

GEOCACHING!

When geocaching, please:

- Be cautious when opening caches, they may be surrounded by plants and/ or animals.
- Stay on trails
(unless the instructions indicate otherwise).
- Keep in mind you may have to backtrack to find the correct path. If the **GPS** brings you to a dead end, do **NOT** go off trail. Instead, backtrack and find a different path.
- Leave the caches the way you found them. You can sign the log book to leave your mark. Some caches may also contain trinkets. If you take a trinket, please leave one of equal value for the next person.
- **Have fun!**



Welcome to the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden, and to our geocaching challenge!

Geocaching is an outdoor scavenger hunt, using latitude and longitude coordinates and a GPS unit to locate hidden caches. These can be large or small containers in a variety of shapes. Each contains a log book for you to sign when you find it.

If you don't have a GPS unit, you can also geocache with a smartphone. Using the **Google Maps app**, enter the coordinates as written. There are three different ways to enter the coordinates. If Google Maps is directing you to China (we didn't put any caches there), enter the coordinates a different way, example:

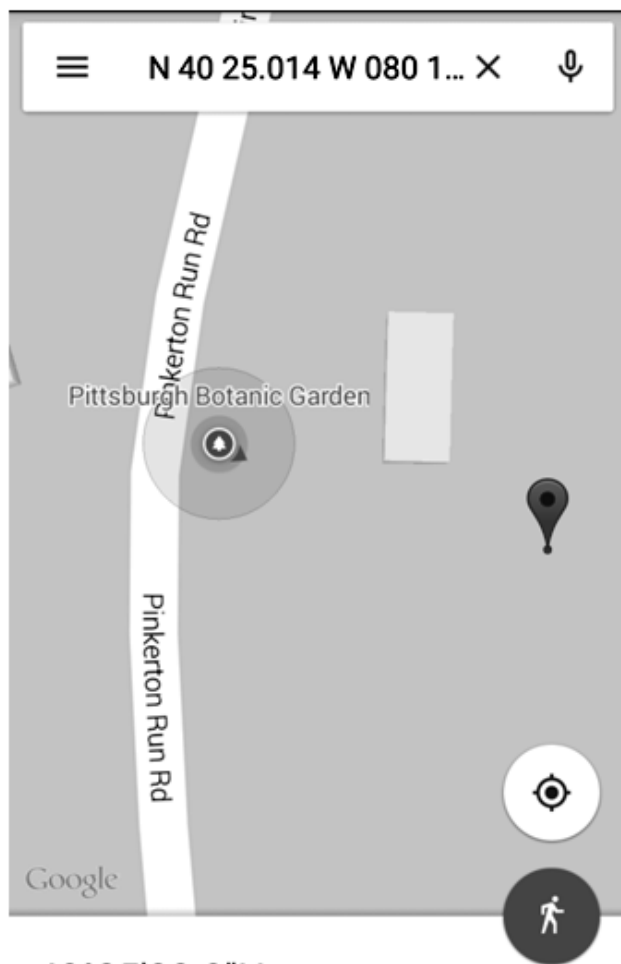
N 40 25.014 W 080. 10.364

N 40 25.014 W - 080. 10.364

+ 40 25.014 W - 080. 10.364

You will be able watch as a dot (you) walks closer towards the pinpoint that is the cache. A compass arrow around your dot will swivel as you change directions. When you get very close to the cache, you will have to search to find it! Look under fallen logs, in hollow trees, even above your head.

When you find a geocache, write in the logbook inside, then hide the cache for the next person, the same way you found it!



40°25'00.8"N...

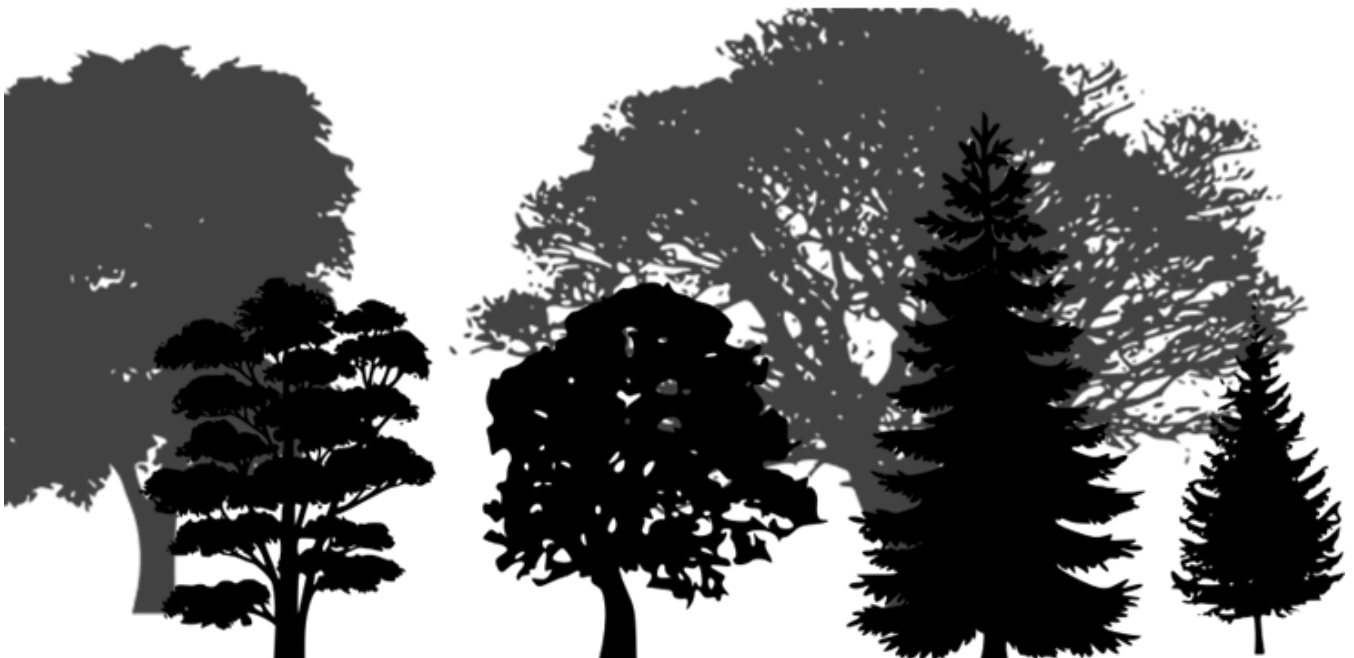
The Woodlands Tour Puzzle



There are **FIVE geocaches** hidden in the garden. The last geocache, called “The Woodlands Tour” is a puzzle. The coordinates for this cache are hidden in the lids of the other four caches. ***You will need to find the other four caches to collect the coordinates needed to find this final cache.*** Fill in the blanks below as you go (make sure you fill them in the correct blank. The “X” indicates a blank space):

N 40° 25. _____

W 80° 10. _____



Welcome to the Garden



Coordinates: N 40° 25.128 W 080° 10.398

The posted coordinates are for the entrance to the Welcome Center. At the Welcome Center you will find a 5" X 7" oval shaped trail map for the Woodlands at the admissions desk. Use information from this map to complete the coordinates below by answering the following questions. The *Welcome to the Garden* cache is located at:

40° 25. A B C' 80° 10. D E F'
40° 25. ___ ' 80° 10. ___ '

A. The Fairy Village is located near which Glen?

Bookworm Glen = 0 Old Oak Glen = 1 Forest Glen = 2

B. What is the name of the pond?

Reflection = 5 Treatment = 6 Lotus = 7

C. What color are the main trails?

Orange = 3 Yellow = 4 Red = 5

D. What type of orchard is at the Historic Farmstead?

Pear = 1 Peach = 2 Apple = 3

E. What color is the Lotus Trail?

Yellow/White Dashed = 6 Solid Orange = 7 Solid Pink = 8

F. What is the name of the Hut located on the main trail?

Tiki = 5 Pizza = 6 Hermit = 7

This cache contains one piece of The Woodlands Tour Puzzle geocache. Look in the lid and write down the coordinates.

Woodlands Tour Puzzle piece:

Who Hears a “Hoooo”?



Coordinates: N 40° 25.212 W 080° 10.511

Look up in the trees for a creature cache. You will have to use your imagination to hear this creature's characteristic “hooooo” call. You will have to go a few feet off the trail (please send one person only and be careful not to step on plants) to bring this cache to you (hint: use the rope). Open the cache lid under this creature's feet.



This cache contains one piece of The Woodlands Tour Puzzle geocache. Look in the lid and write down the coordinates.

Woodlands Tour Puzzle piece:



Birds



Coordinates: N 40° 25.128 W 080° 10.398

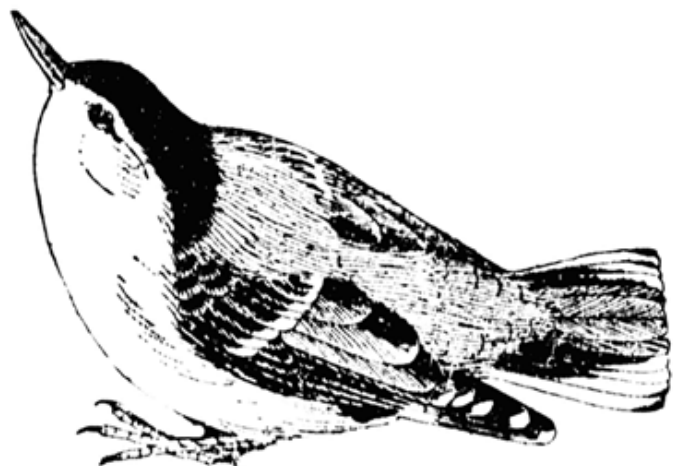
This cache has two parts. As you walk through the Woodlands you will notice several bird houses and bird feeders for the many songbirds that live in the Woodlands. The first set of coordinates will bring you to the home of the Woodland's largest bird, the giant fictitious finch. Although we have never seen this bird, you can view its eggs in the nest. Search the outside of the nest for two metal tags marked N and W, each with a three digit number. Use these numbers to complete the coordinates for the second cache:

N 40° 25. _____

W 80° 10. _____

This cache contains one piece of The Woodlands Tour Puzzle geocache. Look in the lid and write down the coordinates.

Woodlands Tour Puzzle piece:



It's Alive!



Coordinates: N 40° 25.125 W 080° 10.509

No, you won't find a mad scientist working on Frankenstein at this location, but there is science at work near here. This cache is located on the Lotus Trail which circles the Lotus Pond. This pond has been dead for decades. Acid mine drainage made the acidity of the pH equal to that of vinegar and unable for aquatic life to survive. The installation of an underground limestone filter has neutralized the acidity and the pond now supports both plant and animal life including several species of fish. This pond was once dead, but through science, now...IT'S ALIVE!

Search the side of the trail that is away from the pond.

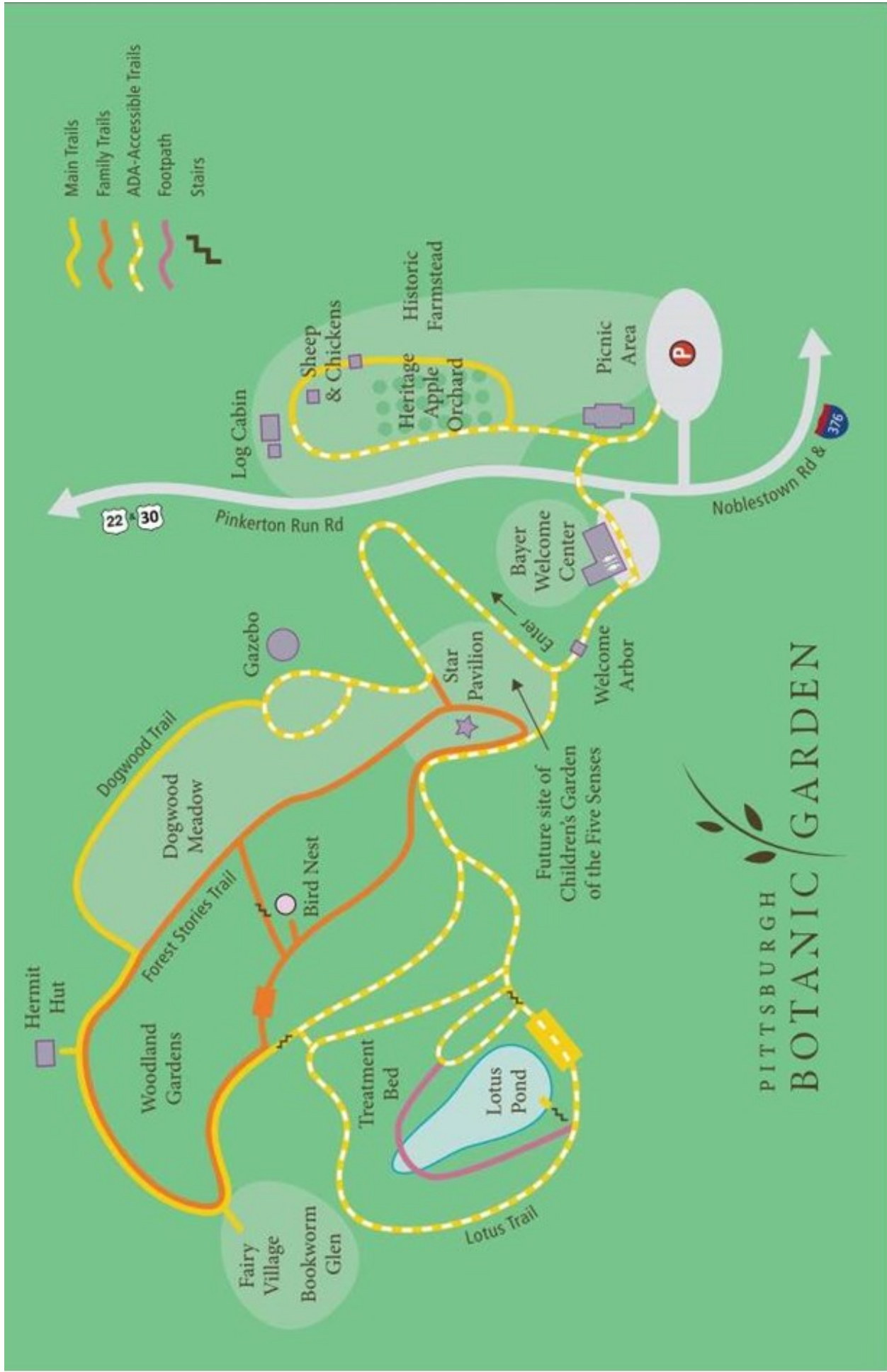


This cache contains one piece of The Woodlands Tour Puzzle geocache. Look in the lid and write down the coordinates.

Woodlands Tour Puzzle piece:

You now have all the pieces you need to find the final geocache. Go back to "The Woodlands Tour puzzle" and fill in the blanks.





Thank you to the LePews for hiding these geocaches at the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden!

Visit geocaching.com or letterboxing.org to learn more about modern-day treasure hunts!