Avoid modifying the environment when hiding a cache.

Use maps to find a route that will minimize impacts.

Note waypoints during your journey to assist you on your return trip.

When traveling on foot in areas without trails, spread out to disperse impact and avoid creating a new trail.

If traveling by vehicle, stay on designated roads and trails.

Practice the lift, look, replace technique.

If you lift a rock to look under it, replace it exactly as you found it.

When finished searching for a cache, the area should look as though you were never there or better than when you arrived.

Respect the rights of others.
**Educate Yourself**

- Familiarize yourself with restrictions and prohibitions in your area before you decide where to place a cache.
- Never bury a cache.
- Never place food in a cache.

**Avoid Sensitive Areas**

- Avoid placing caches in sensitive habitats including wetlands, caves, steep slopes, cryptobiotic soils, tundra, and seasonal nesting or breeding areas or culturally significant sites.
- Avoid placing caches or disturbing historical, archaeological, and paleontological sites.
- Avoid disturbing livestock and wildlife.

**Do Your Part**

- Be a geocaching advocate by carrying a small trash bag to pick up litter along the way.
- Following a trip, wash your gear and support vehicle to avoid the spread of invasive species.
- Consider joining a local enthusiast organization.

Tread Lightly! Helps Keep the Outdoors Accessible and Open with You

www.treadlightly.org

All materials and messaging is copyrighted. Permission must be obtained to share TL! ethics.