

Culture Matters

Geocaching – Treasure Hunting in Halton Hills

If you are looking for a family activity that is totally up to date then think about Geocaching. This is something where the kids will undoubtedly be showing their parents the way.

Geocaching is a world wide phenomenon and is happening right here in Halton Hills too.



Handheld Global Positioning System (GPS) Device

Photo courtesy of Christine Upton

Part scavenger hunt, part "Orienteering", Geocaching uses Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) units and coordinates which are available on the Internet (www.geocaching.com) to provide clues to caches hidden at various locations. There are now more than a million caches worldwide with over 40 caches hidden in Halton Hills alone, and this number continues to increase.

Geocaching is free and could be described as a wiki activity because anyone can create a cache and register it on-line. A cache usually has some little surprises in it. If something is taken from the cache then something else is always left in its place. Sometimes trackable coins are left and their journey is recorded by participants on the web.

Historical information outlining the heritage of each cache is often available offering the opportunity to explore natural, virtual, and commercial caches that range in levels of difficulty from beginner to advanced. Geocaching has fans of all ages and can be enjoyed year round.

A cache hidden at Cedarvale Park involves a history lesson on "The Georgetown Boys" Caches tend to be well hidden unless you know where to look and are always rewarding to find.

Caches are hidden along the Bruce Trail through Limehouse, along the Credit River in Glen Williams and in Norval.



Jane Fogal and Sue Balogh at Georgetown Armenian Boys site

Photo Courtesy of: Eamonn Maher Independent Free Press

There are several caches in Georgetown, Acton and elsewhere throughout Halton Hills.

To get started all you do is go on-line (www.geocaching.com) and enter your postal code to reveal cache locations near you.

So grab a GPS, a couple of friends and a notebook to start recording your "finds". Get out and discover parts of Halton Hills you didn't even know existed. Want more information? Contact the Chamber and request the "Lets Go Geocaching" brochure. 905-877-7119 or tourism@haltonhillschamber.on.ca And yes, there is an app for this too

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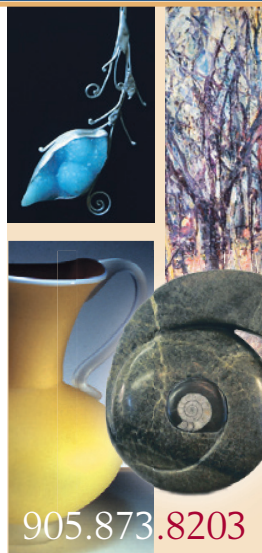
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