

Gem & Mineral Society Code of Ethics

- I will respect both private and public property.
- I will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind — fences, signs, buildings, etc.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires only in designated places, and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material — matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the Rockhound project, H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation Offices, Bureau of Land Management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and public 'image' of rockhounds everywhere.

This American Federation of Mineralogical Societies Code of Ethics is Approved and adopted by the Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society.