

Geocachers here Sat.

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CASS BRIDGE — It's a high-tech treasure hunting game played throughout the world by adventure seekers equipped with GPS device — and South Nation Conservation has gotten on board.

It's called geocaching. The basic idea is to find containers hidden outdoors and share experiences online about the contents and the locations they were found.

"SNC is developing a geocaching program that complements the thousands of geocaches already present in Eastern Ontario," said Tim Jackson who's leading the project.

Beginning at 8 a.m. with a breakfast of pancakes, maple syrup, bacon, sausages and more — all for \$6 — a geocaching event, SNC-style, is set for April 24 at Cass Bridge Conservation Area off Highway 31 south of Winchester. People of all ages are invited.

It's a 'Cash In/Trash Out' (CITO) event with the goal of finding recently placed geocaches while picking up garbage along the way, Jackson explained. Dubbed SNCITO, the event is being organized by Geocachers of Eastern Ontario with the assistance of a \$500 grant from SNC.

Formation of clean-up teams and assignment of sites in surrounding villages will take place at 9 a.m. Teams of participants will collect trash and visit geocache sites until 1 pm, before returning to Cass Bridge for prizes, photos and closing comments.

"We're expecting at least 100 geocachers to turn out for this event," said Jackson, who also outlined the program recently for North Dundas Council. "It's a clear sign of how popular the activity has become and it's a great way to accomplish something useful while having fun in the outdoors."