



State of Vermont  
**PERMIT AND LICENSE INFORMATION**

**MINERAL PROSPECTING PERMIT**

**SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF PERMIT**

Recreational mineral prospectors wishing to operate sluice boxes in Vermont streams must provide the following information on the enclosed application with attachments as necessary. Suction dredges or any other mechanical means of mineral mining on the streambed or banks of any watercourse is prohibited and will not be permitted. No authorization is required for hand panning.

No mineral prospecting may take place on any streams or lands without permission of the property owner. Mineral prospecting, with the exception of hand panning is prohibited within state parks, state forests, state wildlife management areas and any federal lands.

**EXAMPLE OF REGULATED ACTIVITY**

Operation of sluice boxes in streams for mineral prospecting.

**INFORMATION REQUIRED**

<https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/rivers/docs/MPApplication.pdf>

**FEES**

Vermont residents: \$25.00, payable to the State of Vermont  
 Non-residents: \$50.00, payable to the State of Vermont

**APPLICATION TIME FRAME**

The performance standard for processing a complete application is 30 days for a general permit.

**ADMINISTERING AGENCY**

**AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

**CONTACT:** Deb Hemstead [Debbie.Hemstead@vermont.gov](mailto:Debbie.Hemstead@vermont.gov)  
 1 National Life Drive – Davis 3  
 Montpelier, VT 05620-3522  
 802-490-4741

**WEB SITE:** <https://dec.vermont.gov/watershed/rivers/river-management>

**AUTHORITY**

10 VSA Chapter 41, Subchapter 2, Section 1021 (h)(1)

**APPEAL PROCESS**

Effective January 31, 2005, within 30 days of the date of an act or decision, any person aggrieved by an act or decision of the secretary, or any party by right, may appeal to the environmental court in accordance with the provisions of [10 VSA Chapter 220](#).