



Dog Scouts of America Merit Badge Check-Off Sheet

GeoScenting

Items **bolded** below are requirements that must be demonstrated to the Evaluator. Non-bolded items are training steps that may be introduced in class and are helpful for achieving the requirements. All behaviors must have been taught or re-taught to the dog (preferably using a new cue), using only positive reward-based methods.

- Handler and dog have earned the Geocaching 1 and Scent Discrimination badges**
- Handler demonstrates the procedure for entering coordinates to their phone or GPS.
- Handler effectively describes the “Leave No Trace” philosophy/policy
- Handler describes at least two methods for imprinting odor
- Handler understands the use of training puzzles, can give four examples of puzzles, and can explain how they might be used to create a more confident dog in the field; dog can find the scent of clove oil using at least one training puzzle**
- Handler can demonstrate how to create a scented cache using clove oil to scent a cache with a “GeoScent” tag and 2-3 drops of oil; all other elements (container, log, etc.) must be included when building a scented cache**
- Handler can describe search strategy based on at least four environmental conditions and their dog’s ability
- Handler can explain the differences and similarities in an alert and a trained indication**
- Dog can demonstrate a “Show Me” cue to pinpoint the location of the cache**
- Handler demonstrates an effective reinforcement system for reinforcing a successful search
- Handler can define drive, distress, and eustress**
- Dog demonstrates good trail manners, and can remain calm while the handler places, rehabs and/or logs into a cache**
- Dog demonstrates a “leave-it” with food to the same standards used for the Dog Scout test**
- Dog and handler have located and logged at least 3 scented caches - coordinates for caches must be found either on [geocaching.com](https://www.geocaching.com) or using information provided at camp**
- Dog and handler must have placed at least 2 scented caches**