

ColdCache sites near Lodi!

by Dolly McNulty, ColdCache Coordinator IATA

A great way to learn about the geology of the Ice Age Trail, while developing new skills, is to find and complete the tasks for ColdCache sites. Many 5th graders and others who participate in the Saunter program become expert at finding ColdCache sites, and you can do it too!

An EarthCache is a variation of a geocache. Instead of looking for a container with a trinket and log, the participant uses some simple observation and detective skills to identify and answer specific questions about a geological feature. A ColdCache is an EarthCache along the Ice Age Trail.

Participants do not need any prior knowledge of geology to participate. All it takes is a sense of adventure and a willingness to get out on the trail to explore features that may not have been noticed before. It's an activity that can be done alone, as a family, or with a group of friends.

There are currently over 50 ColdCache sites and more are being developed. Check out the link to the ColdCache bookmark list from the ColdCache page on the Ice Age Trail Alliance website. Or use your smart phone to scan the QR (quick response) code shown here.



Each ColdCache site has a webpage that explains what participants will see and why it's significant. Once geologic feature is found, participants will be able to claim credit for it by answering a few simple questions.

There are 8 ColdCache sites within 25 miles of Lodi. That's enough to earn the first 2 award patches. All 5 award levels can be earned without traveling more than 100 miles!

For more information, visit <http://www.iceagetrail.org/hiking-awards-and-programs> and select ColdCache Program.



Snowflake

- 3 sites
- 2 features

Blizzard

- 7 sites
- 5 features

Firn

- 12 sites
- 9 features

Ice Sheet

- 18 sites
- 14 features

Glacier

- 25 sites
- 20 features

For more information and hints on how to begin the adventure, contact Dolly McNulty, at coldcache@iceagetrail.org. First Hint: participants do not need a GPS unit for many sites!