) hidden at that location.

What do I need to go geocaching?

The only necessities are a GPS device or a GPS-enabled mobile phone so that you can navigate to the cache. The geocaches presented in this booklet are part of the 87FSS Outdoor Recreation GeoQuest program and are not published on the Geocaching website.

However, we encourage you to create a free account to have access to many more geocaches in locations off base. Find out more about Geocaching at www.geocaching.com.

How do I find the cache and what should I do once I've found it?

There are many things to know about searching for a cache. For instance, did you know that there is a slight "error" to every GPS device due to technological limitations? Your device can get you close to the cache, but there are a number of things to consider as you get closer to the cache location.

When you find the cache, sign the logbook and return it to the cache. You can take an item from the cache if you like - just make sure to leave something of equal or greater value in its place. When you are finished, put the cache back exactly as you found it, even if you think you see a better spot for it. Finally, visit the geocache website to log your find and share your experience.

What does a geocache look like?

Geocaches vary greatly in size and appearance. In the field you will see everything from large, clear plastic containers to film canisters to a fake rock with a secret compartment. So, how do you find the cache?
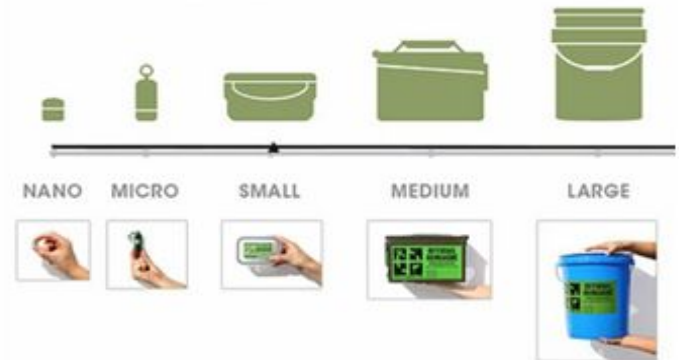
The first step is to get a general idea of the cache's size. The size is shown on each cache page. A general overview of the cache size graphic is found below. Please note that these are just examples; sizes can vary.

Micro - Less than 100ml. Examples: a 35 mm film canister or a tiny storage box typically containing only a logbook or a logsheet. A nano cache is a common sub-type of a micro cache that is less than 10ml and can only hold a small logsheet.

Small - 100ml or larger, but less than 1L.

Regular - 1L or larger, but less than 20L.

Large - 20L or larger.

NANO   MICRO   SMALL   MEDIUM   LARGE

The Basics

Geocaching is an outdoor activity that operates using the Global Position System or GPS for the navigation element. This means that a smartphone, tablet or even a specialist GPS tracking gadget is needed for the game and it is taking place around the world.

The game is a modern, high tech version of a game known as letterboxing. Going back over a century, this game used landmarks and clues hidden in stories to send gamers around a location. The idea of making it modern and tech-based came when GPS was no longer just selectively available back in 2000. The new, improved system could accurately locate a small box and the first one was created by Dave Ulmer of Oregon. The original bucket contained software, videos, books, food, money and even a slingshot and has been logged as discovered twice.

Geocaching for Children

If you and your kids love a good treasure hunt, then there you will also likely love geocaching. Described as high tech treasure hunting, this is a great activity that takes everyone outdoors, gets them active and can be done as a family or with a group of friends.

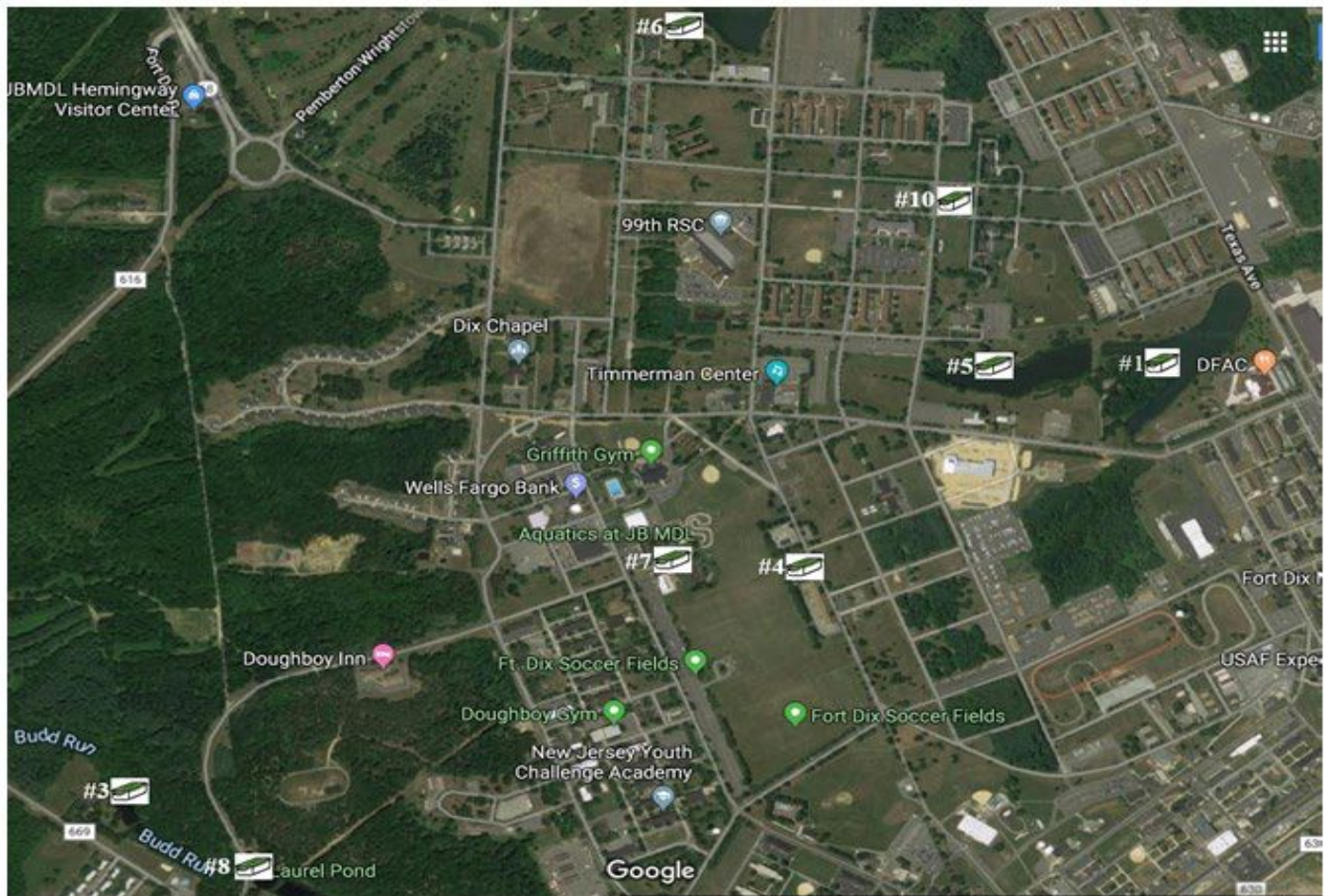## Introduction to the GEOQUEST challenge at JBMDL

We have hidden 10 geocaches on Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst grounds. Our goal is to promote experiences outdoors through the use of technology and simultaneously share the history and outdoor areas of JBMDL.

See the maps below pinpointing the locations. That should give you a general idea of where you should go. Then, load the coordinates of the geolocation of the cache you want to find. Keep in mind that the GPS is not 100% accurate—it will take you to the location, but the challenge is to look for the cache. There will be a hint to help you find it! Have fun and cache on!

All caches are identified by this sign :

Just 3 rules: If you take an item, leave something too (nothing illegal or harmful), and you must write about your visit in the log book. After you are done, put it back for the next person to find it.

GEOCACHE DESCRIPTIONS:

#1 🟩 HOLLOW THERE

Difficulty:	Terrain:	Size:	Attributes:
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GPS:
N 40°00.729'   W074°36.743' **Elevation:** 134 ft

Location: Southern New Jersey, USA
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

Geocache description:

This is a traditional micro cache container. There is a logbook. BYOP.

HINT: NZCUV GRNGURE GERR

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History: Camp Dix - named for Maj. Gen. John Adams Dix - was formed in 1917 to serve as a training and staging location for the heavy troop requirements of World War I. Throughout the next few years, Camp Dix trained and deployed the 87th and 34th infantry divisions and was the birthplace of the fabled 78th "Lighting" Division and "Point of the Wedge" in World War I's final offensive. After the war, both installations experienced rapid reductions in manpower and personnel.

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Decryption Key
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(letter above equals below, and vice versa)

🙂 **Found** ☐

🙁 **Did not find** ☐

#2 🟩 LITERALLY SPEAKING

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GPS:
N 40º02.376'   W074º34.980' **Elevation:** 110 ft

Location: Southern New Jersey, USA
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

Geocache description:

This is a traditional small cache container with a logbook and a pencil. Beware of muggles.

HINT: VA GUR ONFRZRAG

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History: Since the stand-up of the joint base, McGuire, Dix and Lakehurst have settled into their enduring roles. McGuire remains the "Gateway of the East" and serves as an air mobility center of excellence. The Marines share McGuire Field and bring an airborne fighting capability to the installation. Lakehurst continues as an elite test and development facility, hosting several developmental missions for the Army and Navy. Meanwhile, the primary mission on Dix continues to revolve around training, mobilization and demobilization as Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Navy forces engage in the numerous developmental programs and facilities situated on the installation. A truly joint integrated installation, JBMDL's mission partners represent all services and active, reserve and guard components.

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#3 🟩 NEST EGG

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GPS:
N 40º00.103' W074º38.324' **Elevation:** 95 ft

Location: Southern New Jersey, USA
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

Geocache description:

This is a traditional small cache container with a logbook and a pencil. SWAG.

HINT: SYBNGVAT

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History: Camp Dix officially became a permanent Army installation March 8, 1939. In order to meet the needs of the Army, Fort Dix absorbed surrounding farm fields and wooded acres — nearly 35,000 acres — to create the enormous artillery grounds and training ranges. The installation gained more capacity when the Civilian Conservation Corps runway was constructed in 1937. This formed the Fort Dix Army Air Base that provided aerial support to the Army post.

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#4 🟩 TANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

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GPS:
N 40°00.438' W074°37.263' **Elevation:** 138ft

Location: Southern New Jersey, USA
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

Geocache description:

This is a traditional micro cache container with a logbook. BYOP.

HINT: NOENZF UVGPU

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History: Nearby you can visit the US Army Reserve Mobilization Museum on Fort Dix, NJ. The Museum tells the story of the United States Army training, mobilization, embarkation and demobilization of soldiers called to defend their nation. The collection portrays the development of the US Army Reserve and its role in US Military History by displaying authentic uniforms, equipment, photos, posters and documents. There are also 35 outdoor exhibits that include a 210mm Towed German Howitzer form the late 19th century among other reconnaissance and combat vehicles.

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#5 🟩 LOOKOUT

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GPS:
N 40°00.727' W074°36.897' **Elevation:** 132ft

Location: Southern New Jersey, USA
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

Geocache Description:

This is a traditional micro cache container. There is a logbook. BYOP.

HINT: NYBAT GUR RQTR

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History: Since the stand-up of the joint base, McGuire, Dix and Lakehurst have settled into their enduring roles. McGuire remains the "Gateway of the East" and serves as an air mobility center of excellence. The Marines share McGuire Field and bring an airborne fighting capability to the installation. Lakehurst continues as an elite test and development facility, hosting several developmental missions for the Army and Navy. Meanwhile, the primary mission on Dix continues to revolve around training, mobilization and demobilization as Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Navy forces engage in the numerous developmental programs and facilities situated on the installation.

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Decryption Key
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#6 OFF COURSE

Difficulty:	Terrain:	Size:	Attributes:
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GPS:
N 40º01.194' W074º37.456' **Elevation:** 137ft

Location: Southern New Jersey, USA
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

Geocache Description:

This is a micro cache container. There is a logbook. BYOP.

HINT: VA GUR GERR

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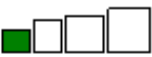
History: NAS Lakehurst's mission was also restructured. Lakehurst became host to the Navy's first helicopter squadrons, as well as one of the Navy's only overhaul-and-repair services for heavier-than-air and rotary winged aircraft. NAS Lakehurst's name changed in 1977 when the Naval Air Engineering Center relocated from Philadelphia. The critical design, prototyping, manufacturing and testing facilities were constructed to support Naval Air Systems Command.

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Decryption Key
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#7 SCREW IT

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GPS:
N 40º00.465' W074º37.474' **Elevation:** 162ft

Location: Southern New Jersey, USA
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

Geocache Description:

This is a micro cache container. There is a logbook. BYOP.

HINT: FBHGU TNGR

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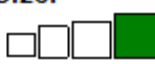
History: Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., is home to five wings. The 87th Air Base Wing is the host wing. The wing's vision is to be America's premier joint warfighting installation and air mobility center of excellence. The wing's mission is to provide unrivaled installation support to all mission commanders and to provide mission-ready, motivated, expeditionary Airmen to our combatant commanders. The 87th ABW provides installation support to more than 88 mission partners spread across 42,000 acres at McGuire, Dix, and Lakehurst -- the Department of Defense's first joint base and only joint base that consolidated Air Force, Army, and Navy installations.

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Decryption Key
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#8 CAST AWAY

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GPS:
N 39°59.998' W074°38.081' **Elevation:** 130ft

Location: Southern New Jersey, USA
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

Geocache Description:

This is a traditional large cache container. There is a logbook, pencil and SWAG.

HINT: BA GUR VFYNAQ

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History: Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst formed as the result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission. On Oct. 1, 2009, former Fort Dix, Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst and McGuire Air Force Base were combined to create JBMDL. The oldest portion of the installation began as an ammunition proving ground near the resort town of Lakehurst, New Jersey. In 1917, following the Russian Revolution, the Eddystone Testing Ground was procured by the Ordinance Department of the Army. The area was then named Camp Kendrick and used as a munitions and mustard gas testing location.

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Decryption Key
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#9 STARLIFTER

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GPS:
N 40°01.787' W074°36.683' **Elevation:** 102ft

Location: Southern New Jersey, USA
Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

Geocache Description:

This is a regular cache container. There is a logbook and pencil.

HINT: FVGGVAT HAQRE GUR JVAT

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History: Across the way, McGuire AFB opened in August 1948 and rapidly grew into an important eastern hub. From 1948 to 1954, McGuire held a short-lived role as a Cold War early warning sensor and primary defensive base. A contingent of the defensive role remained on McGuire until 1972.

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Decryption Key
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#10 🟩 THE ROCK

Difficulty:	Terrain:	Size:	Attributes:
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GPS:	Location: Southern New Jersey, USA
N 40°00.955' W074°37.025' Elevation: 136ft	Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst

Geocache Description:

This is a micro cache container. There is a logbook and pencil.

HINT: 1 NZBAT ZNAL

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History: McGuire quickly became known as the "Gateway to the East" as service members depended on Military Airlift Command for travel to bases and battlefields around the world on aircraft such as the C-54 Skymaster, C-118 Liftmaster and C-135 Stratolifter.

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Decryption Key
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🙂 Found ☐

☹️ Did not find ☐

The geocaches were placed by Anabela Jenkins as part of a program developed by the 87th FSS Outdoor Recreation at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. If you have any questions or concerns please contact our office at **609-562-6667** or **87fss.outdoorrecreation@gmail.com**. We would love to hear your feedback!

We sincerely hope you enjoy finding these geocaches, catch the bug to go find others all over the world and have fun outdoors.

Cache you outside! **#jbmdlgeoquest**

GO PLAY OUTSIDE