



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

- MDHTALK Article Links
- Return Stories

- MDHTALK Find a Club
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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 October 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](#)
Ethics for Responsible Metal Detecting:

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

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.

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:

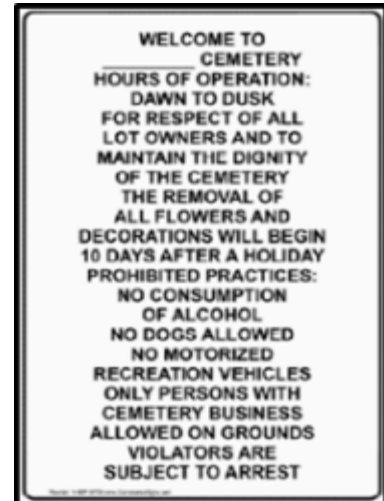
A metal detectorist needs to consider the trespass law, the morality and the public perception of metal detecting in or around a cemetery. Also, the Metal Detecting Code of Ethics is against detecting in cemeteries and finally a set Cemetery Etiquette needs to be followed by detectorist. The consensus 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

Other News Sources

- Spanish court throws out lawsuit against US treasure hunters. [Article Link](#)
- Hunting for treasure. [Article Link](#)
- Civil War relic hunter finds Winchester soldier's ID, prompts memorial. [Article Link](#)
- First biennial even. [Article Link](#)
- Old coins, lost rings and, sometimes, a worm: St. Louis detectorists unearth trash, treasures. [Article Link](#)
- Edmonds beachcomber digs up history. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure hunting legend killed while doing what he loved most. [Article Link](#)
- **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. [October Pod Cast Link](#)
- **Archaeology and Metal Detecting Magazine** present the BIG metal detecting podcast. A weekly show bringing all areas of history together with our guests, news and much more. [October Pod Cast Link](#)

- More Manitobans metal detecting in the province. [Article Link](#)
- WWI badge found by a metal detectorist in Tasmania's highlands reveals a mother's 'tragic' story. [Article Link](#)
- Three treasure hunters held. [Article Link](#)
- Pandemic attracts resident to new hobby. [Article Link](#)
- 4.38-carat diamond discovered by vacationing couple at state park. [Article Link](#)
- 5 treasures around the world, still waiting to be discovered. [Article Link](#)
- Blue Mountain beaches a treasure trove for metal detector. [Article Link](#)

U.K. News

- Metal detecting rally raises almost £37,000 for Dyson Cancer Centre. [Article Link](#)
- Two Danish Metal Detector Enthusiasts Unearth 1,000-year-old Silver Treasure. [Article Link](#)
- Danish national museum unveils "dream find" gold hoard. [Article Link](#)
- Why Detectorists is Seriously Underrated. [Article Link](#)
- Race for Life runner's heartbreak at lost engagement ring. [Article Link](#)
- 4,000-Year-Old Sword Discovered by Man With Metal Detector in Parents' Backyard. [Article Link](#)
- Metal detectorist, 30, is arrested 'for digging up buried treasure at Stonehenge and possessing explosives'. [Article Link](#)
- Dalton Detectorist's new book goes down a storm. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeological dig in the works after exciting discovery is found by metal detectorist in Furness. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure hunter from Dalton set to feature in new ITV series on metal detecting. [Article Link](#)
- Man reunites precious jewellery with nearly 100 people. [Article Link](#)
- 'I'd like to find a Roman fibula brooch': watching the detectorists – a photo essay. [Article Link](#)
- Archaeology at Castlefields Primary School. [Article Link](#)
- Treasure hunter finds 700-year-old gold medieval ring in Cheshire. [Article Link](#)

North America Archaeology News

- Humanlike Footprints in Crete Dated to 6 Million Years Muddle Archaeologists. [Article Link](#)
- Western Colorado's early archaeologists. [Article Link](#)
- California drought reveals 112-year-old freight train derailment wreckage on Shasta Lake. [Article Link](#)
- The 'Orderly Anarchy' of Ancient California. [Article Link](#)
- Veterans at Revolutionary battlefield dig find camaraderie. [Article Link](#)

- Coin World - Numismatic and Coin Collecting [October News](#)
- Garrett Searcher [September- October Searcher](#)
- Gold Prospectors Assn of America (GPAA) - News on legal issues for the gold prospecting community [October News](#)
- Mel Fisher [Salvage Update](#)
- Prospecting and Mining Journal (IMCJ) [October 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. [October News](#)
- 1715 Fleet Society [November Newsletter](#)

Jewelry Returns

- Lost wedding ring found on beach and returned to couple on their anniversary. [Article Link](#)
- Man reunited with Franklin class ring 42 years after it was lost. [Article Link](#)
- Detectorists find man's missing wedding ring in Silver End. [Article Link](#)
- Stranger reunites woman with engagement ring lost in March 2020. [Article Link](#)
- Local hero to the rescue after lost wedding ring. [Article Link](#)
- Hawaii couple's long-lost wedding ring returned after cliff jump, Tik Tok video, selfie. [Article Link](#)
- Lost wedding ring found by metal detector hero on Cornish beach. [Article Link](#)
- Swansea woman, 71, reunited with beloved wedding ring after losing it in the sea. [Article Link](#)

W.W. Meteorite News

- SPACE DEBRIS What is a meteorite?. [Article Link](#)
- Sleeping Canadian woman has close call with meteorite that lands on bed. [Article Link](#)
- NASA sets a launch date for its asteroid redirection test mission. [Article Link](#)
- Warehouse-sized asteroid sneaks up on Earth by hiding near the sun. [Article Link](#)

.38-Carat Diamond Discovered by Vacationing Couple at State Park [WebLink](#)

Noreen and Michael Wredberg found the diamond at Crater of Diamonds State Park. This sounds like a pretty good way to spend a vacation.br /> A California couple visited a state park in Arkansas and made an amazing discovery. While they may have shown up hoping to spend some time with nature, they left with a massive diamond.

Noreen and Michael Wredberg live in Granite Bay, Calif., and have spent the last decade visiting the country's various national parks. During a trip to Arkansas, they visited the Crater of Diamonds State Park, according to a news release from the Arkansas State Parks.

According to the release, Arkansas is the only state in the country to have a diamond mine open to the public.

Noreen says she had heard about the park on TV years ago and wanted to visit. She and her husband arrived on September 23 of this year. While there, they participated in a diamond hunt. While Noreen wanted to stay near the entrance, her husband suggested moving to a nearby field where it was a bit warmer.

While searching there, Noreen found a 4.38-carat diamond.

The Arkansas State Parks website says that it is the largest diamond found at the state park so far this year.

Park Superintendent Caleb Howell inspected the diamond and said, "When I first saw this diamond under the microscope, I thought, 'Wow, what a beautiful shape and color!' Mrs. Wredberg's diamond weighs more than four carats and is about the size of a jellybean, with a pear shape and a lemonade yellow color."

According to Park Interpreter Waymon Cox, the area is routinely prepared to help visitors find diamonds.

"We plow the search area periodically to loosen the soil and promote natural erosion," he explained. "Diamonds are somewhat heavy for their size and lack static electricity, so dirt doesn't stick to them. When rain uncovers a larger diamond and the sun comes out, its reflective surface is often easy to see."

Event News

Metal Detecting & Gold Prospecting Events.

Now is the time to start planning and getting your club's 2021/22 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.

- **November 02, 2021** (Five Days)
Duisenburg, California
2021 Diggers Dirt Party at Duisenburg
LDMA-Lost Dutchman Mining Assn

- **November 13, 2021** (One Day)
Round Rock, Texas
Veterans Day Open Hunt
Austin Metal Detecting Club and TAMDC

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

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

[Add Your Event Information Here](#)

Metal Detecting Hobby Talk [MDHTALK HOME PAGE](#) <http://www.mdhtalk.org>