



Washington County Veterans Service Office

Kurt Rusch, Veterans Service Officer

WE WANT YOU!

To help us capture grid coordinates to honor our Washington County Veterans!



The Washington County Veteran Geo-Cache Project is a GO!

What is it: The Washington County Veteran Geo-cache Project is an effort in partnership with the Washington County Veterans Service Office, Washington County Parks Department, and the Scouts BSA to gather data at over 7000 Veteran gravesites throughout Washington County. The collected data will be used to create a public portal, where people will be able to locate Veteran burial sites throughout Washington County by name and service period.

Why are we doing this? To honor Veterans. The goal of this project is to inform the public of the sacrifice of Veterans, to offer a way for people to seek out and honor Veterans, and for researchers and family to find Veterans who have passed in Washington County. This project will also assist in the placement of flags and wreaths for the Washington County Memorial Day Flag program.

What do we get out of all this work! I'm so glad you asked. Scouts and Scouting volunteers will be allowed to camp overnight on designated weekends at Sandy Knoll County Park. Camping is not normally offered at Washington County parks, and this is meant as a unique opportunity for Scouts to enjoy our wonderful Washington County Park facilities as a thank you for their help.

Sandy Knoll County Park has wonderful amenities such as a pond that is great for swimming and fishing, a disc golf course, and numerous recreational features such as paths and playground equipment. Please learn more about Sandy Knoll here:

https://www.washcowisco.gov/departments/natural_resources/parks_trails/parks/sandy_knoll

Interested? Read on for details, and to sign up!



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The Washington County Veteran Geo-Cache Project

Registration Instructions

If you are interested in participating in this project here is what you need to do.

1. Pick a weekend date that works for your Troop. We are not offering specific dates that Scouts are allowed to use Sandy Knoll for camping, we will do our best to accommodate most weekends. For your planning purposes, there are large Frisbee golf tournaments planned on the following dates, so the park will be busier than usual.

Frisbee Golf Tournament Dates Are:

- July 23, 24, 30
- August 6, 13, 27, 28
- September 3

The park will still be open to the public, so we will have to ensure that we are following the Scout Oath and Law, as well as Leave No Trace.

2. After you pick a date or two, contact the Washington County Veterans Service Office and reserve your camping time. You may do this by calling 262-335-4457 or emailing Kurt.Rusch@Washcowisco.gov We will be limiting camping to four Troops and less than 60 Scouts at a time, and we will notify the Parks Department staff of who, and how many will be camping.

3. This packet of information along with the cemeteries, and directions will be emailed to your designated point of contact as well as camping information and maps. Based on the amount of Scouts and adults that will be participating, GPS GLO devices and participation patches will be left at the Disc Golf Shop located next to the camping area in Sandy Knoll County Park. We only have four devices, so depending on the amount of Troops that participate you may only have one per Troop. You must use these devices to gain accurate grid coordinates as standard smart phone GPS is not accurate enough.

The GPS units will need to be dropped back off at the disc golf shop before departing the Park and within their business hours. The disc golf shop has specific hours, they are: Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 10am-4pm, Sunday 10am-3pm; 262-388-2999; riversidediscgolfshop@gmail.com; <https://www.riversidediscgolf.com/>

4. Scope of Camping; Camping is allowed beginning Friday afternoon/evening and ending Sunday late morning on your designated weekend. Your Troop may be alone or there may be up to four Troops camping, depending on the amount of Scouts participating from each Troop. Please plan to return the GPS devices and police-call for litter before departing the park. There are dumpsters located in the parking areas.



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Please note: you can geocache Veteran gravesites without camping. If this is of interest, please call or email me to receive a packet of cemetery information, and set a time to pick up a GPS GLO device at the Washington County Courthouse.

Contacts for this event

- Washington County Veterans Service Officer: Kurt Rusch, M-F 262-335-4457; Kurt.Rusch@Washcowisco.gov
- Sandy Knoll Disc Golf Rental Shop, **for pickup and drop off patches and GPS Devices ONLY (privately owned):** 262-388-2999; riversidediscgolfshop@gmail.com; <https://www.riversidediscgolf.com/>
- Washington County Parks has on call staff, phone number is posted in the park.
- BSA District Director/District Exec: Benjamin Wheeler benjamin.wheeler@scouting.org, 630-613-0772

Sandy Knoll County Park QR for Map





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Washington County Park and Cemetery: Guidance and Rules

CAMPING:

Camping will be in the open area west of the baseball field just past the Frisbee Golf Shack. Parking for this area is the lot just before the pond (about 150 yards past the Frisbee Golf Shop).

RESTROOMS AND WATER

There is a porta john located at the end of the parking lot which will be the primary restroom for the camp, and there is running water at the small shelter area, just south of the parking lot.

Public Areas

Please be aware, there may be people that have rented shelter areas, wedding venues, and the ranger cabin as overnight lodging. Please follow the Scout Oath and Law, and limit interaction with these events.

FIRES

Fires are not authorized, unless they are in a designated grill space in permitted grilling areas.

EMERGENCY

In the event of an emergency, please call the sheriff's department by dialing 911. There is no staff on duty overnight at the park, and camping is at your own risk. There are contact numbers for parks staff posted throughout the park for non-emergent questions.

PATCHES

If you are missing patches or equipment for the cemetery project, please contact Kurt Rusch, Washington County Veterans Service Office.

CEMETERIES

Please remind youth and volunteers to be respectful and practice appropriate behavior while recording data in our Washington County cemeteries. If there is a service, please refrain from any interference related to vehicles or data gathering and please, no horseplay in our cemeteries.



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Process for Data Gathering

1. Locate your cemeteries on a map or GPS device and navigate to that location. We will do our best to cluster cemeteries that are nearby to one another for this project.
2. Download Survey 123 from your Apple or Android App Store
3. Connect the GPS GLO device via Bluetooth to your smart phone. Click on this link or paste in a web browser to connect to the Washington County GIS data collection application.
<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/076dd8e8fd864912b09e71695cb0b36e?portalUrl=https://maps.washcowisconsin.gov/portal&open=native>
4. Locate the name of the cemetery, then scroll the names on the application in the drop down menu until you find the Veteran, take and follow the collection prompts i.e. mark location, take a picture.

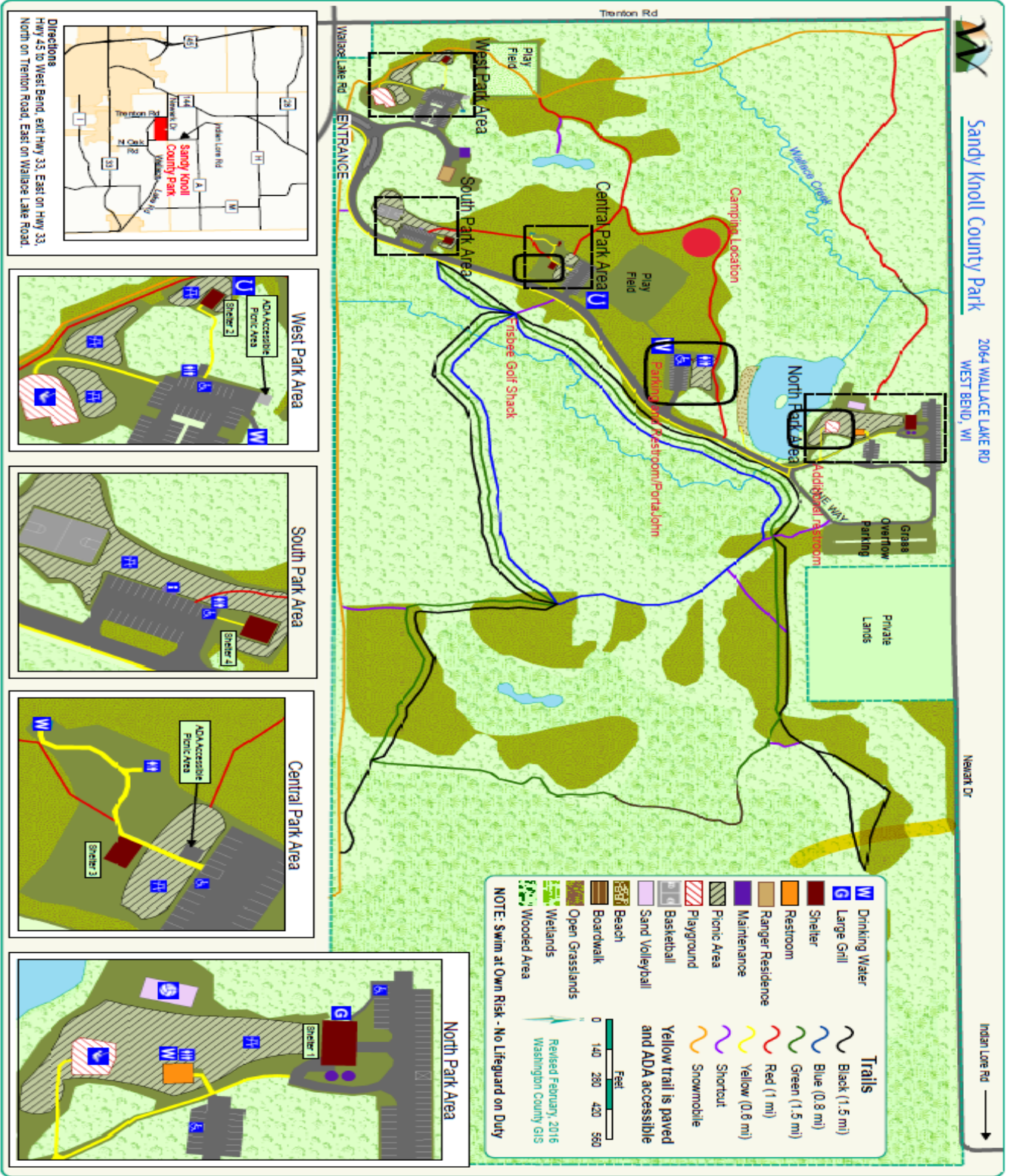
When all of the data is registered for a given cemetery, please navigate to the next cemetery and follow steps 1,3 and 4. When you are out of cemeteries to gather data from, you are done!
Thank you!





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MAP LOCATIONS IN RED ARE SPECIFIC TO THIS EVENT: CAMPING-PARKING-RESTROOM