



VOLUME 50

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NUMBER 4



**NEXT
MEETING:**

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

**TIME:
LOCATION:**

7:00 p.m.

**Helen Hall Library
100 W Walker St.**

League City, TX 77573

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

April Meeting	1	<u>April Monthly Meeting</u> Kris and Yahyah from “Chaotic2Creations” will talk about their adventures collecting pink chalcedony roses in Arizona. Learn about the geology of the areas as well as places to scout. They will also talk about how to clean and prepare them. You won’t want to miss this exciting discussion. You can find them at: https://www.facebook.com/snakemansrocks Scholarship applications are due at the end of April: http://www.clgms.org/page6.html We currently have 2 applications.
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Minutes of the March CLGMS General Meeting

Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society at League City Library on 3/19/2024.

21 Members attended our meeting.

Member, Peter O'Toole, has a possible field trip location near Bastrop that he will see if we can go to in the fall.

No changes to the newsletter.

The Eclipse will happen on Monday April 8 starting at 1pm. Please share photos if you go see this during our next meeting.

We have \$104,781.35 in our account and \$16,000.00 net from our Spring Show.

We will have five \$2,000.00 scholarships for this year and three \$500.00 grants for elementary and secondary schools for their libraries to purchase science related items.

We are looking into making a club directory, so that members can reach out to each other.

Minutes of the April CLGMS Board Meeting

There was no April board meeting.



A photo from our 2024 show.

The Best Spots For Gem Hunting In Texas

[Dr. Keith Jackson - Geology PhD](#)

January 16, 2023



Texas is well-known for its rugged beauty and diverse landscapes, but did you know it also has some of the best spots for gem mining in the U.S.?

From its rolling hills to its jagged peaks, our state is home to tons of gems just waiting to be discovered. When it comes to finding gems here, the world is your oyster! And we will help you find the best parts of this oyster. So grab your pickaxe, shovel, and sifting screen and get ready to find some of the most beautiful gems our state has to offer!

The best places to mine gems here are in the ranches, mountains, creeks, canyons, and state parks. We also selected and discussed each of our favorite places to go gem mining, namely Palo Duro Canyon State Park, Stillwell Ranch, Lindsay Ranch, North Texas Jellystone Park, and Katy Rock Shop.

How We Picked The Best Places For Gem Mining in Texas

In order to find the absolute best places in Texas for gem mining, we had to consider a lot of things. It can be really tough to find good information, so it took us a long time to put together a solid list like the one below. The main inputs to our recommendations are as follows:

- The extensive local experience and understanding of our team
- Input from several gem hunting groups and organizations
- The accessibility of the mining locations
- Safety and potential hazards when collecting

- Private and public locations
- A desire to include locations for both experienced gem hunters and those who are just starting out

Overall, we've been able to put together a great list that anyone can use to locate a lot of beautiful gems.

What We Cover In This Article:

- The Gemstones Found In Texas That You Can Mine
- Our Favorite Places For Gem Mining In Texas
- Other Great Options For Real Gem Mining in Texas
- The Top Public Gem Mining Locations in Texas
- Texas Gem Mining Laws And Regulations
- Additional places to mine for gems in nearby states

The Gemstones Found In Texas That You Can Mine



Photo provided by [Exotic Crystals](#)

Our state is considered the second largest state in both area and population in the country, so it wouldn't come as a surprise that it is well blessed with various kinds of gemstones. If you're wanting to discover these, continue reading on because we will share with you best places to find them here.

Apart from this guide for Texas, we also came up with other guides to help you find gem mines near you, wherever you are. With the help of our guide and your own luck, you may just uncover the most precious gemstones you'll have in your collection!

Rare gemstones found in Texas

Amethyst	Jasper	Opal	Topaz	Tuquoise
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More common gemstones found here

Agate	Calcite	Fluorite	Quartz
Alabaster	Celestite	Garnet	Sapphire
Amazonite	Chalcedony	Malachite	Serpentine
Amber	Chrysocolla	Microcline	Smithsonite
Anglesite	Cinnabar	Moonstone	Sphalerite
Apatite	Citrine	Opal	Tektites
Barite	Diamond	Pyrite	Zircon

Our Favorite Places For Gem Mining In Texas

Below is our Top 5 favorite places that adults and kids will both appreciate as they search for the different kinds of gemstones our state has to offer. The first 3 places are best for adults, who are wanting to experience some real gem mining, while the last 2 will be great for kids who are interested to do gem hunting for the first time.

Palo Duro Canyon State Park

Palo Duro Canyon State Park, located in the Texas Panhandle near Amarillo, is known for its spectacular landscapes, unique geology, and gem mining opportunities. The area has a long history of human activity, with evidence of 12,000 years of human occupation. It was first explored by the Spanish in 1787 and, by the mid-19th century, it was home to several Native American tribes. In 1934, it became one of the first state parks in our state. Today, you can explore this beautiful canyon and its amazing gemstones.

The Types of Gems Found In The Palo Duro Canyon State Park

Aside from its outstanding beauty, this place also offers some of the coolest gemstones that can be found in the region, starting with the following:

Aragonite

Dolomite

Gypsum

Calcite

Celestite

Quartz



11450 Park Road 5 Canyon, TX 79015

The Best Time To Visit Palo Duro Canyon State Park

If you're planning to visit this place, the best time would be during spring and fall months. In the spring, temperatures are mild and the weather is usually dry, while in the fall, temperatures are cooler and the foliage is usually at its most vibrant. While gem mining can be done year-round, these two seasons offer some of the most ideal conditions for a successful, comfortable but rewarding outcome.

Stillwell Ranch



Alpine, TX 79830

Stillwell Ranch, an outdoor destination in Mason County, is situated on a 200-acre ranch with a scenic backdrop of the Llano River and the Hill Country. The ranch was established in 1867 by German settlers who came to the area for mining opportunities. It has been in operation for more than 150 years, and remains to be a popular destination for gem hunting today. You can search for gems here with tools provided by the ranch. You can also try out their guided tours of historic buildings and educational programs about geology and mineralogy. This is also an excellent area to **find crystals in Texas**.

The Types of Gems Found In The Stillwell Ranch

This place is a great source of gemstones from the Big Bend area and West Texas. It is most known for having the following:

Agate
Chalcedony
Opal

Amethyst
Cinnabar
Quartz

Calcite
Garnet

The Best Time To Visit Stillwell Ranch

Anytime during spring and fall, when the weather is mild and the ground is dry, is the best time to visit if you want to go gem mining here. Compared to other seasons, the friendly weather and temperature during spring and fall will be more comfortable as you dig and do your search for gems.

Lindsay Ranch



460 Lindsay Ranch Road Mason, TX 76856-3808

Located in the heart of Texas Hill Country just outside of Mason, Lindsay Ranch has been owned by the same family since 1881. Being home to many rare and more common gems, the ranch is a popular favorite among many who are looking to find some of the coolest gems in the region.

The Types of Gems Found In The Lindsay Ranch

This ranch is most well-known for its abundance in Topaz, which are often found in or around the Comanche Creek.

The Best Time To Visit Lindsay Ranch

If you want to visit, the best time will be during the spring or fall. The temperatures are milder and the humidity is lower, making it more comfortable for outdoor activities. The weather is

also typically drier in the spring and fall, so there is less chance of rain or flooding which could disrupt gem mining activities.

North Texas Jellystone Park - Great for kids



2301 S Burleson Blvd Burleson, TX 76028

North Texas Jellystone Park is a family-friendly destination that offers a variety of activities, including gem mining. The park has nearby creeks and streams where children and adults alike can search for gems. They also have different options for mining rough bags filled with gems that kids can sift through in the park's mining sluice. After collecting their finds, the kids can head over to the identification station to classify them.

The Types of Gems Found In The North Texas Jellystone Park

This is a great venue to introduce kids to gemstones and to the hobby of gem mining as there are different kinds of gems that can be found while they sluice here.

The Best Time To Visit North Texas Jellystone Park

If you want your kids to enjoy this place, the best time to visit would be during the spring or fall. The summer months can be very hot and humid, while the winter months can be cold and wet. Spring and fall are usually milder and more pleasant, making your trip at this time here more conducive.

Other Great Options For Real Gem Mining in Texas



Lucky for you, our favorite picks in our state are not the only one where you can do gem mining. Here are more great options of places you can explore to find gems. We also included what kinds of gems you can find in each place so that you'll have an idea of what gemstones you might go home with before even going there.

- Woodward Ranch – Red Plume Agate
- Seaquist Ranch – Topaz
- [Bar M Ranch](#) – Topaz
- [Baringer Hill Minerals](#) – Fluorite, Quartz, Topaz
- Glass Mountains – Agate, Chalcedony, Jasper, Quartz
- [Alpine](#) – Agate, Chalcedony, Jasper, Moonstone, Quartz
- Agua Fria Ranch – Agate
- Dog Canyon – Barite
- Terlingua Creek – Agate, Amber, Chalcedony, Jasper
- Plata Verde Mine – Anglesite, Azurite, Barite, Chrysocolla, Malachite, Microcline, Quartz
- Seven Heart Gap – Barite
- Sierra Blanc – Turquoise
- Chinati Mountains – Chalcopryrite, Fluorite, Pyrite, Sphalerite, Smithsonite
- Little Lucy Creek – Celestite

The Top Public Gem Mining Locations in Texas



For families who are planning to introduce their kids to the wonders of gem mining first-hand, here are more family-friendly places where both you and children will enjoy.

- [Two Rivers Mining Co.](#) – 5640 S Interstate 35 New Braunfels, TX 78132
- [Natural Bridge Caverns](#) – 26495 Natural Bridge Caverns Rd, San Antonio, TX 78266
- [Wonder World Cave](#) – 1000 Prospect St. San Marcos, TX 78666
- Made In The Shade – 118 E. Henderson St. Jefferson, TX 75657

ROCK, MINERAL, GEM, AND FOSSIL SHOWS

Chihuahuan Desert G&MC; April 20-21 Alpine Civic Center, Alpine, TX, https://tinyurl.com/d92j7rrw	Texas Mineral and Fossil Show - 4/26 – 4/28/2024 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM Lone Star Conv. Cntr 9055 Airport Rd Conroe, TX https://www.rmgmpromotions.com/	Waco G&M Show May 6-7, 2024 Waco Convention Center Waco, TX https://www.facebook.com/WacoGemAndMineralClub	Fort Worth G&M Show May 25-26, 2024 Will Rogers Memorial Center Fort Worth, TX www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org
St Petersburg Gem Show 8/30/2024 - 9/01/2024 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM The Coliseum Ballroom 535 4th Ave N St Petersburg, FL 33701 https://hrgemshows.com/	Colorado Mineral and Fossil Fall Show 9/06/2024 - 9/14/2024 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM Crowne Plaza DIA 15500 E 40th Ave Denver, CO 80239 http://www.coloradomineralandfossilshows.com/	Houston Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show December 10-12, 2024 Humboldt Civic Center http://www.hgms.org	51st Annual Gem & Mineral Show. – Hosted by the Gem and Mineral Society of Louisiana. December 21- 23, 2024 Alario Center 2000 Segnette Blvd. Westwego, LA 70094. www.gmsofla.org

		Member of		
Next Annual Show February 22-23, 2025 Pasadena Convention Center			 American Federation of Mineral Societies	 South Central Federation of Mineral Societies
CLGMS is on the Web: http://www.clgms.org FACEBOOK: CLEAR LAKE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY.				
Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society, Inc				
MEMBER: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and South Central Federation of Mineral Societies				
PURPOSE: To promote education and popular interest in the various earth sciences; in particular in those hobbies dealing with the art of lapidaries and the earth sciences of minerals, fossils and their associated fields.				
2024 OFFICERS:	President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Program Director Board of Directors: Newsletter Editor	Cynthia McGowan David Tjiok Christina Rankin Monica Duran VACANT Sandra Christiansen Jim Edwards Donna Nelson David Tjiok	281-546-2662 832-423-4802 281-723-5408 Jim Hawkins John Caldyne	
Annual Show 2024 Sandra Christiansen Constitution & Bylaws.....Jim Hawkins Community Benefits.....Charlie Timme Historian.....David Tjiok Publicity..... Annabel Brownfield Facebook.....Cynthia McGowan Membership.....Mike Flannigan WWW System Admin..Mike Flannigan Refreshments.....Vacant Education/Field Trips.....Annabel Brownfield Field Trip CoordinatorCasey Renner				
Membership Dues Jan. to Dec. 2024: Adult \$15:00, Family Dues \$20.00 (4+) at same address. Send Dues to CLGMS, PO BOX 891533, Houston, TX, 77289				