

City of Sault Sainte Marie

Metal Detector Use Policy on Public Property

Background

Metal detecting is recognized as a legitimate recreation activity when it is conducted in ways that do not damage the natural, historical and cultural resources. Although possession of a metal detector is allowed, in order to protect historical resources, there are legal restrictions on activities related to the use of metal detectors on public lands.

Metal Detecting not allowed on specific City Properties

Metal detectors are not allowed on the following city properties:

City Hall Grounds

Maple Ridge Cemetery

Riverside Cemetery

In addition to metal detecting, all of the following activities are prohibited: Digging in, excavating, disturbing, injuring, destroying, or in any way damaging any prehistoric, historic, or archaeological resources, structure, site, artifact, or property. No person may excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface or attempt to excavate, remove, damage or otherwise alter or deface any archaeological resources located on the above public lands or Tribal lands unless such activity is pursuant to a written pre-approved permit from the City of Sault Sainte Marie.

Metal Detecting in City Parks

The use of metal detectors is permitted in city parks; however, this is limited to “surface” items only. You must report immediately any such find to the City of Sault Sainte Marie and you must not further disturb the area in which the find occurred. The City of Sault Sainte Marie may retain, investigate and review any items that are found. Users shall not destroy park facilities, natural features or historical, prehistoric, or archaeological resources. No item appearing to be of historical or archaeological significance, remaining from either pioneer or military activity or from Native American presence may be removed from where it was found. You must report immediately any such find.

The use of metal detectors within a city park shall be limited to daylight hours that the park has posted as “open.” Users must properly dispose of all found or recovered litter.