

Wendell, Mass. , Today, Congressman John W. Olver (D-1st District) announced that the 2nd Annual Great Northern Tier Geocaching Tournament will be held in Wendell, Mass. on August 19 and 20, 2011. Expert and amateur geocachers, individuals and families are invited to join the hunt for "caches" hidden throughout the North Quabbin region. The two-day tournament is expected to draw more than 200 people from all over New England to an area of scenic beauty and historical significance. The tournament is being organized and sponsored by a cooperative of non-profit organizations, state and local government agencies, and private businesses. "This unique event will take participants to interesting natural, cultural and agricultural areas in the North Quabbin region," said Congressman Olver. The free event is based at Wendell State Forest in Wendell, Mass., where camping will be available to participants. Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunt. A set of coordinates is entered into a hand-held GPSr unit and participants are directed to the location of the cache. This year's tournament will appeal to a wider variety of recreation enthusiasts. Specific caches will be placed throughout the North Quabbin region. The purpose of this event is to introduce more people to geocaching and to the North Quabbin region in general. Registration will begin Saturday, August 20 from 8 to 9 a.m. Beginner training on GPSr units will be provided at 9 a.m. on Saturday, participating teams will each receive a booklet with cache locations and will race to find the caches. For each cache found, participants receive points and raffle tickets used for chances at array of prizes. A chicken barbecue and vegetarian option will be provided on Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. for participants. Participants are encouraged to register on-line and to confirm canoe rentals by August 16. For event information, rules and registration visit www.northquabbinwoods.org or call North Quabbin Woods at 978-352-2222. The Great Northern Tier Geocaching Tournament is being organized by the Office of Congressman John W. Olver. Sponsors include Stevens Farm B&B, the North Quabbin Chamber of Commerce, Trail Head Store, and the North Quabbin Woods Association.

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