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Nuggets of News and Knowledge

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Whether you are new to gold prospecting or an experienced old-timer, whether you have just started swinging a metal detector or have been digging targets for years, get the most out of treasure hunting with these nuggets of news and knowledge— tips, ideas, new products and more!



Tips for Beach Mining

Ocean beaches can be compared to the Mother Lode. Why? Because you can find gold on many beaches by mining with a highbanker, and by searching with a metal detector. How lucky is that?! TWO ways to find gold at the same location! Think about it, who hasn't



lost a ring or coins at the beach? Whether you prefer recovering gold by swinging a detector or shoveling sand into a high banker, your chances of both are higher by visiting a beach this summer that is located in a gold-bearing area. Be sure to slather on sunscreen and stay hydrated! [Tips for mining the beaches this summer found here.](#)

Desert Fox Spiral Panning Machine

Cleaning Placer Gold

Sometimes placer gold comes out of the ground or a stream with dirt and/or a thin coating of mercury or other impurity, so it is necessary to clean your gold to bring out its natural luster and shine. The best way to clean gold is to place it in a small water-tight container about half full of water and add a bit of dishwashing liquid. Shake the container vigorously. How quickly you'll see a glittery shine often depends on how much gold is in the container. The more gold you clean at one time, the faster it shines up because of the friction caused by shaking. After you see your gold gleam, be sure to rinse with clean water. Do this several times to remove all traces of soap. Next, dry your gold outdoors in a metal pan over an open fire or on a gas stove. Heat slowly, then cool, and enjoy that beautiful golden glow!

Portable Highbanker Trommel Ships

The Desert Fox is a compact, light-weight spiral gold panning machine you can take anywhere. Weighing under 10 pounds, it folds up and stores neatly in its own tub. Operate it right out of the tub, or use it in a stream. The Desert Fox gets its name because it will operate on just three gallons of water. It sets up quickly and easily and can run 70 pounds of concentrates in an hour-- it's both a separator and a concentrator in one self-contained panning machine. The Desert Fox recovers an amazing amount of flour gold so you never lose even the smallest pieces (which all add up!). Let a spiral panning wheel help you separate the gold from your concentrates and black sand quickly and easily. Whether you choose the 12 inch Desert Fox, or the 18 or 24 inch Pro Camel wheel, you can increase the effectiveness of your gold recovery, especially flour gold, and save a lot of time. Made in the USA! [Browse gold panning machines here.](#)



Le Trap Sluices and Highbankers



If you've been prospecting for a while now, you're probably familiar with the Le Trap sluice originally made in Canada, otherwise known as the River Robber Sluice. Well, now it's even better because it's made in the USA by Geo Sluice Mining using original molds! This sluice is made from durable ABS plastic and cleans out in seconds -- no matting, miner's moss or carpets -- and is an amazing gold trap! These sluices run well in faster water as well as in low pressure water flows. Ideal for fine gold recovery

and stream sluicing. Choose from a wide variety of sluices and highbankers featuring the [Le Trap sluice.](#)

Hand Dredges Get Gold Out of Tight Spots

Gold can hide down in the deepest part of a crack or crevice or behind a boulder and often is best reached with a hand dredge, also called a "sucker gun" or "suction gun." This gold prospecting tool is ideal for working below the water line when a motorized dredge cannot be used. It helps you get the gold out of some really tight spaces, a hand dredge is, well, handy, when you're



FREE!



Looking for a versatile gold mining machine— classifier, highbanker, trommel— that will get the gold? Want one light-weight machine that will do it all? Check out this [portable highbanker trommel](#) with FREE shipping!

BEWARE! It's Snake Season



If you know you will be venturing into an area where snakes live, you can protect your lower legs with snake gaiters— the best layer of defense against deadly fangs! Many states are home to a wide variety of venomous snakes such as rattlers and water moccasins. It's better to treat ALL snakes as if their bite is deadly and avoid them, but sometimes you might inadvertently surprise a snake— and they may strike out! Don't take a chance. [Razer Snake Gaiters](#) provide peace of mind for both women and men. Only \$63.99!

Geo Clear Water Flocculent

prospecting along a river. If you've found a rich spot that is hard to access, check out these [hand dredges and the accessories](#) that make it even better!

Dream Mat Sluices Hold the Gold

Dream Mat is the first sluice mat ever to be scientifically engineered and designed using advanced fluid dynamic principles and physics. The mini Hydro-Cyclone



10 x 35" Sluice with Vortex mat

inspired vortex cells classify, separate, capture and hold gold naturally. Dream Mat vortex cells exploit nature's own forces in a patented system to bring the finest gold recovery ever created. These mini cells are engineered to capture the finest of gold without needing huge amounts of water to maintain good exchange. Mats are made in the USA of polyurethane (not cheap rubber or silicone!). It's truly a Dream Come True for prospectors everywhere! Choose the size of sluice you want, and the mat you want in it:

- [Mini Dream Mat](#) is ideal for sandy areas and black sands. Great for 1/4"-3/8" screened runs. Catches the gold everyone is missing! Mini Mat is great for that hard to catch gold! Front row gold!
- [Vortex Dream Mat](#) is the original Dream Mat that's great for both large and fine gold recovery—less cons, more gold, instant clean out.

History Nugget: Custer, Idaho Ghost Town



In the late 1870s, it was mostly the gleam of gold that attracted prospectors to the Yankee Fork of Idaho's Salmon River. And where gold glimmered yesterday, often means ghost towns are found today.

Custer is a prime example of an intriguing gold rush ghost town. Located in scenic central Idaho, the town of Custer started out in 1879 as the little sister to bigger Bonanza City (also a ghost town), two miles north. With the recent defeat of General Custer still fresh in their minds, the founding miners named the town in his honor. Custer was basically a single street—narrow and a half-mile long—with a Chinatown located at the southern end. The 1880s brought rapid growth to the region as the Lucky Boy, Sunbeam, General Custer, and other area mines produced abundant ore. With a capacity to process 900 tons of ore a month, the General Custer Mine alone produced an estimated \$8,000,000 in gold between 1880 and 1888 and was considered the mother lode of the Yankee Fork. Thanks to the economic support from the mines, Custer's population doubled by 1896. It even sported a schoolhouse, jail, Miner's Union Hall, and a baseball team. By 1903, the glory days of gold mining were slipping away as



Geo Clear brand flocculent is the answer to having clear water for all of your re-circulation needs. Floc lets you work material longer without having to constantly change out the water due to sediment build-up that destroys pumps and robs gold on the first pass. Just minutes after adding it to your water, all the mud, clay and dirt coagulates and drops to the bottom of your recirculating tub. Amazing! [3-pack of Geo Clear here.](#)

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area mines played out one by one. By 1910 Custer had become [Article continues...](#)



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