

CHAPTER 64  
METAL DETECTORS USE IN STATE AREAS

[Prior to 12/31/86, Conservation Commission[290] Ch 43]

**571—64.1(461A) Definitions.**

“*Beach*” or “*beach area*” means that portion of state parks or recreation areas designated for swimming activity including the water area contiguous to the beach.

“*Metal detector*” means a portable electronic device carried by an individual used only for detecting metal above or below the surface of the ground.

**571—64.2(461A) Use areas.** Except as provided in 571—64.3(461A), metal detectors may be used in all areas of state park and recreation areas during the hours established by 571—61.1(461A). From May 22 to September 7 inclusive of each year, metal detectors may be used on the designated beach area until 8:30 a.m. each day.

**571—64.3(461A) Prohibited operation.** Metal detector use is prohibited under the following conditions:

**64.3(1)** In areas not mowed.

**64.3(2)** In designated campgrounds.

**64.3(3)** In recognized historic or archaeological sites.

**571—64.4(461A) Drained lakes.** When an artificial lake has been completely drained for any reason, metal detector use consistent with the provisions of this chapter will be permitted in the entire lake area proper below the vegetation line on the lakeshore.

**571—64.5(461A) Found items.** All items found are subject to the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 644.

**571—64.6(461A) Lost item search by owner.** An owner of lost property may use a metal detector to search for that item in an area where such use is prohibited by 64.3(461A) under the following conditions.

**64.6(1)** Approval has been granted by the director of the department of natural resources or designee.

**64.6(2)** The search is confined to a reasonable area within the park or recreation area.

**64.6(3)** The search is limited to 12 hours or less in length.

**571—64.7(461A) Tools used.** Tools used to recover items detected beneath the ground level shall be limited to the following:

**64.7(1)** Probes not over 12 inches long, 1-inch wide, and ¼-inch thick.

**64.7(2)** A sand scoop or sieve not over 10 inches in diameter.

**571—64.8(461A) Digging limitations and restoration.**

**64.8(1)** In recovering items located below the ground, the earth is not to be unduly disturbed with all excavations limited to less than 3 inches square.

**64.8(2)** When digging is done to search for an object, the metal detector operator shall restore the disturbed area as nearly as possible to its original condition.

**571—64.9(461A) Disposal of litter.** Persons using metal detectors shall wear or carry a litter apron or bag, and all litter is to be disposed of in approved trash receptacles.

These rules implement Iowa Code section 461A.35.

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