ColdCache Program

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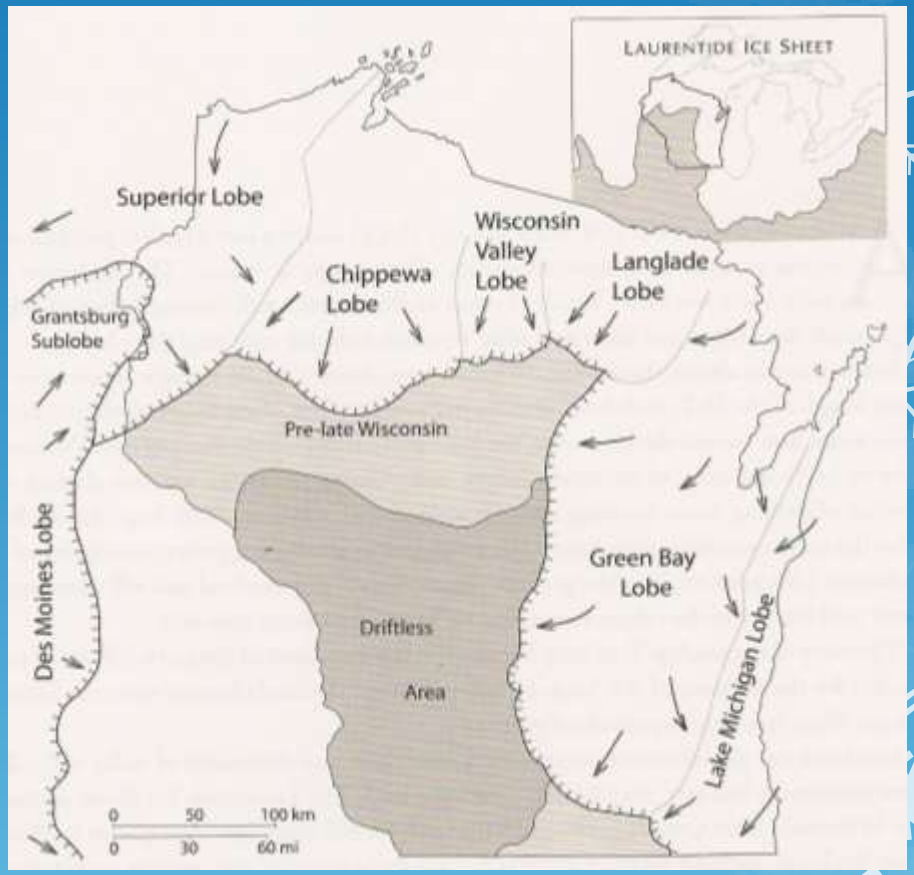
Trail route is based on the extent of the glacier in Wisconsin.



ColdCache Program:

Project supported by the Ice Age Trail Alliance

Goal is to bring more visitors to the trail and promote the public awareness, appreciation, and understanding of Wisconsin's glacial landscape.

Definitions:

A GeoCache is a modern day treasure hunt, usually for a trinket.

An EarthCache is a GeoCache that is a geological treasure.

A ColdCache is an EarthCache along the Ice Age Trail.

Groundspeak:

www.geocaching.com

Promotion of geocaching worldwide

Educate public

Review / approve all geocache sites

Wisconsin GeoCache Association

www.wi-geocaching.com

Promotion of geocaching within Wisconsin

Organize events

Educate public

Facilitate communications between members

Geologic Society of America

www.geosociety.org

- Established and promotes the EarthCache Program
- Partner with Ice Age Trail Alliance to support the ColdCache Program

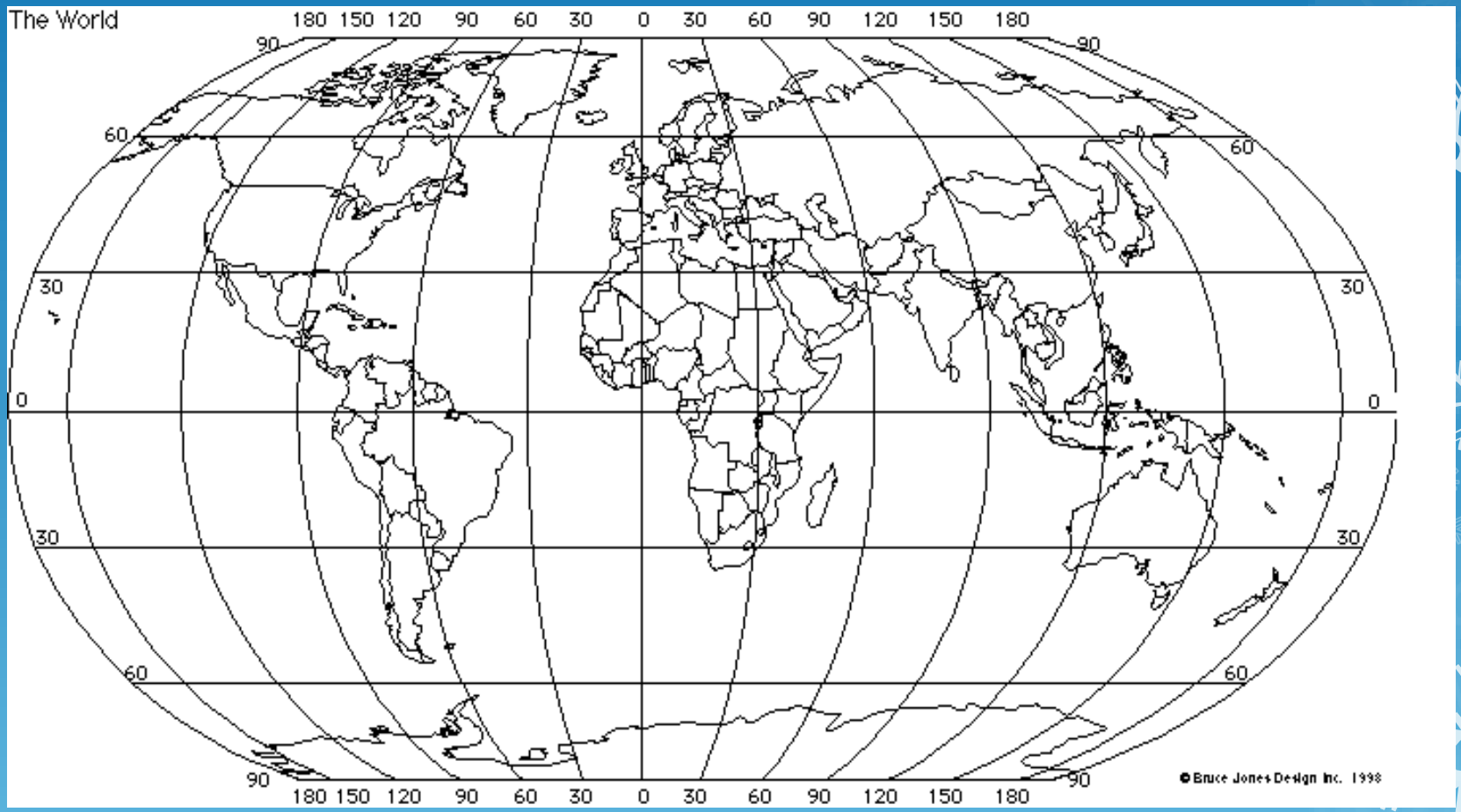
Waypoint:

Reference point for the physical location on Earth; defined by longitude and latitude coordinates.

Latitude is distance north or south of the equator.

Longitude is the distance east or west of the Prime Meridan.

Latitude and Longitude:



GPS – Global Position System:

- Use of satellites to pinpoint the waypoint (latitude and longitude) of a location on earth.
- GPS unit must be able to receive signals from at least three (3) satellites to pinpoint the waypoint.

Find list of ColdCache sites:

Ice Age Trail Alliance ► www.iceagetrail.org

↳ Explore the Trail

↳ ColdCaching

↳ Finding a ColdCache

↳ geocaching.com (hyperlink)

↳ List of ColdCache Sites (IATCC)

For future access:

- Add the ColdCache listing from geocaching.com to your :
  - Personal bookmark list; or
  - Desktop as “shortcut”

List of ColdCache Sites:

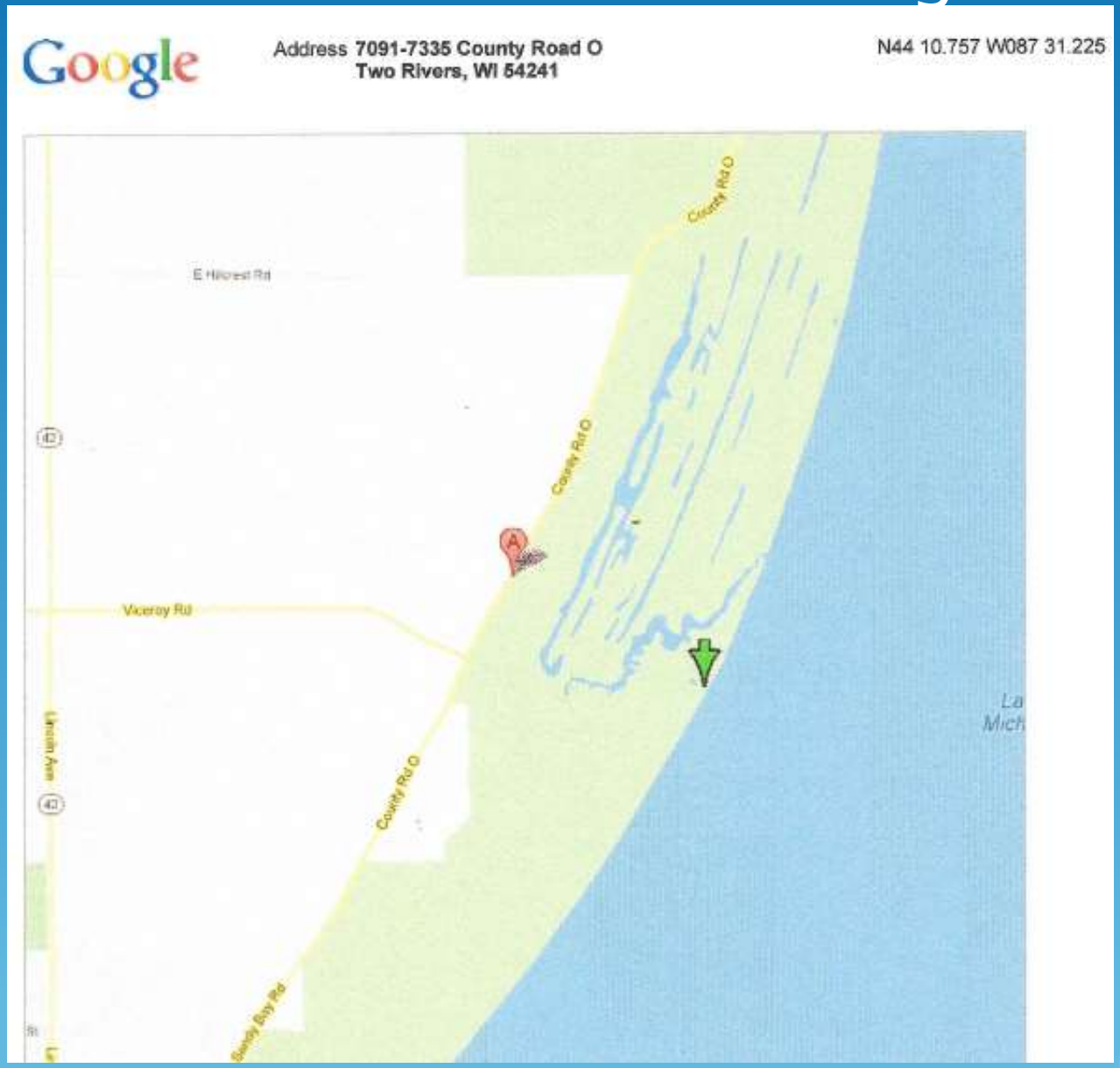
As of Jan 1, 2019; there are 81 ColdCache sites:

- 7 – Indianhead
- 3 – Superior Lobe
- 0 – Blue Hills
- 5 – Chippewa Moraine
- 4 – Highpoint
- 0 – Northwoods
- 0 – Langlade
- 4 – Central Moraines
- 1 – Portage
- 1 – Waupaca
- 2 – Waushara
- 0 – Juneau/Adams
- 1 - Marquette
- 8 – Baraboo Hills/Heritage
- 2 – Lodi Valley
- 7 – Dane (+1)
- 1 - Green
- 2 - Rock
- 3 – Walworth/Jefferson
- 8 – Waukesha/Milwaukee
- 8 – Washington/Ozaukee
- 14 - Lakeshore

Finding a ColdCache Site

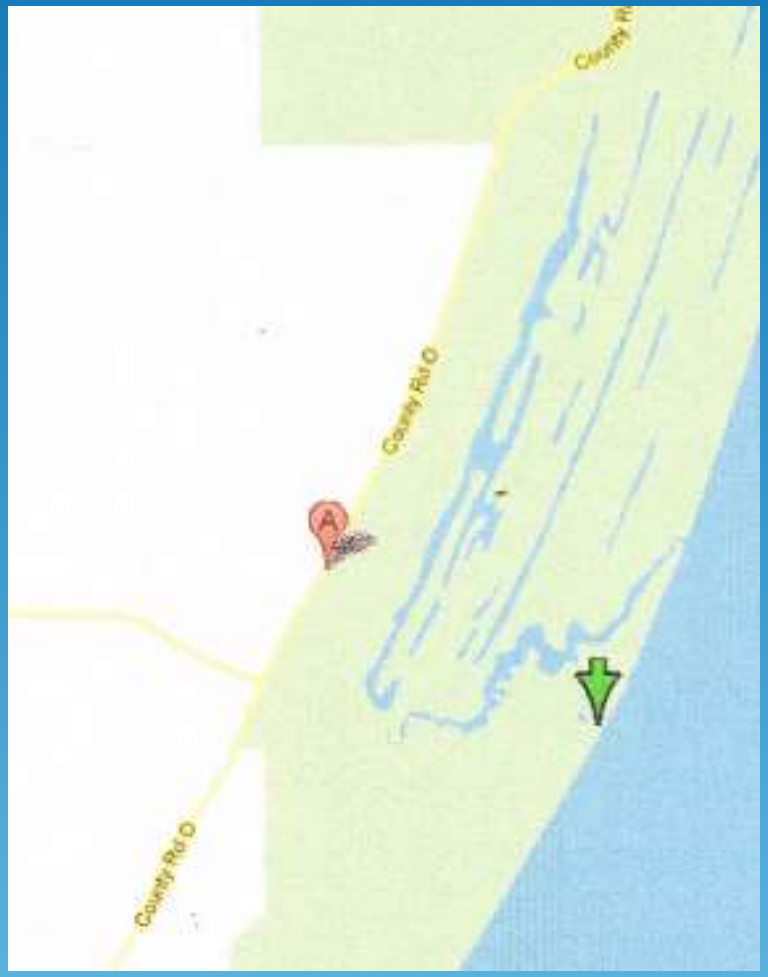
1) Enter the waypoint into a GPS unit
2) Gather suggested equipment / supplies
3) Get to the starting (parking) location
4) Use the “Go To” feature on GPS unit
5) Gather answers to questions / tasks

No GPS Unit? - Use Google Maps:



Compare to Atlas Map:

Estimate location on Map:



Or . . . Use Mammoth Tracks:

ColdCache sites are shown on the map.

Press on the ColdCache icon and the site description is brought up.

NOTE: Uses GPS signals – works without cell phone coverage

Other apps for your phone include:

CACHLY or Cigeo (for Android)

Can download information from geocaching.com

NOTE: Depends on cell phone coverage

Another option . . .

Logging your find:

Go back to the site listing on the computer.

Send an e-mail with answers to the site developer.

Add optional comments.

Sample Comments:

Balanced Rock - Walked past this dozens of times over the years, but this forced me to take a closer look.

Brady's Rock - Thanks for bringing us out to the area- never would've know it was there!

BO-DE-WAD-ME Cuesta - Walking the entire Ice Age Trail is on my bucket list. I guess this officially starts it.

Mishigami - Thank you for bringing us to this amazing spot and teaching us about the landscape that we were experiencing.

Parnell Esker - This was the first I've heard of eskers. Thanks for helping me learn something new.

Escarpment:

Short steep slope . . .

of exposed edges of rock layers.

Ford:

A shallow place . . . in a river or stream where one can cross by wading.

Great Lake:

Freshwater lake . . . that is part of the chain that forms the largest group of freshwater on Earth.

Erratic:

A boulder . . . that was carried long distances by the glaciers.

Esker:

A sinuous ridge . . . of sand & gravel deposited by streams in tunnels at the base of the glacier as it melted.

Pothole:

A deep hole . . . formed when water from the melting glacier swirled vortices that rotated grinding stones into rock.

ColdCache Awards Program:

Can receive patches and certificates for finding ColdCache sites.

Each award level is based on finding a:

- Number of sites
- Number of different features

Snowflake:

A water crystal that forms in the atmosphere and falls to the earth.

Visit and log:

- Three (3) ColdCache sites
- At least two (2) feature types

Blizzard:

A long, severe snowstorm with intensely cold wind and fine snow.

Visit and log:

- Seven (7) ColdCache sites
- At least five (5) feature types
  (includes Snowflake level)

Firn:

Partially consolidated snow that has passed through one summer melt season, but is not yet glacial ice.

Visit and log:

- Twelve (12) ColdCache sites
- At least nine (9) feature types

  (includes Snowflake & Blizzard levels)

Ice Sheet:

A broad, thick sheet of ice covering an extensive area for a long period of time.

Visit and log:

- Eighteen (18) ColdCache sites
- At least fourteen (14) feature types

  (includes Snowflake, Blizzard, & Firn levels)

Glacier:

An extended mass of ice formed from snow falling that accumulates over years and that flows over a land mass.

Visit and log:

- Twenty-five (25) ColdCache sites
- At least twenty (20) feature types (includes all previous levels)

Complete set of patches:

Patch design by Nate Haban, Two Rivers WI

Additional Resources:

Ice Age Trail Atlas (from Ice Age Trail Alliance)

Ice Age Trail Companion Guide (from Ice Age Trail Alliance)

Geology of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail by David M Mickelson, Louis J Mahler Jr., & Susan L Simpson; University of Wisconsin Press (from Ice Age Trail Alliance)

Roadside Geology of Wisconsin by Robert H Dott Jr. & John W. Attig; Mountain Press Publishing Company

Wisconsin's Outdoor Treasures by Tim Bewer; Trails Books, Black Earth, Wisconsin

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Have a suggestion for a ColdCache site:

Send to: coldcache@iceagetrail.org