ESCAMBIA COUNTY – Once again Escambia County, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the City of Pensacola have partnered together to create a geocache tour designed to route residents and visitors to the area’s major environmental restoration projects, unique environmental habitats, and innovative environmental retrofit solutions. There are currently 11 stops on the Escambia County Environmental Geocache Tour, which include:

- The Big Escambia Creek Restoration Project to return the Big Escambia Creek to its original flow; Project Green Shores, the award winning project to restore oyster, saltmarsh and seagrass habitat in Pensacola Bay;
- The unique habitat of Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie. Located west of Pensacola, Perdido Pitcher Plant Prairie supports one of the largest strands of white-top pitcher plants in Florida. The rare and carnivorous white-top pitcher plant is unique to the Gulf Coast and found only between the Apalachicola and Mississippi Rivers. Almost 100 other rare plants and animals depend on the unusual wet prairie habitat, including the alligator snapping turtle, sweet pitcher plant and Chapman’s butterwort;
- Cutting edge stormwater retrofit project such as the Glynn Key Stormwater Park at Southgate Plaza, which turned a traditional stormwater pond into a county wetland park in the middle of a commercial development.

We have revamped the original tour to make it more user friendly and fun for everyone. Geocachers who visit at least 8 of the 11 locations and use the colored pens/pencils at each location to check off the tour visit sheet can receive a tour prize. The tour prize can be obtained by visiting one of the two locations listed below. Just show the receptionist the completed form and receive a custom coin celebrating the tour and the City of Pensacola’s 450th birthday.

- Department of Environmental Protection located at 160 W. Government Street
  Please sign in with security guard in the lobby and then go to the third floor Suite 308.
  Contact number is 595-8300.

- Escambia County Natural Resource Conservation Division located at 151 Hwy 97 Molino
  (inside the Farm Bureau Building). Contact number is 587-5404 ext. 102.

You may even visit one of the locations listed above to pick up a package too!

Happy hunting and enjoy the environmental wonders of our county.