

# Media Release

**The Hon Jaclyn Symes MLC**  
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council  
Attorney-General  
Minister for Resources



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## NEW GOLD GUIDE TO IMPROVE YOUR PROSPECTS THIS EASTER

More than 170 years on from the start of the gold rush, budding prospectors retracing the steps of pioneers in search of their own bounty will have help thanks to a new guide from the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Resources Jaclyn Symes today launched *A Guide to Recreational Prospecting in Victoria* at McIvor Creek in Heathcote.

The new guide produced by Earth Resources Regulation provides handy tips to newcomers as well as being a reference guide for the more experienced. It explains where prospecting can take place, what equipment can be used and how to do the right things – starting with the purchase of a ten-year miner’s right for just \$25.20.

The Prospectors and Miners Association of Victoria has supported the creation of the guide to connect new participants to its enthusiastic network.

Permitted activities in pursuit of gold and gems includes using metal detectors, picks, shovels, sieves and pans. Fossicking activities are permitted in state forests and regional parks, some national parks, state parks and waterways.

Recreational prospectors make an important contribution to economies across regional Victoria, providing a welcome boost to accommodation providers, suppliers, and other tourism businesses.

The new guide will also be available in other languages to help visitors to Victoria when taking a regional trip and searching for gold.

The guide, a helpful video and other information on how to start searching for gold and minerals are available at [earthresources.vic.gov.au/fossicking](http://earthresources.vic.gov.au/fossicking).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Resources Jaclyn Symes

*“The upcoming Easter holidays are a great chance for families to head out to regional Victoria and try their hand at prospecting – you never know how it may pan out.”*

*“Victoria’s past is built on gold – with this guide, more people can learn more about our rich history, get outdoors and search for the next Welcome Stranger.”*

### Quote attributable to President of the Prospectors and Miners Association of Victoria Matthew Carkeek

*“We’re excited to be involved in the development of the new guide and promotion that acknowledges the benefits that modern day prospecting brings to individuals, groups and the regional areas of our uniquely golden state.”*