



PACK 92 Road Trip to Herkimer Diamond Mines & KOA

~ **Saturday, October 3, 2009** Meet at 9am or 10:30am for orientation ~
~ **Optional overnight camping and then stop at Fort Stanwix on Sunday, October 4** ~

Learn much more about Herkimer Diamond Mines and Herkimer KOA at <http://www.herkimerdiamond.com/>.

DIAMOND MINES:

We have two price plans for activities at the diamond mines. Dan Bailey will meet you at 9am or 10:30am at the Diamond Mines with wristbands for participants (leave Rochester by 7:30am for 10:30am). Cancellations for Diamond Mine activities must be received before 9am that day to Dan at 585-259-1728 for refunds.

1) Prospecting is \$7.50/person. This includes a video instruction, access to the mine & museum all day. Operating hours are from 9am - 5pm. There is also a playground, café and gift shop. They will supply a hammer (must leave a drivers license & deposit that will be returned) and plastic bags or bring your own.

2) Prospecting and 'Fossiling' is \$14/person. This includes the same as above plus each person receives a bag of fossil rough that is guaranteed to contain a variety of fossils. The boys sluice through their bags to find the fossils. They allow 12 people at a time twenty minutes for this activity. You may choose to pair up boys to save money on this event. Whatever they find together, they would split up fairly between the two. Dan Bailey will have samples at the pack meeting – each bag holds quite a bit (plenty to split up).

FAQs:

How Far Away is Herkimer?

Figure about a 2.75-3 hour drive. Come and camp Friday night or drive down Saturday morning.

What are Herkimer Diamonds?

Herkimer Diamonds are double-terminated quartz crystals found in Herkimer, New York. They are gemstones that are close to five hundred million years old. The crystals are magnificent works of nature; found in the rock, having a diamond-like geometrical shape, thus, the name recognition of "Herkimer Diamonds". Dan Bailey will also have samples of the 'diamonds' to show at the September pack meeting.

What Should We Bring?

Come prepared with safety eyewear (or you will have to purchase some there for \$3.50 - Note: Sunglasses, Nerf goggles or the ones from Lowes kid seminars are fine), gloves and closed toe shoes (this is rough terrain and we can mine rain or shine – rain washes off the 'diamonds'). You may also bring additional equipment that you like, such as chisels, screeners, small shovels, buckets, and other hammers (up to a 12 lb sledge).

Can we keep everything we find?

Yes!!

What should we plan for meals if we stay over?

- They have a snack bar that serves snacks as well as hamburgers and hot dogs.
- We are welcome to bring our own-bagged lunches to eat on the premises at one of the many picnic tables.
- We can come and go all day as we please as long as we keep our wristband on that we will receive once paid. If you are camping, please plan to provide your own food (some dens may choose to cook together) for dinner/breakfast. Grills are not provided in the group camping area but may be brought in by those camping.

The KOA also has several options for meals– check their website at <http://www.herkimerdiamond.com/>.

CAMPING at the Herkimer, NY KOA Campground:

There are several options for camping for those who want to stay overnight on Friday and or Saturday night.
Reserve ASAP if interested, spaces limited for options 2 & 3.

- 1) **Group camping.** They have a large field at the KOA campground where they allow groups like scouts to camp for **\$5/person/night** (age 5+) in tents only. ***Need to reserve through Pack. See below.***
- 2) **Regular campground camping.** **** Reserve on your own ASAP – you may want to ask to be as close to the group camping area as possible.***
The KOA has a variety of sites from tent to full hookups ranging from \$27-\$50/night for 2 people. Extra adults are \$3 each and extra children are \$2 each.
- 3) **Kabins or Kottages.** **** Reserve on your own ASAP – these are limited/may not be available.***
 - a. Kabins are one-room structures with beds and a table. They are \$62/night for 2 people. Extra adults are \$3 each; extra children are \$2 each.
 - b. Kottages are \$130/night for 2 people and are basically small homes that include just about everything. Extra adults are \$4 each; extra children are \$3 each.

*** RESERVATIONS** for Option 2 & 3: Visit www.KOA.com; call the Herkimer KOA Kampground at 315.891.7355 or 1.800.562.0897 or visit www.ReserveAmerica.com.

FORT STANWIX:

For those who would like, stop at Fort Stanwix on the way back to Spencerport from Herkimer on Sunday morning. For additional info, go to <http://www.nps.gov/fost/index.htm>.

RESERVATIONS AND ADVANCE PAYMENT IS REQUIRED:

- When we arrive, the pack will need to pay the KOA for those who are group camping with one payment and the Diamond Mines a separate payment to receive the group rates so we will need to know your plans.
- Contact Jane Sweetland at 352-8218, jesny@frontiernet.net or at the pack meeting to sign up/pay fees.
- **Sign-up and payment deadline is Wednesday, September 30, 2009!**
- Contact Dan Bailey that weekend with questions/problems at 585-259-1728. (Cancellations accepted before 5pm that Friday for Friday/Saturday night group camping and before 9am that Saturday for Diamond Mines).

----- *Cut on dotted line and submit to den leader or at pack meeting* -----

PACK 92 ROAD TRIP TO HERKIMER DIAMOND MINE RESERVATION FORM

DEN # _____ SCOUT NAME _____ CELL# (that weekend): _____

Attending Age 4 and under _____ @ \$0.00 **\$ 7.50/ea for Prospecting Only**
Attending Age 5+ _____ @ \$7.50 _____ @ \$14.00 **\$14.00/ea for Prospecting & Fossil Bag**
Adults _____ @ \$7.50 _____ @ \$14.00

Subtotal Diamond Mines \$ _____ subtotal A (add all of the above)

Campers _____ for # Night(s) _____ @ \$5 each for Group Camping area at KOA = \$ _____ subtotal B

Circle one or both: Friday night Saturday night

We will not stay overnight _____ *Check if applicable*

We will stay & have/will make camping reservations for tent/trailer/kabin/kottage _____ *Check if applicable*

Check # _____ **Total Due** Add Subtotal A + B (payable to Pack 92) \$ _____