

Cache in on Nature boulder problem



Located just west of Lansing in the beautiful town of Grand Ledge is a small city park that holds a big surprise. Oak Park is located along the Grand River and at first glance doesn't appear to have much to offer. A small parking lot, a few picnic tables nothing that looks out of the ordinary. But a short walk through the park toward the river gives you a spectacular view from the top of the largest outcropping of rocks in central Michigan and the seventh largest in the state. The sandstone bluffs that follow the river are approximately 280 million years old. They were formed by a salt water sea and are composed of quartz grains that are held together by iron oxide. Following the trail to the east brings you to the base of these beautiful Ionia sandstone bluffs. On warmer days, you will share your visit with the many intrepid rock climbers who come here. It is also possible to canoe or kayak along the Grand River to this area. Follow your GPS (use coordinates N 42° 45.472 W 084° 45.208) to the bottom of the bluff, and start looking for the hidden cache container. Try to be discreet as you search among the many possible places this traditional cache could be located, as you are sharing this area with many others.

You can also see more bluffs on the other side of the river. These are in Fitzgerald Park. This is a 78- acre

park that offers everything from nature trails to skateboarding, cross country skiing to disk golf, and canoeing, kayaking to more Geocaching. There is also a 1.5 mile long hiking trail that displays the sandstone bluffs on both sides of the river.

To learn more about this cache and others, go to www.geocaching.com. Search for Boulder Problem. 🗺️

—Gary O'Boyle