



City of Ocala Metal Detecting Excavation Permit

This Metal Detecting Excavation Permit authorizes the permittee to engage in metal detecting activities including related minor excavations for the purpose of collecting items of interest found in the process of treasure hunting/metal detecting under the below listed guidelines.

- Metal detecting activities (including excavations) shall not be conducted in prohibited areas or areas that have restricted access. Prohibited areas include any manicured lawn/sports turf; golf courses; on or within 10 feet on either side of a walking trail; landscape beds/areas, construction zones and archeological sites (The Fort King Memorial, The Fort King National Landmark, and Scott Springs).
- A hand tool for digging purposes is permitted. Holes shall be no more than six-inches in depth. Any holes created shall be filled immediately. The cutting of vegetation is prohibited.
- Metal detecting activities shall in no way interfere with the intended use of the public property or facilities. Metal detecting in a permitted special event zone is prohibited unless authorized by the event coordinator.
- Metal detecting in large groups is discouraged, especially at neighborhood parks due to the limited size and availability of resources.
- All regulations (City Codes and Florida Statutes) and posted park rules must be adhered to.
- Metal detecting and related excavations are not authorized on partnership (leased) properties except at the discretion of the property operator. Approval should be requested from the principal agent of said property.
- All items of value recovered during metal detecting activities must be surrendered to the Ocala Police Department (these items may be returned to the finder in cases where the rightful owner does not claim same within the statutory time frame). All articles of apparent historical significance shall be reported to the Recreation and Parks Department or the Ocala Police Department. When in doubt, the permittee shall assume the item has historical significance.
- The City of Ocala makes no claims in regard to the safety of metal detecting related excavation activities. The permittee is responsible for ascertaining that excavations will not in any way interfere with buried utilities and shall be responsible for any damage caused by excavation activities.
- The permittee shall indemnify the City and its elected officials, employees and volunteers against, and hold City and its elected officials, employees and volunteers harmless from all damages, claims, losses, costs, and expenses, including attorney fees, which City or its elected officials, employees or volunteers may sustain, or which may be asserted against City or its elected officials, employees or volunteers, arising out of this permit or the permitted activities or the condition of the facilities used for permitted activities without limitation, harm or personal injury to the permittee or third person during and related to the permitted activities.
- The City of Ocala reserves the right to revoke or amend this permit at any time. It shall be the permittee's responsibility to maintain a current permit. The City recommends downloading and/or requesting an updated permit at least annually to ensure that permittee is fully aware of current regulations.
- Persons engaging in metal detecting excavation activities must have this permit with them or in their vehicle and their actions must demonstrate that they have a complete understanding of the permit guidelines. No excavation, other than that related to metal detecting activities, is authorized by this permit.