

## **Scouts GPS – General Notes:**

1. The GPS is owned by the PEI Council and is available for any of the groups to use. Typically, it will be used by those who have rented Camp Riverdale but it is not restricted to this use.
2. It was purchased to give the PEI groups a chance to use a GPS for Geocaching and learning navigation.
3. The GPS comes with topographic maps, a memory card, a full instruction booklet and rechargeable batteries.
4. If you wish to learn more about the GPS than the brief instructions in this document, please read the instruction manual, a link can be found on the Scouts website under “Resources”, “For Leaders”, “PEI Specific Activities”. Follow the Geocaching link.
5. These Scout geocaches are not found on [www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com) since they are not at least 500 ft apart from each other – but that’s how we want it. This allows the youth to find a large number in a small area with no driving!

## **Before you begin:**

1. The power button for the GPS is located on top of the unit. Hold the button in to turn it on. Hold the button in to turn it off.
2. The GPS will not get a good signal indoors. You can get a decent signal if you are close to a window, pointing outdoors
3. The GPS takes two AA batteries (rechargeable batteries come with it). If the batteries are low (battery indicator on top left corner of GPS screen), change the batteries by turning the silver half circle on the back of the unit. Stand the half circle up and turn it ¼ turn counter-clockwise. It will turn somewhat stiffly. Pull on the half circle to remove the back plate, exposing the batteries.
4. The unit is water resistant but not water proof so please do not drop it directly in water.

## **Turning on the GPS and navigating basic screens**

1. When you turn the GPS it will take a few minutes for it to pick up a good satellite signal. While picking up the signal it will say “Acquiring Satellites”. After it has a signal it will indicate a Location (+/- a number of feet for accuracy) and a latitude/longitude reading. If you have excellent satellite reception you should have accuracy within approximately +/- 10 ft.
2. You can navigate through the various pages on the GPS by clicking the “Page” or “Quit” buttons on the front of the GPS. Page will advance forward and Quit will go backward in the page order. The following pages are available:
  - a. Satellite page – the first page the GPS opens on
  - b. Map page – shows roads, rivers, altitudes and landmarks or businesses
  - c. Find page – if you wish to find a geocache, point of interest etc...
  - d. Trip computer page – odometer, speed, time, elevation for the trip
  - e. Compass page – hold the unit flat to use it as a compass
  - f. Main Menu page – use the various tools or play some GPS games!

## **The buttons on the GPS unit**

1. Rocker button (large central button with 4 arrows) – typically used to choose the selected area of the current GPS screen. If you want to highlight a button or piece of text use the rocker button to move the yellow highlight to the desired area.
2. ENTR button – used to perform the selected action or edit the selected text. The selected area on the GPS screen will be displayed in yellow
3. QUIT button – used to return to the previous menu without performing an action. Also used to move backward in the screen list, as described in the previous section.
4. FIND button – Used to open the “Find” menu to select a waypoint or point of interest.
5. MARK button – Used to mark the current location e.g. mark the location of a Geocache you are hiding
6. PAGE button – Used to advance through the various screens
7. MENU button - Open the menu options available from the various GPS screens
8. In/Out buttons – Used to zoom in or out on the Map page

## **Basic GPS Actions**

1. Finding a geocache

- a. Click on the FIND button on the face of the GPS
  - b. “Waypoints” will be selected. Press ENTR
  - c. A list of waypoints will be shown – these are both waypoint and geocache locations. Geocaches are marked with a treasure chest and waypoints e.g. RD-Camp (Riverdale-Camp) are marked with a flag.
  - d. You can check to see how close the geocaches are to your current location by looking at the “From Current Location” information at the bottom of the GPS screen. They are not listed in order of proximity to each other.
  - e. Press ENTR to go to the information screen for a particular geocache
  - f. Ensure “Go To” is selected on the screen and press ENTR.
  - g. Use the PAGE button until you are on either the Map page or the Compass page. Follow the map or compass to the geocache. The distance to a geocache can be found on the compass page. The direction to the geocache can be seen on both the compass and map pages
2. Hiding and marking a geocache
- a. Pick a location to hide your geocache. Go to the map page to ensure you are not too close to another geocache that has previously been hidden. The previous geocaches will be shown by a treasure chest symbol. Use the IN and OUT buttons on the GPS to zoom in and out on the map page to see more or less map area.
  - b. Press the MARK button to begin the process of saving your geocache location
  - c. Use the ROCKER (4 arrow) button to select the “Average” button on the GPS screen. Press ENTR on the GPS. The GPS will increase the accuracy reading of the current location by performing multiple satellite reads. Try to get the Estimated Accuracy number at or below 10.0 ft if possible. Press ENTR to save the location.
  - d. Use the ROCKER button to select the geocache name (beside the treasure chest symbol). Press ENTR to give the geocache a good name. For geocaches hidden at Riverdale we are using a prefix of RD followed by the number that automatically comes up on the GPS e.g. RD018. When you have selected a name for the geocache select the “OK” button in the middle of the letters and numbers to save the name and return to the main “Mark” screen.
  - e. Use the ROCKER button to select the “OK” button and press ENTR on the GPS.
  - f. Your new waypoint is now saved!
3. Using the compass
- a. After you have selected a waypoint use the PAGE button to go to the Compass page
  - b. Hold the GPS flat, as you would hold a compass
  - c. Turn the GPS until the red arrow points to the long white bar at the top of the compass. Follow this direction to the geocache. The distance to the geocache (or other waypoint as selected) is indicated in the “Dist to Next” area on the Compass page
4. Using the map
- a. After you have selected a waypoint use the PAGE button to go to the Map page
  - b. Use the IN and OUT buttons on the GPS to zoom in and out to see more or less area on the map. Roads, rivers, altitude lines etc... will be shown on the map
  - c. Line up the arrow on the screen with the track pointing to the geocache. Follow the track to the geocache.
5. Navigating Menus
- a. From any of the GPS screens press the MENU button.
  - b. Various options are available depending on the screen from which the MENU button was pressed.
  - c. To return to the previous screen press the QUIT button.
6. Playing GPS Games
- a. Press the PAGE button until you reach the Main Menu page
  - b. Use the ROCKER (4 arrow) button on the face of the GPS to select the “Games” icon. Press ENTR on the face of the GPS.
  - c. A list of 6 games will appear. Select one of the 6 games and press ENTR.
  - d. Follow the instructions for the game.
  - e. When you are finished, press QUIT on the face of the GPS and select YES to quit. Press QUIT again returning to the main GPS screens.