



Introduction



Welcome to the Acadia National Park EarthCache Program! This National Park Service-sponsored recreational activity leads you to some of the park's significant geological resources. Using your own Global Positioning System (GPS) unit and a set of clues obtained from the website and hidden along the journey, you can guide yourself to a series of on-trail sites. To make your experience an unforgettable success, please read these guidelines and suggestions:

What you will need to participate:

1. Global Positioning System (GPS) unit
2. Information obtained about the program from the Internet
3. Detailed map of Mount Desert Island or an Acadia National Park map
4. Piece of paper and pen
5. A compass may prove useful.
6. If you are a letterbox enthusiast, you'll want to bring your logbook.
7. Enthusiasm to learn and explore Acadia!

General information:

1. This program requires the use of park roads. Most park roads are closed to vehicles in the winter due to snow and ice. The roads required to access the featured geological sites are generally open (weather permitting) from April 15 through November 30.
2. All of the sites are located on trails or on hardened surfaces. There is no need to go off trail, and doing so will take you farther away from the site.
3. As with all EarthCache sites, there are no physical caches to be found. You will not, nor do you need to, find a physical box to continue the program. You will be required to search for hidden clues.
4. Parking is available near or at each coordinate.
5. As with all park visitors, you are required to pay the park entrance fee at the Sand Beach Entrance Station, visitor center, or one of the other fee stations in the park. The National Parks Pass, Acadia Annual Pass, Golden Age Pass, or Golden Access Pass can be used in lieu of paying the entrance fee. There is no fee to participate in EarthCache Program.

6. Park visitor center hours of operation:

Park Headquarters Winter Visitor Center (off Route 233 at McFarland Hill)

Open All Year

Hours of Operation:

April 15 – October 31 – 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

November 1 – April 14 – 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. seven days a week (closed on Thanksgiving, December 24 and 25, and January 1)

Hulls Cove Visitor Center (off Route 3 near downtown Bar Harbor)

Open April 15 – October 31

Hours of Operation: Check the park newspaper, the *Beaver Log*, or the park website at www.nps.gov/acad for hours.

How the program works:

1. This is a multi-EarthCache program using your GPS and the provided clues. You will be required to read a limited amount of background information and solve a clue at each site in order to discover the next site's coordinates. "The Story of Glaciers" will provide coordinates for your first stop.
2. Keep a record of all of the coordinates because you will need to know them in order to solve the last question.
3. At the successful conclusion of the program, participants earn an Acadia National Park EarthCache Program stamp imprint and the right to log their name in the program logbook and website log!
4. Depending upon your familiarity with your GPS unit, the estimated time commitment for completion of the program is four to six hours. The tour will take you over much of the park, and you are guaranteed to see some amazing glacially created formations.
5. Most of all, HAVE FUN!