



## Miami Valley Career Technology Center Press Release

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### **MVCTC COSA Junior Environmental Science Participate in Geocaching – by MVCTC junior Katie Jones**

Clayton, Ohio - Have you ever wondered how a GPS unit works? Well the third quarter juniors in the Miami Valley Career Technology Center (MVCTC) Center of Science in Agriculture (COSA) Environmental Science class are learning how GPS units work. They have recently located a local Geocache, "The Passing of an Old Friend" across the street from the MVCTC campus.

This activity involves finding a previously marked Geocache in their handheld GPS units, and following the directions. On these GPS units, you can mark waypoints, which are geographical points marked by the GPS for others to find and for people to find their way around. To further their experience with the GPS units, they were given the opportunity to make and hide their own Geocache with groups. They took their Geocache out into the wooded area of MVCTC and hid them. Once they had them hidden, they would mark their waypoints. Once everyone hid their Geocache, other groups switched GPS units and went out looking for that groups Geocache. Using a GPS allows the students to be able to track places and find their way around.

Students in the Third Quarter COSA Environmental Science class participating in this activity were: Tommy Vaughn (Northridge), Mikayla Rae McMurtrey (Carlisle), Jennell Sturgil (Preble Shawnee), Robert Courtney (Milton-Union), Katie Jones (Milton-Union), Cassie Dean (West Carrollton), Rishelle Fillers (West Carrollton), Brooke Combs (Miami East), Sabrina Cheek (National Trail), Alyshia Parks (Twin Valley South), Eli Davidson (Tri-County North), Austin Price (Ansonia), Daniel Droulias (Northmont), Matthew Griffin (Wayne), Ashley Hall (Preble Shawnee), Brenda Holbert (Brookville), Austin Pfeifer (Tipp City), Morgan Silvers (Tri- County North), Alexis Thomas (West Carrollton), Joe Turner (Tipp

City), Dakota Vonerhaar (National Trail), Michaela Williams (Northmont), and Michelle Williams (Vandalia Butler).

The MVCTC Center of Science in Agriculture (COSA) allows students to rotate through different agriculture career areas during the junior year that include business operations, animal science, engineering, food science, plant science, and environmental science. At the end of your junior year, students select an area of specialization for their senior year. The COSA areas of specialization for the senior year are Ag Resources Management Tech Prep, Animal Science Management, Environmental Engineering, Food Science, Plant Science, Power Technologies, and Veterinary Science.

COSA also offers leadership opportunities through involvement in FFA, and the potential to earn an Advanced Placement position allowing students to work in this industry while still in school, and earning money and real-life work experience. Successfully completing two years of this program may make students eligible for college credit and scholarship money to Sinclair Community College, Clark State Community College, or Hocking College.

For more information about MVCTC and the agriculture programs offered, please visit [www.mvctc.com](http://www.mvctc.com) or call 877-766-8282.

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Photo: Miami Valley Career Technology Center COSA Environmental Science class learning how GPS units work, recently located a local Geocache, "The Passing of an Old Friend" across the street from the MVCTC campus.