



Your guide to

Metal Detecting in Washington State Parks

REGISTRATION for Metal Detector Use

Name _____ Telephone Number _____

Address (City, State, Zip Code) _____

Park Where Detecting _____ Date of Detecting _____

I have read and understood the above summary of rules for use of metal detectors in state parks.

Signature _____ Date _____

The following parks allow registered metal detector use:

(List subject to revision)

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Alta Lake* | Mount Spokane |
| Battle Ground Lake | Mukilteo |
| Bay View* | Nolte |
| Belfair* | Ocean City* |
| Birch Bay | Osoyoos Lake |
| Bogachiel* | Paradise Point |
| Bridgeport* | Pearrygin Lake* |
| Bridle Trails | Penrose Point* |
| Brooks Memorial | Potholes |
| Camano Island* | Rainbow Falls |
| Central Ferry* | Rasar* |
| Chief Timothy | Rockport* |
| Conconully* | Saint Edward |
| Crow Butte* | Saltwater |
| Daroga | Scenic Beach* |
| Dash Point | Schafer* |
| Deception Pass | Sequim Bay |
| Dosewallips | Shine Tidelands |
| Fay Bainbridge* | South Whidbey* |
| Fields Spring | Steamboat Rock* |
| Fort Flagler | Sun Lakes |
| Griffiths-Friday | Tolmie |
| Haley Property | Twanoh |
| Ike Kinswa | 25-Mile Creek* |
| Illahee | Twin Harbors* |
| Joemma Beach* | Wanapum* |
| Kanaskat-Palmer* | Wenberg |
| Kitsap Memorial* | Yakima Sportsman* |
| Kopachuck* | |
| Lake Chelan | |
| Lake Easton* | |
| Lake Sammamish | |
| Lake Sylvia | |
| Lake Wenatchee* | |
| Larrabee | |
| Lewis and Clark | |
| Lewis and Clark Trail* | |
| Lincoln Rock* | |
| Millersylvania* | |
| Moran | |

*Note: Day-use Areas
* Indicates there are areas open to metal detecting in campgrounds and group camp areas. Please refer to the park map for specific areas open to metal detecting.
** Metal detecting is allowed between the ocean water's edge and the mean high tide line along the Washington coast.*

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission



P.O. Box 42650
Olympia, WA 98504-2650
(360) 902-8500 • TDD (360) 664-3133
<http://www.parks.wa.gov>

Commission Members:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Clyde Anderson | Joe Taller |
| Mickey Fearn | Joan Thomas |
| Bob Petersen | Cecelia Vogt |
| Eliot Scull | |

Agency Director: Cleve Pinnix

All Washington state parks are developed and maintained for the enjoyment of all people, regardless of age, sex, creed, ethnic origin, or physical limitation.

This brochure will be provided in alternative formats by calling the public affairs office at (360) 902-8562 or Telephone Device for the Deaf at (360) 664-3133. P&R 45-30100-4 (10/01)

Visitors need to be familiar with a few rules before using a metal detector in Washington's state parks. Following these simple rules will ensure that the park remains open to hobbyists and that facilities and resources are protected.

Washington Administrative Code 352-32-235 governs the use of metal detectors in state parks. Its full text is below. Please contact a park ranger for additional information.

A Quick Summary of Rules

- The use of metal detectors is permitted only within specified portions of approved state parks.
- Users shall not destroy park facilities, natural features or historical or archaeological resources. No item appearing to be of historical or archaeological significance, remaining from either early pioneer or military activity or from native American presence, may be removed from where it was found. You must report immediately any such find to a park employee, and you must not further disturb the area in which the find occurred.
- Users must properly dispose of all found or recovered litter.
- An exception to these rules may be requested by special recreation event application available from the agency.
- Metal detecting is allowed between the ocean water's edge and the mean high tide line along the Washington coast.

Lost and Found Property

Please be aware that a "loser" of an item may still own that item and that the act of finding and recovering an item does not convey ownership rights to the finder. The Lost and Found Property Statute establishes provisions for recovery and retention of lost items.

- Coins in circulation are not subject to this statute.
- You must turn in found property to park staff and complete a *Found Property Report*, which tracks the disposition of the materials. Failure of the finder to comply with requirements of the law will result in the materials being disposed of as unclaimed property.
- If the owner is not found within specified time



limits, the found property will be released to the finder, provided that all official proceedings which involve the property are completed and the finder has complied with all requirements.

- Contact park staff for further information about the Lost and Found Property statute.
- For more information, call the Washington State Parks information center at (360) 902-8844, or use the Telephone Device for the Deaf at (360) 664-3133.

Washington Administrative Code 352-32-235

"The use and operation of metal detectors, as well as the removal of small contemporary materials, is permitted within selected state parks as designated by the director or designee, in accordance with all commission direction on land management, and subject to the conditions and limitations specified.

- (1) The use of metal detectors is permitted only within specified portions of approved state parks as posted for public reference. Metal detecting may be allowed in an approved campsite occupied by the registered

detectorist and in unoccupied campsites within approved campgrounds.

- (2) The use of metal detectors within a state park shall be limited to daylight hours that the park has posted as "open." No use shall be allowed during periods of seasonal or emergency park closure, except where otherwise posted.
- (3) Any person wishing to use a metal detector shall so indicate to park personnel at the park where the use is to occur, by complying with the registration process provided for such purpose.
- (4) Exceptional uses of metal detectors in state parks may be allowed through the issuance of a special recreation event application, available from the agency.
- (5) This section does not apply to commission employees while engaged in the performance of their duties.
- (6) Persons operating metal detectors in state parks and state park areas shall:
 - (a) Observe all laws and regulations.
 - (b) Never destroy or disturb park facilities, natural features, or historical or archeological resources. No item which is, or appears to be of historical or archaeological significance, may be removed from the site at which it was found. Any such find shall be immediately reported to park personnel, and the area in which the find occurred shall not be disturbed further.
 - (c) Limit digging implements to ice picks, screwdrivers and probes not to exceed two inches in width and sand scoops not to exceed six inches in width and eight inches in length, containing perforations no less than one-half inch in width, to be used only on sand surfaces. Any holes dug shall be limited to six inches maximum depth and shall be immediately refilled and the surface restored to its earlier condition.
 - (d) Properly dispose of all found or recovered trash and litter.
 - (e) Conduct themselves with thoughtfulness, courtesy and consideration for others, and not interfere with other recreational activities. An operator shall not allow any emitted metal detector sound audible to other park users.
- (7) Any violation of this section is an infraction under [chapter 7.84 RCW](#).