

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

We recommend you allow two to four hours at the site. Many families like to bring their lunch and make it an all-day outing at the Garnet Area. Some rockhounds like to return several days in a row.

WHAT EQUIPMENT DO I NEED TO BRING?

- Drinking water, snacks, lunch
- Change of clothes
- Sunscreen, hat
- Container for garnets (ziplock bags work well) **(Buckets, shovels, and special screen boxes are provided.)**

WHAT FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE GARNET AREA?

- At parking lot:** information sign, directions, and outhouse
- At administration building:** permit sales, displays, assistance to permittees, and outhouse
- Forest Service personnel are available to provide:** visitor information, permit sales, garnet collecting instructions and assistance



GUIDELINES

- Pets are not allowed.
- Motorized equipment is not allowed.

WHAT ACCOMMODATIONS ARE AVAILABLE NEARBY?

- Emerald Creek Campground - 4 miles east of Garnet Area. Fee is \$6.00 per night per unit.
- Cedar Creek Campground - 3 miles north of Clarkia on HWY 3. Fee is \$6.00 per night per unit.
- Clarkia Work Center Guest Bunkhouse Rental on HWY 3 in Clarkia. (call: 208-245-1134 or 208-245-2531 for rental information)
- Food, gas, and other supplies are available in Clarkia (6 miles), Fernwood (12 miles) and Emida (25 miles).
- Laundromats in Fernwood and St. Maries
- The nearest safe drinking water is in the Emerald Creek Campground.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

ST. JOE RANGER DISTRICT
222 S. 7th Street, Suite 1
St. Maries, Idaho 83861
(208) 245-2531 or Clarkia (208) 245-1134

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FOREST SERVICE
Northern Region
Idaho Panhandle
National Forests



ROCK HOUNDING AT THE EMERALD CREEK GARNET AREA

**Garnet Area is open
Memorial Day thru
Labor Day**

HOURS: 9 AM to 5 PM

Friday thru Tuesday

CLOSED Wednesday & Thursday

Please call ahead to make sure we are open before you plan your trip to allow for any unexpected closures.

Visit us on the web at
www.fs.fed.us/ipnf/rec/activities.html

ST. JOE RANGER DISTRICT

BIG CHANGES!

In order to address water quality, aquatic habitat, and safety concerns, the Forest Service converted to a new method for gemstone collecting. Visitors take garnet-bearing gravels from a stockpile to a sifting area. Once the material is sifted, visitors use one of the two sluices where they wash and screen the gravels for garnets. While visitors no longer “dig” for garnets, the new method will still allow people to enjoy the thrill of discovery.

All of the equipment is now provided so you do not have to bring your own and pack it up the gulch.

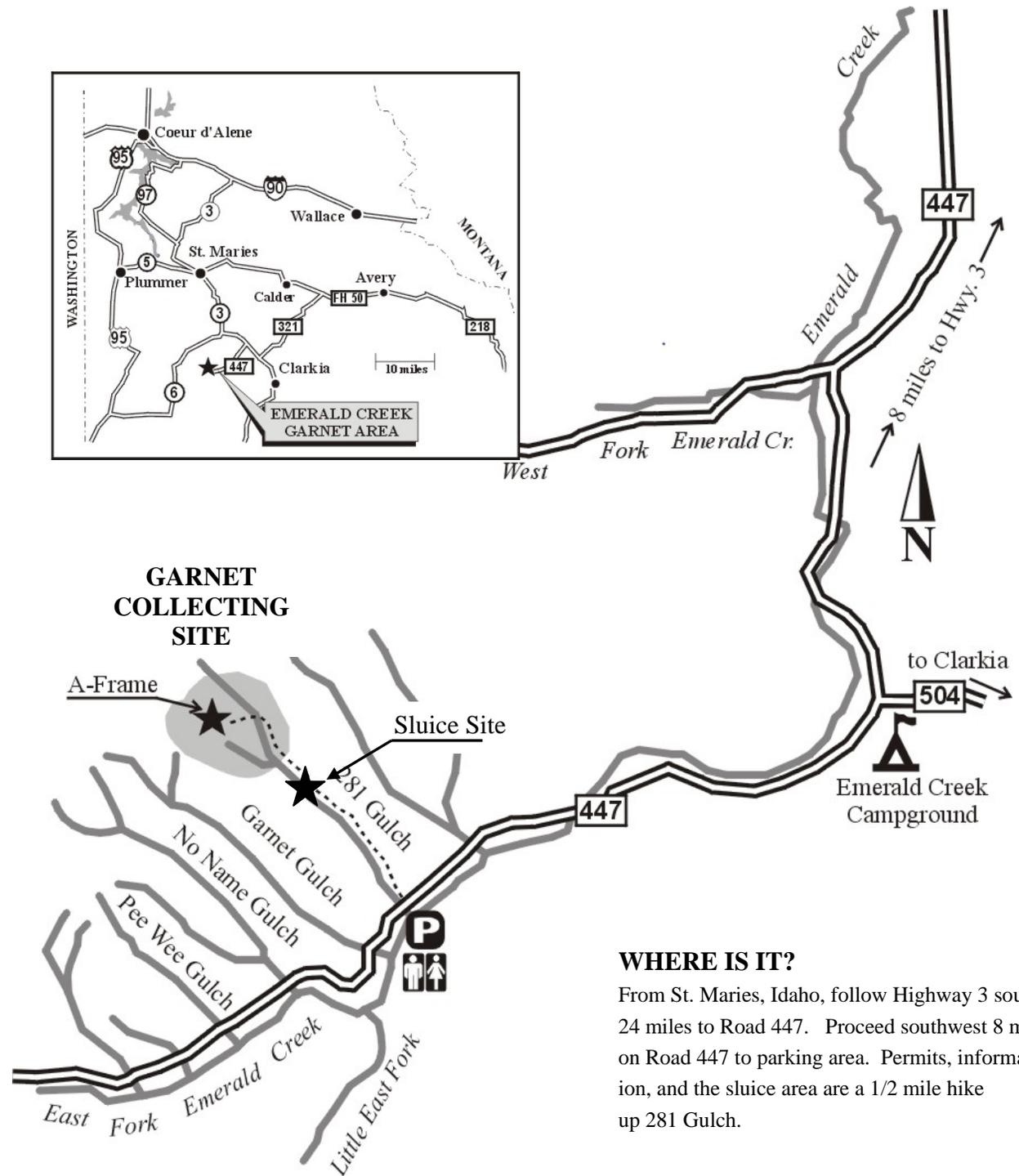
STAR GARNETS: THE IDAHO STATE GEM STONE

Idaho and India are the only two places in the world where star garnets are found. The 12-sided (dodecahedron) crystals range in size from sand particles to golf balls or larger and often have four or six-ray stars. Gem-quality faceting material is also found.

HOW DO I GET A PERMIT?

Permits available at the site cost \$10 for adults and \$5 for children age 6-12. The permit is valid for one day and includes equipment. Permits are required for anyone washing or screening gravels.

You may still take up to five pounds of garnet with your daily permit. If you want to remove more garnet during the same day, you can buy another permit for each additional five pounds or fraction thereof. You are limited to six permits or 30 pounds of garnets per year.



WHERE IS IT?

From St. Maries, Idaho, follow Highway 3 south 24 miles to Road 447. Proceed southwest 8 miles on Road 447 to parking area. Permits, information, and the sluice area are a 1/2 mile hike up 281 Gulch.