

**2009 Midwest Open Geocaching Adventure
Sponsored by
Missouri State Parks
And
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District – Mark Twain Lake**



**March 27 – 29, 2009
Mark Twain State Park, Stoutsville, MO**

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Overview

MOGA started in 2004 as the Midwest Invitational Geocaching Competition (MIGC). We had just barely over 80 in attendance for that event. The next year, we wanted the event to be more inviting to non-competitors so it was renamed to Midwest Open Geocaching Adventure, MOGA. Today, MOGA has become the world's largest Geocaching competition. We know of no other event that draws as many people for the purpose of competitive Geocaching.

For the competition this year, we will hide 60 small caches containing punches. These will be hidden in and around the Army Corps of Engineer's property. They will range from easy to difficult. We will hand out a topo map of the area with all punch containers included. The topo maps will help competitors navigate from punch to punch.

Other caches will be available anytime and include over 100 permanent caches! In the past, we have held non-competitors from entering the courses until one hour after the start time of the competition. A lot of people did not like this as they drove many miles to cache, not sit around. This is why we changed the courses and the non competitor caches so they could easily coexist. Now, non-competitors can start looking for caches on Thursday or Friday before the event. The punch containers will not be located around the caches.

The competition courses are described below. In addition to those courses, we will have several other activities. There will be a kid's course, kid's caches, fellowshipping, friendly chatter on GSAK and GPS units, favorite puzzle caches, etc. We will have a "cracker barrel", a social event where everyone brings a snack to share, at the pavilion each night. Don't forget, you don't have to compete to look for the 100 anytime caches. Each cache found can be logged on Geocaching.com if you feel the desire to do so.

The events will run from Friday night through Sunday afternoon. However, the competitive events will start on Saturday morning. The schedule can be found on the main event page and later in this manual. Please keep in mind that the agenda can change at any time. Please check the website for the latest version.

Whether you are competing or just casual caching, you must register. **Every individual** must sign a waiver and register. **Your competition registration is different from the event registration. You must do both!** Please download the waiver from <http://www.mogageo.com>. There is also a waiver included in this manual. Even if you are just thinking about coming, complete a waiver! We must have all waivers turned in prior to the event on Saturday Morning. If you faxed your waiver, please bring the original with you to the event. **Make sure you bring your registration confirmation with you.**

Pre-registration is required for everyone. Events, Competitions and meals must be paid for in advance. The cutoff date will be March 22nd 2009. We will take walkup registrations but you may not have a packet of goodies. There will be NO refunds for meals. Credit Cards, Paypal, Checks and Money Orders are the only forms of payment accepted. Only cash and checks for walkups!

Rules and Games

The competitions are as follows:

Individual Competition – Mens and Womens

Starting Coods – N39 31.477 W091 45.097

The individual competition for men and women will be divided into age and gender groups. The following men's age groups will be awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd place trophies.

Under 30

30 – 49

50 and older

The following Women age groups will be awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd place trophies.

Under 29

29 and Holding

Please make sure you indicate gender and age during online registration.

The competition will consist of individuals looking for 30 event caches. Caches will be small containers, large enough to hold a punch.



You must make sure you punch your scorecard in the appropriate place with the correct punch number.

These caches will be called group A. These caches will be hidden in various areas and the participant will hunt for these caches on foot. Use of vehicles, bicycles, etc... during the competition will be grounds for disqualification! We will have a shotgun start at 8:00 am and the finish time will be at 11:00 am. You must find as many as you can during this time. All park rules and off limit areas apply.

2 Person Team Competition –

Starting Coods – N39 31.865 W091 51.259

This course will be the same as the 4 person team event. 2 person teams will have to find as many caches as they can in a 3 hour time limit. You will start at 1:00 PM and must complete no later than 4:00 PM. **You must stay together to complete the course. You will be given 1 punch card and must punch with the punch found in each cache.** Make sure you punch the proper area of the card, to get credit for that cache. Your team finishes when BOTH members return. First, Second and Third Place trophies will be awarded for each age group. There will be 2 age groups this year.

Under 40

40 +

The youngest person in your group determines what group you fall in.

4 Person Team Competition –

Starting Coods – N39 31.865 W091 51.259

Age groups will be used this year, under 40 and 40+. Again, the youngest member of your team determines the age group. This course will be the same as the 2 person team event. 4 person teams will have to find as many caches as they can in a 3 hour time limit. You will start at 1:00 PM and must complete by 4:00 PM. You can split up to complete the course. Your team will be given 4 punch cards and everyone must punch with the punch found in each cache. Duplicate punches will not be counted. If you split up, make sure each person in your group understands that all 30 caches should be the goal of the team and each member should have a portion of the 30 caches assigned to them by the team captain. This will eliminate duplicate punches. Make sure you follow your hint sheet and do what it says for each cache. Also, make sure you punch in the proper area of the card to get credit for that cache. These caches will be small containers. Your team finishes when ALL members return.

At the starting point, you will be given a hint sheet for each waypoint and a topo map. You can decide which team member goes where.

Scoring

The individual or team, 2 or 4 person, who finds closest to the 30 caches in the 3 hour time limit wins the competition. In case of a tie, the individual or team that has the quickest time will win. If there is still a tie, a tiebreaker will be used. The tiebreaker will be a small cache course setup for Sunday Morning.

Awards

Individual competition trophies will be given to first, second and third place in each group or bracket.

In team competitions, 2 people and 4 people, each participant in the first, second and third place teams will receive a trophy. The Minnesota Cup will be awarded as well to the 4 person team that wins the event.

Rules

There will be a 3 hour time limit. You, if on the individual course, or your entire team, if on a team course, must finish within the 3 hour limit. Each 5 minutes late reduces your punch count by one. You will receive a 1 punch penalty one second after your designated finish time. After 21 minutes have past, you will be disqualified!

There will be no driving at any time. Using a vehicle will result in elimination! ONLY FOOT TRAFFIC IS ALLOWED IN THE COMPETITION.

There will be more caches than you can find. You must decide on how you will hunt them, which ones to complete and how you can get the most in the shortest amount of time. Do not trespass or go into off limit areas!

All Park Rules must be followed at all times. Course monitors will be stationed around the caches. **DO NOT MESS WITH THE CACHE PLACEMENT OR THE PUNCHES!**

Remember, we are honest cachers. This is evident in the number of caches that stay in place. Please do not try and destroy or move anything.

Disqualification

Any person or team found altering the cache or course in any way will be disqualified and asked to leave the **event**.

Anyone coming back after their deadline will be docked 1 punch for each 5 minutes late up to 20 minutes. After 21 minutes, **you will be disqualified**.

Losing your punch card will result in disqualification!

Team Definitions

Teams must consist of 4 players, no more, for the 4 person event and 2 players, no more, for the 2 person event.

If you want to compete in the 4 person event with less than 4, please understand you will be at a disadvantage.

Each player with the 4 player team should have their own GPS. If you do not do this, it would be a huge disadvantage as 4 person teams will often split up to find as many caches as possible.

2 Person teams may share a GPS unit or they can both have one as long as they cache together. You will only have one punch card and hint sheet.

Each team must register as a team listing all players. You can have 1 reserve player in the unlikely event someone is unable to compete.

10 minutes prior to your event starting time, no changes or substitutions will be allowed.

You may form your team at the event. However, 1 person from the team must prepay for the entire team and indicate their team name.

Come with lots of team spirit and be ready to win!

Non Competitor Caches

The caches will be released late Wednesday night. If you are enroute to MOGA when they are released, we will make sure you get them on Thursday or Friday. **MAKE SURE YOU BRING YOUR CABLE WITH YOU!** We will have a waypoint station at Registration to load you up on Saturday morning as well as Friday night. Please look at the agenda. ALL Waypoints will be given out so you do not have to return to get anything additional. We can accommodate Garmin Colorado and Oregon GPS units. Do not trespass on private property no matter how close you are to a cache. **Property lines are clearly marked with blue markers/paint on trees for Corps property and purple paint on trees for private property.**

Registration

Registration will be available electronically only. We will accept walkups but there might not be a packet or nametag available. Please register through the website: <http://www.mogageo.com>.

The first 100 Paid Registrations, at silver level and above will receive a special collector's lanyard in their registration packet.

ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE DONE THROUGH THE WEBSITE!

Waivers

Everyone needs to complete a waiver found in this manual or a PDF file online at <http://www.mogageo.com>.

Pets

While pets are certainly welcomed at Mark Twain Lake State Park, all rules must be followed. You must keep your pet on a leash at all times. No exceptions! You need to make sure you pick up after your pet. **NO PETS ALLOWED IN OR AROUND THE DINING HALL OR REGISTRATION AREA. DO NOT BRING YOUR PETS TO MEALS. YOU CANNOT TIE THEM UP OUTSIDE.** Anywhere else your pet wants to go is fine as long as it has you on a leash. ☺

Meals

Meals must be ordered by March 22nd, 2009.

Meals will be catered for your convenience. They must be ordered in advance. Meals can be ordered at <http://www.mogageo.com>. Just follow the links.

Meals will all be served at the Si Colburn Dining Hall
http://www.flickr.com/photos/bill_streeter/2074644473/

The coords to the dining hall are as follows:

Dining Hall - N 39° 30.288 W 091° 48.677

You will have tickets that indicate your meal. Tickets are as follows...

Orange Ticket – Breakfast

Blue Ticket – Lunch

Pink Ticket – Dinner

If you have Saturday Breakfast and Sunday Breakfast, you will get 2 orange tickets.

If you have Saturday Lunch and Sunday Lunch, you will get 2 blue tickets.

DO NOT LOOSE YOUR TICKETS. YOU CANNOT EAT WITHOUT THEM!

The menu is as follows:

Rustic Oak Cabin Steakhouse

22448 Hwy J
Perry, Mo. 63462
Mark Twain Lake
(573)565-2040
Fax (573)565-1131
Dam_food_4u@hotmail.com

Breakfast Menu Saturday

\$7.50

*Freshly Baked Biscuits & Sausage Gravy
Sausage, Bacon, Potato & Egg Breakfast Casserole
French Toast with syrup
Orange Juice & Coffee*

*Separate Charge to fill thermos of coffee
Thermos not included
\$4.50*

Luncheon Menu Saturday

\$8.50

*Grilled Johnsonville Beer Bratwurst with Sautéed Onions
Grilled Hot Dogs
Oven Baked Beans
Homemade Coleslaw
Potato Chips
Assorted Homemade Cookies
Drink: Tea, Lemonade, & Coffee*

Dinner Menu Saturday Night

\$11.00

*Slow Cooked Roast Beef with Au Jus
Real Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Seasoned Green Beans
Seven-Layer Salad
Homemade Yeast Rolls
Strawberry Cheesecake
Drinks: Tea, Lemonade, & Coffee*

Breakfast Menu Sunday

\$7.50

*Homemade Biscuits & Sausage Gravy
Sausage, Bacon, Potato, & Scrambled Egg Casserole
French Toast & Syrup
Orange Juice & Coffee*

*Separate Charge to fill thermos of coffee
Thermos not included
\$4.50*

Lunch Menu Sunday

\$10.00

*Grilled Smothered Pork Loin Medallions
Potatoes Au Gratin
Sweet Corn Casserole
Homemade Coleslaw
Goopy Chocolate Brownies
Drinks: Tea, Lemonade, & Coffee*

*All of the above entrees will include paper plates, forks, knives, cups,
napkins, condiments and ice.*

Children's Menu Boxed Meals

\$4.50

*Hot Dog or Peanut Butter & Jelly or Chicken Nuggets
Chips or Celery & Ranch
Cookie
Juice Pack*

Waiver

I the undersigned, being a participant involved in the Midwest Open Geocaching Adventure (hereinafter referred to as MOGA) or being the parent or legal guardian of such a participant in MOGA, in consideration of my or another's participation in MOGA, I hereby, for myself and any participant for whom I am a parent or legal guardian release, discharge, hold harmless, and forever acquit the US Army Corps of Engineers, Missouri State Parks, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, MOGA, City of Monroe City, Mark Twain Lake, the MOGA staff or other local sponsors, and their officers, agents, representatives and employees from any and all actions, causes of action, claims or any liabilities whatsoever, known or unknown now existing or which may arise in the future, on account of or in any way related to or arising out of my participation in MOGA. Further, I assume all liability of any non-participants who accompany me.

I understand that I am a participant for all purposes, and am not an employee of the State, Local or Regional entities, The US Army Corps or Engineers, the MOGA staff or other local sponsors, and their officers, agents, representatives and employees, and as such they are not responsible for injury or death of myself and any participant for whom I am a parent or legal guardian which may occur while acting as a participant.

Participant's name (please print): _____

Geocaching Name: _____

Participant's signature: X _____

Participant's age: _____

Signature of participant's parent or legal guardian (if under 18):

X _____

Date: _____

Please mail or fax registration. Registration can be done online at <http://www.mogageo.com>
Waiver MUST be sent in two weeks prior to the event. If you even think you are going to attend, send in the waiver just to be safe.

Mail to:
MOGA 2009
Registration
1220 Crooked Creek Dr.
St. Charles, MO 63304

Waivers can be faxed to: 636-246-0091. You must bring the original to the event!

Facilities

Camping

Camping is available at the state park and also at Indian Creek Recreation Area. To reserve your campsite you must contact the property directly using the following information...

State Park Camping (Closest to Site)

Camping at Mark Twain State Park will be handled by the standard online reservation system. You can call and make your reservations directly through them or you can do it online by following the link below. The State Park Office does **NOT** make reservations. The state park will offer off season rates. No special code needed. There may or may not be water at the water station. Most likely there will only be electric at the park.

Campsite Coords: Mark Twain State Park

N 39° 29.283

W 091° 47.297

Cost

- \$10.00 for basic site w/o electric
- \$17.00 for Electric
- \$55.00 for Camper Cabins

Who to Call:

The camping reservation system is at 877-422-6766 or online at [HTTP://WWW.ICAMPMO.COM](http://www.icampmo.com)

More Info:

[Mark Twain State Park](#)

Corps Camping

Camping at Indian Creek Recreation Area will be handled by the Army Corps of Engineers at Mark Twain Lake. You must call directly and let them know that you are reserving a campsite. They have graciously given us 1/2 price camping fees!

Campsite Coords: Indian Creek Recreation Area

N 39° 31.253

W 091° 42.866

Cost

- \$8.00 for basic site w/ or w/o electric
- \$11.00 for full hookups (Water, Sewer and Electric)

Who to Call:

Call Allen or anyone at the Office. Be sure to tell them you are with MOGA! The office is (573) 735-4097. Indicate site type, how many nights. Fees will be collected when you arrive.

Map:

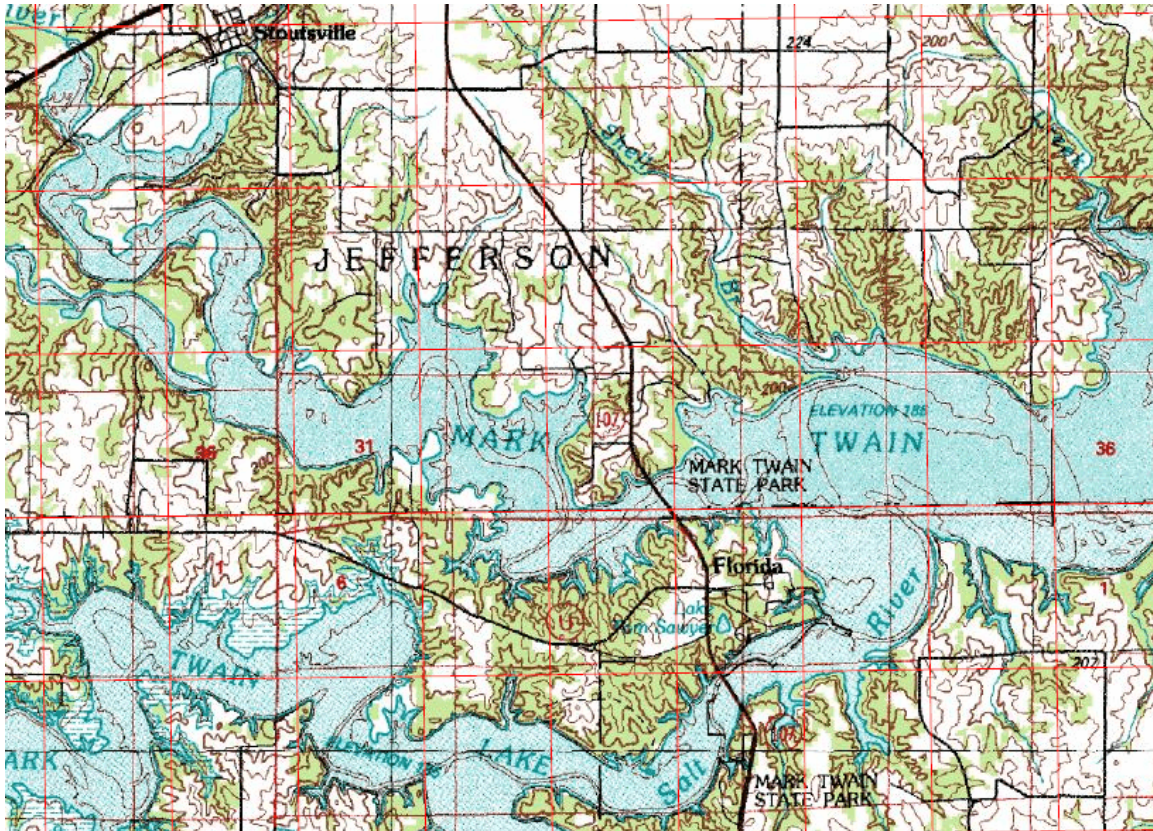
[CAMPGROUND MAP](#)

About Mark Twain Lake

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers welcomes you to Clarence Cannon Dam and Mark Twain Lake. Many recreational opportunities await you on this 55,000-acre land and water project spanning the Salt River Valley in Northeast Missouri. Rich in history and home to Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain) there are many local attractions to choose from.

The lake is located in Ralls and Monroe Counties, 28 miles southwest of Hannibal, MO and 120 miles northwest of St. Louis.

MOGA Area



Accommodations

Timber Ridge Resort
Now Offering **MOGA** Rates

Call - 866 565-3135
or Email:
timberidge@socket.net

Timber Ridge Resort

22764 Joanna Drive

Perry, MO 63462

Phone: 1 866 565-3135

Fax: 573 565-3135

Email: timberidge@socket.net

Website: www.marktwainlake.info

When you call Timber Ridge, mention you are with MOGA and you will get 10% off the Winter rates. We are still negotiating rates at other properties and should have more information soon. Please check back often for the latest information.



THE SOUTH FORK RESORT IS OFFERING
A 10% DISCOUNT TO MOGA PARTICIPANTS
1-866-382-0033

South Fork Resort

36765 Hwy. 154

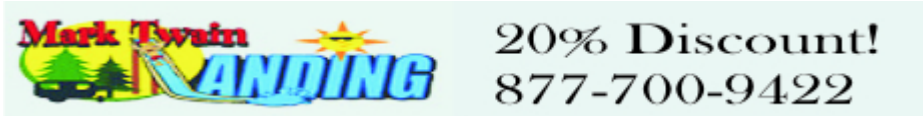
Stoutsville MO 65283

Phone: 573-565-3500

Fax: 866-382-0033

Email: SouthForkResort@Earthlink.net

Website: <http://www.southforkresort.net>



23 Miles from the Event Location

The Landing Resort

42819 Landing Lane
Monroe City, MO 63456
Phone: 573-735-9422
Toll Free: 877-700-9422 Fax: 573-735-9322
Email: info@marktwainlanding.com
Website: www.marktwainlanding.com

The Landing at Mark Twain Lake is offering a 20% discount to MOGA participants when you stay at their resort. Located within a half mile from the event, this place offers a lot.

Their facilities include everything to make your stay a relaxed and pleasant experience, with daily, weekly and monthly rates available for camping, or our cottages, condos, and cabins, or stay in our motel. Stay on one of our spacious full hookup sites which are designed to offer the convenience of home in a quiet wooded setting.



Salt River Inn

19951 Hwy J
Monroe City, MO 63456
Phone: 573-735-3387
Email: saltrivern@socket.net
Website: www.saltriverinn.com

Salt River Inn is located one mile north of the Clarence Cannon Dam Lake on Route J. It borders the Corps of Engineer land. The Mark Twain Lake is less than a half mile walking distance. The Joanna multipurpose trail winds along behind the motel, which is available for walking and horseback riding. There is also a walking trail so you can enjoy the beautiful scenery and nature on the public lands that surround Mark Twain Lake.

When you call Salt River Inn, mention you are with MOGA and you will get 10% off the Winter rates.

Here is a list of all lodging in the area...

Cannon Dam Cabins
42526 Cabin Road, Rt. J
Perry MO 63462
Phone: 573 565-3432
Fax: 573 565-3064
Email: cdgs@cannondam.com
Website: www.cannondam.com

Country Inn Motel
22938 Highway EE
Center MO 63436
Phone: (573) 267-3800
Email: countryinn@missvalley.com
Website: www.countryinnresort.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

For any emergency, first call 911, and then notify the Army Corps of Engineers.

Monroe City Police	573-735-4431
Monroe County Sheriff's Dept.	660-327-4060
Ralls County Sheriff's Dept.	573-985-7271
US Army Corps of Engineers	573-735-4097
For all medical emergencies	911
MOGA Staff	(636) 485-9998 or 9997
All Staff Walkie-Talkies will be on:	Channel 2 – Sub Channel 33
Please keep this channel clear!	

Agenda

FRIDAY – MARCH 27th		
6:30PM – 11:00PM	MOGA Meet and Greet (BYO Event – Bash)	Timber Ridge
6:00PM – 7:30PM	Early Registration	Timber Ridge
SATURDAY – MARCH 28th		
6:00am – 7:00am	Breakfast	Dining Hall
6:45am – 7:30am	Waypoint Downloads for Competitors	Program Hall
6:30am – 9:00am	Registration	Program Hall
7:30am – 7:45am	Competitors Driving Time to Course Start	On The Road
7:45am – 8:10am	Individual Competitors Meeting / Photo	Old Barn
8:15am – 11:15am	Individual Competition	Old Barn
9:00am	Kids Caches	Dining Hall
11:30am - 12:30pm	Lunch	Pavilion
12:15pm – 12:45pm	Waypoint Downloads for Competitors	Program Hall
12:45pm – 1:00pm	Competitors Driving Time to Start Area	On The Road
1:00pm – 1:15pm	Team Strategy Meeting / Pictures	Stoutsville Rec
1:15pm – 4:15pm	2 Person and 4 Person Team Event	Stoutsville Rec
2:00pm	Fun caches for adults and kids	Program Hall
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Dinner	Dining Hall
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Awards and Photos	Dining Hall
8:00pm – 9:00pm	Program Feature (TBD)	Dining Hall
9:00pm – 11:00pm	Kids Movie / Adult Social	Dining Hall
SUNDAY – MARCH 29th		
7:00am – 8:00am	Breakfast	Dining Hall
8:00am – 11:00am	Mad dash for punches contest	Program Hall
11:30am – 12:30pm	Lunch	Dining Hall
9:00am – 5:00pm	Open Cache Hunting	Park
5:00pm	Event Closes	

Timber Ridge – N39 30.032 W091 40.548

Dining Hall – N 39° 30.288 W 091° 48.677

Program Hall (registration and store) – N39 30.331 W091 48.599

Old Barn - N39 31.477 W091 45.097

Stoutsville Rec - N39 31.865 W091 51.259

Agenda Subject to Change