



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](#)

- MDHTALK News Pages
- U.S. & W.W. News
- U.K. News
- U.S. Archaeology
- U.S. Legislation
- W.W. Meteoritic
- Other Media

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 April 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: Cemetery Metal Detecting [Download This Article](#)

- MDHTALK Article Links
- Return Stories

Ethics for Responsible Metal Detecting

- I will not enter a Sacred Church or Parish Grounds or **Cemeteries** for the purpose of metal detecting.

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The Ethics of Metal Detecting around or in a Cemetery is a Legal, Moral and Public Perception issue for the metal detecting hobbyist. Cemeteries are found on church grounds and old cemeteries, settler cemeteries, civil war cemeteries can be found on private or public lands. Today's highly used cemeteries are everywhere.

An ethical prohibition exists for metal detectorist where you know the deceased have been laid to rest. Also, in the past, the deceased may have been buried just outside of the known bounds of a historical or old cemetery. This may have taken place because the relatives could not afford a plot in the cemetery proper, or the deceased were buried before the cemetery boundaries were established. The situation is, if you make a decision to metal detect in or outside the boundaries of a cemetery you may be detecting over a deceased person's grave. I sincerely hope that detectorist consider how one's action of detecting cemeteries can affect the negative perception that the public develops for all metal detectorists.

First let's explore the legality of metal detecting in or around cemeteries.

- MDHTALK Event Calendar
- May



The law that has the greatest effect on metal detecting cemeteries is the Trespass Law that concern private or public properties. There are trespass laws in all states, counties and cities that cover the same thing-trespassing without permission on property.

Here is an example of the California Trespass Law. This example probably represents trespass laws that can be found most everywhere in the U.S.

California Penal Code 602 PC defines the crime of trespassing as entering or remaining on someone else's property without permission or a right to do so. The offense is a misdemeanor that carries a maximum sentence of 6 months in jail and a fine of \$1000.00.

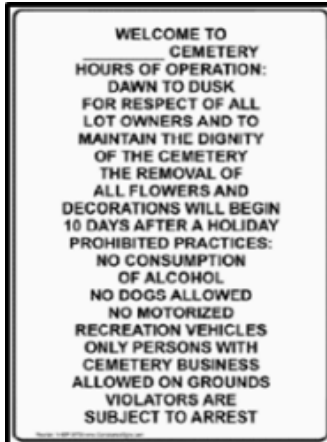
In the case of a cemetery, the owner of the cemetery property owns the land for roads or lanes, walking paths and other areas within the cemetery boundary. Then there is the ownership of the individual cemetery plots where the deceased are buried. These plots are also private property and should be covered under any trespass laws.

The land that borders a cemetery can either be public land or under private property ownership. These lands are also covered by trespass laws.

So just don't go in the cemetery with the intention of metal detecting. If you can't find good places to metal detect besides cemeteries, you should change hobbies.

The [Federal 1990 Native American Graves Protection Act](#), probably does not apply to metal detecting most know cemeteries but could potentially be applied to civil war and early settler cemeteries. This act covers Native American and must be followed at all times and in all situations.

Second what are the moral issues associated with metal detecting in a cemetery.



Definition: Morality is a principle concerning the distinction between right and wrong, good and bad behavior, or a system of values and principles of conduct, held by society.

Some detectorist may say the practice of detecting a cemetery is OK as long as the detectorist has cleared it with a cemetery official, uses proper recovery methods and keeps to the lanes and walkways. However, the public at large may view any type of metal detecting in any old or new cemetery very negatively. This negative public view will affect all metal detectorist in the long run even if no law is broken or permission was given to go there. Common sense should tell you just don't go in the cemetery or around a cemetery with the intention of metal detecting.

Everyone should agree that metal detectors will never be used over or around graves and detectorist shouldn't carry shovels into cemeteries unless they want to spend the rest of their day talking with the police.

.Be Respectful of the Graves don't touch any monuments or headstones. This is not only disrespectful, but may cause damage to the memorials, especially older ones. Never remove anything from a gravesite or gravestone, such as flowers, coins, or tributes that have been left by

family members.

Third what is met by public perception of metal detecting in a cemetery.

Just don't do it. If you can't find good places to metal detect besides cemeteries, you should change hobbies. The public does not understand that detectors only detect target a few inches below the surface from their perspective they detect far deeper.

One can understand why people would want to search around/in graveyards. There are probably old coins/relics that mourning people have placed or dropped on grave sites. The feeling maybe that the deceased resting in the graveyard won't care if you detect there.

The people driving by or visiting a grave would definitely take offense of somebody swinging a detector and digging in the cemetery. There are other places to go detect. Searching in or around cemeteries is very disrespectful and bad for the image of all detectorist.

Metal detecting in a cemetery does not create a good hobby image. Regardless of the law never metal detect inside any cemetery boundary or even outside of the physical boundaries of a cemetery. Since this could provide the public with a very disturbing image of a metal detectorist.

In Conclusion:

A metal detectorist needs to consider the trespass law, the morality and the public perception of metal detecting in or around a cemetery. Also, the Metal Detecting Code of Ethics is against detecting in cemeteries and finally a set Cemetery Etiquette needs to be followed by detectorist. The consensus is that it is extremely disrespectful to detect in cemeteries both to the dead and their living families. Digging in graveyards gives fuel to those who wish to paint detectorist as very cold-hearted. It's just not right and it's disrespectful to go near grave sites with a detector. It doesn't matter the age or location of the cemetery. Just Don't Metal Detect a Cemetery.

Cemetery Etiquette Website

A cemetery is a unique place. While it is part of the everyday scene, it is not part of everyday life. That is to say, it is a place where tranquility and quiet are the desired norm, and activities of everyday life should be suspended. Desert Lawn Funeral Home and Memorial Park [Website](#)

Cemetery visitors should:

Be sympathetic.

Do not play loud music in cars, with the windows down, for everyone to hear.

Keep children in 'check.'

No running, yelling, or rolling around on the ground. This is not a place for childhood games. Don't let them play on any of the monuments. While it is good to get children used to paying respects at a cemetery, they often don't fully understand the meaning of everything in the cemetery.

Do their best to not walk over the graves.

Common sense leads you to know the basic shape of a grave; walk in between the headstones, and don't stand on top of a burial place.

Follow cemetery rules.

Most have a sign near the entrance stating hours, rules about decorations, etc. Obey these rules. Rules about decorations serve to make sure the cemetery doesn't collect too much debris that the caretakers need to clean up. Flowers and other things can blow in the wind. It would be especially nice if any trash along the way was picked up, regardless of who left it.

Try not to remain in the cemetery after dark.

Most cemeteries are open from dawn to dusk.

Don't litter.

This creates extra work for the caretakers, and shows disrespect to the other families who come to mourn their loved ones. "Pack your trash" is a good rule of thumb: take your refuse with you when you go, or put it in trash receptacles.

Leash your pets.

When you bring your pets, be sure to clean up after them

Follow the roadways and don't drive on the grass.

Drive slowly and obey any traffic signs posted in the cemetery. Be careful to avoid any people since they might be upset and not paying complete attention to where they are going.

Be respectful.

Keep the volume of voices down, and don't use offensive language.

Don't be overly friendly when talking to strangers.

Other visitors may want to be alone.

Don't touch any monuments or gravestones.

They are very meaningful to the families who placed them there. Some older memorials might be in disrepair and might fall apart under the slightest touch.

Don't take photos of other people or other funerals.

This is a very private time for people. It's best to steer clear of any funerals occurring, and don't get in the way of funeral processions.

Ethics for Responsible Metal Detecting [Website](#)

- I will check Federal, State, County and Local Laws before searching. It is my responsibility to KNOW UNDERSTAND THE LAW.
- I will report to the proper authorities, individual who enter and / or remove artifacts from Federal or State Park / Preserves / Historical Sites.
- I will never remove or destroy priceless historical archeological treasures.
- **I will not enter a Sacred Church or Parish Grounds or Cemeteries for the purpose of metal detecting**
- I will protect our Natural Resource and Wildlife Heritage.
- I will not enter private property without the owner's permission and when possible, such permission will be in writing.
- I will take care to refill all holes and try not to leave any damage.
- I will remove and dispose of any and all trash and litter that I find.
- I will not destroy or tamper with any structures on public or private property or what is left of Ghost Towns.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks, or other water supplies.
- I will not tamper with signs, maintenance facilities or equipment and leave all gates as found.
- I will approach and educate those who do not follow good metal detecting practices.
- I will not metal detect in competitive hunts if I am the Hunt Master or plant hunt targets.
- I will make every effort to return found property to its rightful owner.
- I will be an ambassador for the hobby, be thoughtful, considerate and courteous at all times to others and their property.

Hobby Related News

General U.S. and World Wide Hobby News

- A hand grenade in a cornfield: Toano man discovers live round while metal detecting. [Article Link](#)
- N.C. detectorists share common ground peddling their love for metal. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure hunter finds \$46,000 hidden in cashbox beneath floorboards of Massachusetts family's home after decades of rumor. [Article Link](#)

Other News Sources

- **American Digger Relic Roundup.** For diggers and collectors of history. An hour long program every Monday Night at 9:00 PM eastern standard time. Join your hosts Butch Holcombe, Jeff Lubbert and Heath Jones as they explore the past. Learn more about Metal Detecting, Treasure hunting in all it's forms, and the preservation of history. [April Pod Cast Link](#)
- **Archaeology and Metal Detecting Magazine** present the BIG metal detecting podcast. A weekly show bringing all areas of

- Armed with metal detector, Myrtle Beach man finds rare Charleston freedman's badge. [Article Link](#)
- The Best Metal Detectors, According to Real-Life Treasure Hunters. [Article Link](#)
- How does a metal detector work? [Article Link](#)
- How to use a metal detector. [Article Link](#)
- Mike Parker: Local historian publishes a compilation of Wyse Fork documents. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectorist finds 10th known 1800s 'Free Slave' badge. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectorists enjoy the thrill of the hunt. [Article Link](#)
- Local family finds military dog tags in their back yard, gets help in search for owner. [Article Link](#)
- Fascinating finds keep metal detectorist searching for hidden treasures. [Article Link](#)
- Boyertown Area Historical Society invites public to Come Out Swinging Metal Detecting Fundraiser. [Article Link](#)
- Dive team looks for evidence in Kalamazoo County homicide. [Article Link](#)
- Metal Detecting Permit. [Article Link](#)
- Search yields unusual twist. [Article Link](#)
- The new escape rooms? Real-life treasure-hunts are dotting the country, if you know where to look. [Article Link](#)
- Construction at Overton Park Golf Course unearths hidden items buried for decades. [Article Link](#)
- Is there a secret hidden beneath Sunseeker Resort? [Article Link](#)
- With a metal detector and lots of patience, he reunites lost wedding rings with their owners. [Article Link](#)
- Ancient coins may solve mystery of murderous 1600s pirate. [Article Link](#)
- Father-son team finds adventure while searching for buried treasure. [Article Link](#)
- Bomb squad safely detonates Civil War cannonball found in Maryland. [Article Link](#)
- 'Turn of the century' bunker found buried in Grand Rapids family's backyard. [Article Link](#)
- The search for buried treasure leads to adventures and fond memories along the way. [Article Link](#)
- Minelab Equinox 800: Fastest and Strongest Metal Detector in the Market with Multi-Frequency Technology. [Article Link](#)
- Can You Dig It? [Article Link](#)

U.K. News

- Warning over metal detecting and magnet fishing on council land. [Article Link](#)
- Gold ring found using a metal detector on Isle of Man declared treasure. [Article Link](#)
- UK first as magnet fishing in Scottish canals gets green light. [Article Link](#)
- Roman villa site in Scarborough damaged during break-in. [Article Link](#)
- Rural task force officers alerted to night hawking incidents across the area. [Article Link](#)
- Little treasures turn up at historic site. [Article Link](#)
- Norfolk: 'Elephant and castle' gold seal only third found. [Article Link](#)
- Five fascinating things found by man with metal detector. [Article Link](#)
- Unusual Bronze Age ring found in field by novice metal detectorist. [Article Link](#)
- Eight fascinating treasure finds from Powys. [Article Link](#)
- Medieval ring with a skull emblem found in Wales declared treasure. [Article Link](#)
- Antonine Wall metal detectorists sought by police. [Article Link](#)
- National Trust 'concerned' as 100 metal detecting holes appear at Magna Carta site. [Article Link](#)

history together with our guests, news and much more. [April Pod Cast Link](#)

- **Coin World** - Numismatic and Coin Collecting [April News](#)
- **Garrett Searcher** [March Searcher](#)
- **Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA)** - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [April News](#)
- **Mel Fisher** [Salvage Update](#)
- **PLP** [Press Release](#)
- **Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ)** [April News](#)
- **The Archaeology and Metal Detecting Magazine** The Archaeology and Metal detecting magazine are one of the lead online sites in their genre. Offering multiple platforms for Archaeological, Historical and metal detecting news, articles, research areas and much more. [April News](#)
- **1715 Fleet Society** [May Newsletter](#)

Jewelry Returns

- Metal detectorist finds Sway man's lost wedding ring on Avon Beach. [Article Link](#)
- Influencer loses one-of-a-kind wedding ring at coast. [Article Link](#)
- 1971 Bullitt Central High School class ring returned to original owner. [Article Link](#)
- Man With Metal Detector Reunites Maryland Firefighter With Treasured Medallion Lost on Beach. [Article Link](#)
- Something blue: Diver finds lost wedding ring at Windansea Beach. [Article Link](#)

W.W. Meteorite News

- Beachgoers, Police Spend Hours Helping Couple Find Lost Engagement Ring. [Article Link](#)
- What was that flash of light in the South Florida sky Monday night? The answer may surprise you. [Article Link](#)
- Rolex Has Made Some of Planet's Hottest Watches Even More Collectible. [Article Link](#)
- Rare daytime fireball meteor creates massive sonic boom over UK. [Article Link](#)

North America Archaeology News

- Iron Age warriors bent the swords of their defeated enemies, ancient hoard reveals. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeologists: Site of Harriet Tubman's father's home found. [Article Link](#)
- U.S. Repatriates Pre-Hispanic Artifacts to Mexico. [Article Link](#)
- Space is the final frontier for archaeologists. [Article Link](#)
- Hidden history: Archaeologists turn to technology to look for clues at Fort Owen. [Article Link](#)
- COVID-19 sparks increased antiquities looting in Turkey - the Independent. [Article Link](#)
- In the discipline of archaeology, harassment is occurring at 'epidemic rates,' says Stanford scholar. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeologists Have Found Prehistoric Rock Structures Under the Great Lakes. Here's What the Stones Can Tell Us. [Article Link](#)

- Museums buy more Treasure finds as metal detecting discoveries soar.
[Article Link](#)

Metal Detecting Cities with New Regulations

New rules for treasure hunters in Kansas City parks [Web Link](#)

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Anyone hunting for treasure in city parks now has a list of guidelines to follow. First of all, anyone with a metal detector is required to register with the city each calendar year and is only permitted from sunup to sundown. Historical objects or those with archaeological value or interest may not be removed from a park. Kansas City could make outdoor dining in parking spaces a permanent option

- There are other guidelines that also must be followed, according to the Kansas City Parks Department:
- o Litter apron or bag is to be worn or carried during metal detector use and all litter disposed of in trash containers or removed from site.
 - o If an object of historical or archaeological value or interest is found, the metal detecting activity shall cease, and park staff notified.
 - o Plants and trees may not be dislodged or have their roots disturbed.
 - o You may only dig using hand implements and only three inches deep and three inches wide.
 - o Restore the ground when finished.

METAL DETECTING IS PROHIBITED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS IN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI:

Athletic fields
Historic sites/memorial grounds
GoGolf and disc golf courses
FrFrank Vaydik Park
Loose Parkr /> Indian Mound Park
Union Cemeteryr /> Shoal Creek Living History Museum
Battlefields
Dog parks
Landscaped plant beds

Metal Detecting Permit [Web Link](#)

Metal detecting is permitted in City of Boise parks and facilities with the procurement of a Boise Parks and Recreation Department Metal Detecting Permit.

A metal detector is defined as an electronic instrument which detects the presence of metal objects nearby. Metal detectors can be useful for finding metal objects hidden within other objects or buried underground. Metal detectors often consist of a handheld unit, with a sensor probe that can be swept over the group.

Metal Detecting Permits cost \$10.75 and can be purchased online or over the phone at 208-608-7600.

When Purchasing Online:

- o Once the metal detecting permit has been purchased, you will receive a receipt and the application by email.
- o Please fill out the application and click submit at the end of the application.
- o Once we receive your application, we will mail the metal detecting permit to you.

Event News

Metal Detecting & Gold Prospecting Events.

Now is the time to start planning and getting your club's 2021 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 May](#)

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)

Check out your event before going it may have been postponed or canceled.

- **May 11, 2021** (Five Days)
Loud Mine, Georgia
2021 Diggers Dirt Party at Loud Mine
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn
- **May 15, 2021** (One Day)
) Round Rock, Texas
TAMDC " Open" Silver Hunt
Texas Assn of Metal Detecting Clubs
- **May 15, 2021** (Two Days)
Emporium, Pennsylvania
7th Annual Hunt
Dirt Digging PA
- **May 15, 2021** (Two Days)
Ocean City, New Jersey
11th Annual Hunt - The BIG One
ECRDA East Coast Research Discovery Assn
- **May 22, 2021** (One Day)
Raidersburg, Montana
18th Annual Rick Radke Memorial Metal Detector Hunt
Headwaters Chapter of the GPAA
- **May 23, 2021** (One Day)
Fostoria, Michigan
2021 Michigan MeGaLoHuNt
Michigan Metal Detectives
- **May 28, 2021** (Three Days)
Richland, Washington
33rd Treasure Hunt
Southeast WA Assn of Treasure Hunters' (SWATH)