



Support The Hobby

I would like to point out to the News Brief readers that there are a number of organizations taking on the challenge against various types of legislation dealing with metal detecting and gold prospecting. MDHTALK's recommendation is to visit their website and give strong consideration to joining the fight. In some cases your support may be to send emails and / or write a letter to specific legislators or to provide funds to help with the fight. Here are the organizations and a link to their website.

[Go to the Join The Fight MDHTALK Webpage to read more about each of these organizations](#)

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What is a News Brief? The news brief provides a brief look into any news event. The intent of the news brief is to provide you, the reader, with news clips on what was taking place in the hobby last month. To read the whole story select the Article Link or go to [MDHTALK.org](#). There are more news stories placed on the MDHTALK website for Octpber the news stories listed in the MDHTALK News Brief are just a portion of all the hobby related news reported the past month. ***The news Brief is now available in Adobe PDF format, there is a link at the top of this webpage.*** The news brief is no longer emailed; it is only available on the MDHTALK website and can be downloaded.

The Website's featured article for this month is: Thoughts on Responsible Metal Detecting
[Download This Article](#)

The term Responsible Metal Detecting can be found in the Code of Practice on Responsible Metal Detecting in England and Wales a May 2006 publication. However, the term Responsible Metal Detecting in the U.S. is rarely used or defined. I have used the term in a number of articles but have never really thought about what this term encompasses. This short article will be an attempt to provide some definition for Responsible Metal Detecting.

Responsible Metal Detecting is to:

- Know and Follow the Law.
- Gain Permission.
- Apply the Metal Detecting Code of Ethics.
- Join a Metal Detecting Club and National Metal Detecting Association.
- Understand the Potential Cultural Value of Your Find.
- Volunteer Your Services to the Hobby.

Know and Follow the Law means that one should read and understand the American Antiquities Act of 1906 and Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979. Archaeological resources are part of our Nation's heritage and these two acts cover archaeological resources and their recovery on public and Indian lands.

Hobby Related News

General U.S. and World Wide Hobby News

- African Miner Finds 1.1-Kilogram Emerald at Kagem in Zambia. [Article Link](#)
- How a mob of stray cattle started a gold rush in the Pilbara. [Article Link](#)
- Hobbyist with metal detector discovers historic item from 1609. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure Hunter Finds Lock of Hair in Lost Locket in Pippy Park. [Article Link](#)
- Woman pleas for help to find missing ring in South Hadley. [Article Link](#)
- 23-pound armor-piercing round, meant to destroy tanks, found on NC beach after Florence. [Article Link](#)
- Civil War Gold Mystery Thickens. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure Quest exclusive: The team make a massive discovery. [Article Link](#)
- You can search for an estimated \$340 million in buried treasure in Texas. [Article Link](#)
- Fargo man finds rare Spanish coin from 1700s near Red River. [Article Link](#)
- They can dig it: Meet the other kind of metal heads, who unearth local history. [Article Link](#)
- Hobbyist reunites owners with missing treasures. [Article Link](#)
- Millville Local Creates Treasure Hunt for Metal-Detector Lovers. [Article Link](#)
- Sunrise Reflections, Lost and found objects have a story to tell. [Article Link](#)
- MinRex Resources finds high-grade gold in Marble Bar rock chip sampling. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure hunters doubt FBI's word on dig for Civil War gold. [Article Link](#)
- Detectorist reveals his greatest treasure: Friendships. [Article Link](#)

U.K. News

- 'Viking treasure' of 252 silver coins found in Denmark. [Article Link](#)
- Metal Detecting Rally raises £27,000 for Bath RUH's new Cancer Centre. [Article Link](#)
- Late Bronze Age ring found in west Herefordshire. [Article Link](#)
- Girl Finds Pre-Viking Sword While Wading in Swedish Lake. [Article Link](#)
- 3,000-year-old piece of Bronze Age gold found in mbria. [Article Link](#)
- Protestors apologise after taking historical artefacts from Cultural Quarter site. [Article Link](#)
- Hoard of Roman coins unearthed. [Article Link](#)
- Finders isn't keepers in Norfolk. [Article Link](#)
- 11 amazing treasures found using metal detectors in Ireland. [Article Link](#)
- The ghost which stood guard over the Dallinghoo treasure. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure hunter accidentally discovers 200-year-old shipwreck on British channel island. [Article Link](#)

Other News

- **American Mining Rights Assn** is not a gold club but rather an advocacy group for miners and public land users to preserve and maintain their rights as they pertain to access to their public lands. [October News](#)
- **Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA)** - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [October News](#)
- **Lost Treasure E-Magazine** [October Issue](#)
- **Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ)** [September News](#)
- **1715 Fleet Society** [November Newsletter](#)

Jewelry Returns

- Article helps to track owner of class ring. [Article Link](#)
- Woman with metal detector finds lost wedding band in water off beach in Fort Pierce Inlet. [Article Link](#)
- Man finds, returns daughter's high school class ring. [Article Link](#)

North America Archaeology News

- Discovery of Ancient Spearpoints in Texas Has Some Archaeologists Questioning the History of Early Americas. [Article Link](#)
- America's archaeology data keeps disappearing – even though the law says the government is supposed to preserve it. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeologists find clues at the Yellowstone ice patch. [Article Link](#)
- Business of archaeology helps preserve Ohio history. [Article Link](#)
- Dig fails to unearth 100-year-old boat said to be buried in West Palm backyard. [Article Link](#)
- American People Suffering Historical Amnesia With Many Citizens Knowing "Virtually Nothing" About Their History. [Article Link](#)

W.W. Meteorite News

- The formation of large meteorite craters is unraveled. [Article Link](#)
- 12-pound lunar meteorite sells for more than \$600,000. [Article Link](#)
- Meteorite worth \$100,000 was used as doorstep for years. [Article Link](#)
- Teen scientists went looking for meteorites in the Great Lakes. They found another type of alien. [Article Link](#)
- Australians find extremely rare mineral in meteorite impact crater. [Article Link](#)

America's archaeology data keeps disappearing – even though the law says the government is supposed to preserve it. [PBS News Hour Article Link](#)

Archaeology – the name conjures up images of someone carefully sifting the sands for traces of the past and then meticulously putting those relics in a museum. But today's archaeology is not just about retrieving artifacts and drawing maps by hand. It also uses the tools of today: 3D imaging, LiDAR scans, GPS mapping and more.

Today, nearly all archaeological fieldwork in the U.S. is executed by private firms in response to legal mandates for historic preservation, at a cost of about a billion dollars annually.

Preserving the data

About 30,000 legally mandated archaeological investigations are conducted each year in the U.S. These projects are usually documented only in so-called "gray literature" reports that, in most cases, are not readily accessible, even to professional archaeologists.

The databases that contain the project data are even less frequently adequately documented, made accessible to other researchers or preserved in a way that will make them likely to be usable in a few years, much less 20 or 50 years. Data may be stored on media that degrade, like punch cards, floppy disks or magnetic tape. Hard disks on office

However, only a minuscule fraction of the data from these projects is made accessible or preserved for future research, despite agencies' clear legal obligations to do so. Severe loss of these data is not unusual – it's the norm.

Unanswered questions

Federally mandated projects yield massive amounts of irreplaceable data, particularly on Native American history. Those data are generated for the explicit purpose of benefiting the American public.

The primary data include things like counts of different kinds of artifacts; information on fragments of plant and animals found in fire pits; maps and photographs of ruined buildings; dates from charred roof beams; and the chemical composition of paint on pottery. This allows researchers to understand life in the past – inferring, for example, human population size and movement, social organization, trade and diet.

The data further enable archaeologists to study social processes that are important in today's world, but that operate so slowly that they aren't perceptible on time scales available in other social sciences. Why does migration occur? Why do migrant groups maintain their identities in some circumstances and adopt new ones in others? What factors have allowed some societies to persist over very long time periods?

However, this sort of synthetic research depends upon online access to a wealth of research data and unpublished technical reports. Access to these data also gives the researchers the ability to replicate the work of or correct errors by the original investigators.

What's more, for many, ancestral sites are critical to maintaining identity and purpose in an increasing global world. Government agencies are responsible for appropriately managing sites for their scientific, cultural and educational values. But to do so effectively, they must have access to full documentation of past investigations.

computers or servers may fail, and database software can become obsolete, making the data unreadable. Data may become a victim to institutional housekeeping if files not used within a certain period of time are automatically deleted.

As a professional archaeologist and former president of the Society for American Archaeology, I believe that archaeologists have an ethical obligation to ensure that the digital records of what is discovered, like the artifacts, remain available for study in the future.

There are digital repositories expressly designed to make archaeological information discoverable, accessible and preserved permanently for future use. At my university, I led the initial development of the Digital Archaeological Record (tDAR), which has been publicly available for eight years. TDAR allows archaeologists to directly upload databases, documents, photographs, GIS files and other necessary data. The cost to upload a document or image is typically US\$5, while the cost for a database depends on its size. This includes costs of permanently preserving the file and making it continuously accessible.

A similar service is available through the University of York's Archaeology Data Service in the U.K., which has been around for more than 20 years.

I believe that for all newly authorized projects, agencies must ensure that the full digital record of their archaeological investigations is deposited in a recognized digital repository. That information would then become available not only to researchers and agency personnel, but also to the public. The cost for doing this is about 1 to 3 percent of the archaeological project cost, with lower percentages for larger projects.

Agencies also need to begin properly curating the data from projects that have already been completed. Notably, at TDAR, this process has been started by a number of U.S. agencies, including the Air Force, the Army Corps of Engineers and a few offices at the Bureau of Reclamation and the National Park Service.

Federal agencies are already legally required to preserve the digital records of publicly funded archaeological investigations. They just aren't doing it. To avoid this is to ignore not only their legal obligations and their obligations to the American public, it is to consign the data – and all that can be learned from them – to oblivion.

Keith Kintigh is a professor at the School of Human Evolution and Social Change at Arizona State University. This article was originally published on The Conversation. Read the original article here.

Event News

Metal Detecting & Gold Prospecting Events.

Now is the time to start planning and getting your club's 2018/19 hunt information on the web. The sooner it is out and available to the metal detecting community the greater the chance for people to see it and give your event some consideration.

[Select here to View the Complete Event Details for November](#)

- **November 03, 2018** (One Day)
Ashland, Virginia
10th annual Old Dominion Relic Dig
Hanover Metal Detectors Club LLC
- **November 10, 2018** (One Day)
Round Rock, Texas
Veterans Day Open Hunt
Austin Metal Detecting Club

- **November 10, 2018** (One Day)
Round Rock, Texas
Satellite Hunt
Texas Association of Metal Detecting Clubs

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)