

# Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine & Gold Fever Rock Shop

Mid-May 2004

Dear Friends:

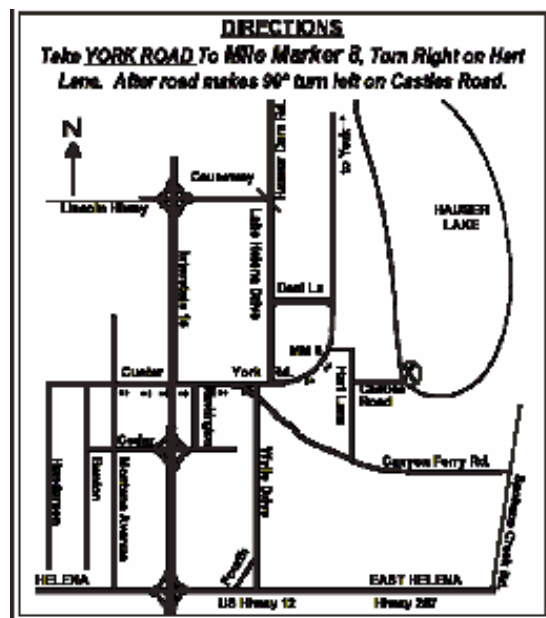
Rock piles bathed in sun entice the wayward rock hound. Treasures of sapphires and gold lie hidden beneath the rocky coat.

Here at the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine on Hauser Lake, ten miles from Helena, Montana, the state capitol, we tread into spring. Storms traverse from West to East trailing heavenly interludes of radiant sunshine.



Our school tours are underway. A second grader from The Four Georgian's School in Helena found a flawless three carat blue sapphire today at the conclusion of their geological field trip. The second grade group cascaded down the road into the pit in eight inches of mud. Their parents knew they were going to the mine. I should have sent gold pans home with them to test their feet.

Digging information is being requested from the rash of articles from the Fee Mining special in *Lapidary Journal* and the recent *Rock & Gem* article about the sapphire mine. We do have a dig option here at the mine. A recommended tool list is on our flyer (plus a clear map!) and can be printed from our site at [www.sapphiremine.com](http://www.sapphiremine.com). Most notably – a screwdriver is needed to get into cracks and crevices and your own buckets to take material home. Over the winter, wind storms have taken our buckets into the hinterlands never to be seen again. We do have shaker screens and shovels available for your use. Mining instructions are provided. We are open daily 9-5, seven days a week.



Our rock shop is open and we are wildly selling loose gems. I have never seen such interest and mad buying sprees. The faceted gems are selling faster than the sapphire buckets. I have assembled an assortment of fascinating gemstones and mineral specimens over the years, each with a story to tell. Local Montana water bug fossils – (right on!) – corner the counter top. Fossils scatter among the minerals and crystals holding their place against the dust. The shop is cleaned up with new hardwood floor and track lights. But where would we be without the dirt, dust and rocks?

Call me now and order more sapphire gravel! Regular Spokane Bar Monster Mines and El Dorado Monster Mines are available at [www.sapphiremine.com](http://www.sapphiremine.com) or call 1-877-DIG GEMS. We will soon have all those specials I promised up on the website, such as the *Course Gold of Montana* book, a sapphire mining video and a CD on Sapphires of Montana. Add a note to your orders if you have an interest in these.

Now get in line! I am giving away **one free Hobby Box of Sapphire gravel with your Spokane Bar or El Dorado Monster Mine order until June 15<sup>th</sup>**. Only Monster Mine orders qualify for the Hobby Box special. These Hobby Boxes are a four-square inch box of sapphire gravel. This is the gravel that fell through the screen. Popularity has hit a high point as the sapphires and garnets can be found throughout the gravel. Remember to mention this special in your order comments at [www.sapphiremine.com](http://www.sapphiremine.com) or when you call us at 1-877-DIG GEMS.



One more time – as a lobbying effort - those interested in the Discovery Channel *Hunt for Amazing Treasures* program “*Fortunes Abound*” aired May 1, 2003 can still inquire about a rerun next quarter. The Discovery Channel said to call their office the second week in June for details. Their phone numbers are 1-859-342-8439 and 1-212-548-4987. The second week in June is fast approaching – just about the time the Hobby Box special ends! Order while supply lasts at [www.sapphiremine.com](http://www.sapphiremine.com).

Thank you for your interest in sapphire and gold mining - a Montana adventure!

Sincerely,  
Deb and Russ Thompson and staff at the Spokane Bar Sapphire Mine  
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