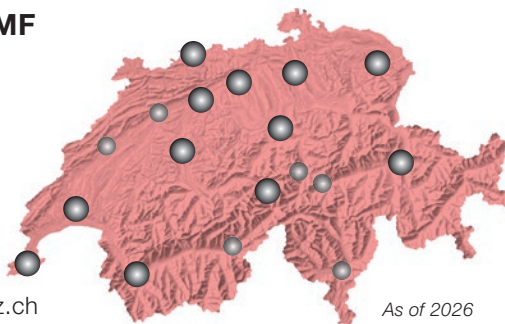




*We thank you for complying with these rules.
It enables all of us to preserve crystal
prospecting as a cultural heritage and allows us
to continue searching for nature's treasures.*

● Societies affiliated to the SVSMF

Aargau	mffa.ch
Basel	mineralien-basel.ch
Bas-Valais	mineralvalais.ch
Bern	mfbe.ch
Geneva	lasgam.ch
Haslital	haslistrahler.ch
St. Gallen	mineralienverein.ch
Vaud	svm.ch
Zentralschweiz	mineralien-zentralschweiz.ch
Zurich	szm.ch
Graubünden	buendner-mineralienverein.jimdo.free.com
Solothurn	mfs-mineralien-freunde-solothurn.ch



As of 2026

● Related societies

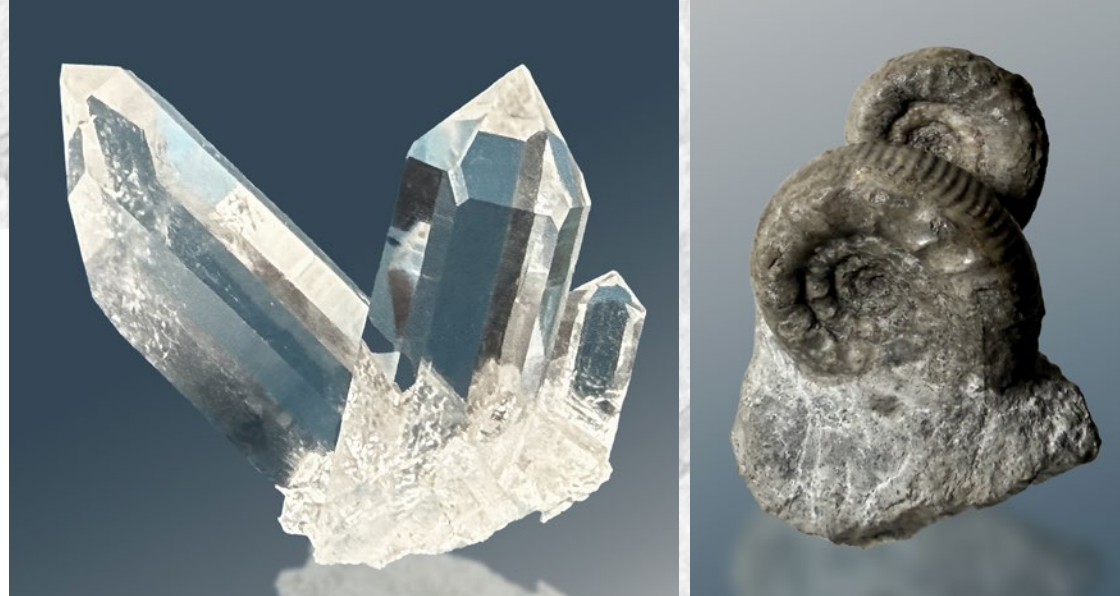
Biel	(currently no website)
Gold	goldwaschen.ch
Neuchâtel	sn-mp.ch
Oberwallis	mineralienfreundeoberwallis.ch
Surselva	uniun-cristallina.ch
Tessin	ccmft.ch
Uri	mineralienfreund.ch



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The magazine Schweizer Strahler is published four times a year.

More information on our website: [SVSMF.ch/strahler](https://svsmf.ch/strahler)



Information and Code of Conduct for prospecting, mineral and fossil collecting in Switzerland



**Swiss Association of Crystal, Mineral
and Fossil Collectors**

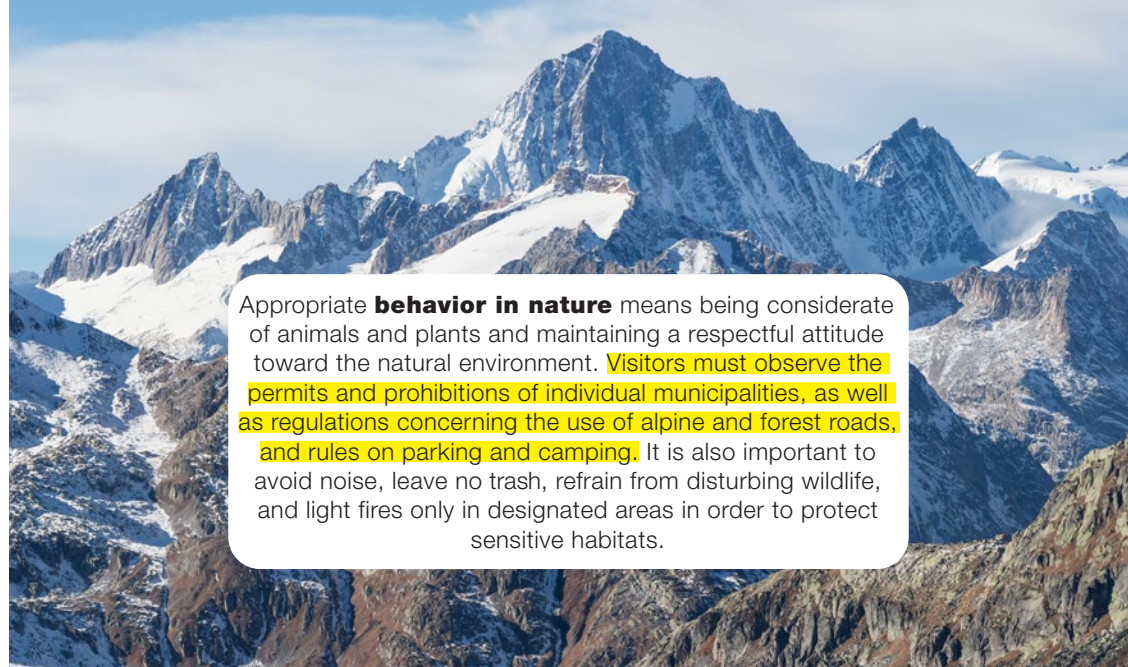
SVSMF | ASCMF

Excerpt from the **Code of Honor for crystal, mineral and fossil collectors, sellers and dealers**



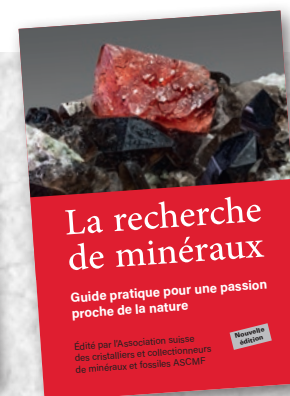
The Code of Honor of the Swiss Association of Crystal, Mineral, and Fossil Collectors (SVSMF/ASCMF) sets out guidelines for conduct toward nature and fellow human beings. It commits members to responsible prospecting, collecting, selling, and trading, and opposes overexploitation, destruction, greed, and theft from documented sites, as well as promoting fairness toward trading partners. To this end, the SVSMF issues the following rules:

1. Anyone searching for minerals, crystals, or fossils, or prospecting a site, must **comply with all legal and local regulations and ordinances**. They are required to obtain information from the relevant authorities regarding necessary permits and current regulations and must adhere to them. **The property of others, as well as nature and the landscape, must be respected.**
 2. Damage to agricultural land, forests, roads, paths, and other facilities must be avoided at all times. It is the duty of every prospector to clean up any excavation site upon completion and to leave it tidy and in the best possible condition.
 3. The use of explosives, mechanical equipment (such as jackhammers), and heavy tools is prohibited without authorization from the local authorities and is not permitted on Sundays and public holidays. Likewise, mineral prospecting near inhabited areas must be avoided on Sundays and public holidays. Noise emissions should also be minimized on weekdays.
 4. **Anyone wishing to reserve a site for further work must leave a clearly visible tool and a weather-resistant marker indicating their name and the date** of the last prospection. The finder's claim to a site generally expires if it has not been worked for two years or has clearly been abandoned. A maximum of three (3) sites in the same area may be reserved or occupied by one person at any given time.
 5. **Taking minerals or tools**, or removing markings from an occupied site, is not permitted and **is considered theft**.
 6. Significant or scientifically important finds and sites should be reported, for research purposes, to a scientist, a scientific institution, or the relevant authority.
 7. Collectors and enthusiasts of minerals and fossils should primarily **search for and work on sites for their own collections and for exchange**.
 10. In the event of violations of the Code of Honor by members of the SVSMF, the responsible bodies may take appropriate measures. A catalog of measures outlines possible sanctions, ranging from a simple reprimand and/or compensation for damages caused, to exclusion from the member's local society and the SVSMF.
- For true mineral and fossil enthusiasts, compliance with those rules is a matter of honor and responsibility.**
- The Code of Honor is an integral part of the statutes of the Swiss Association of Crystal, Mineral, and Fossil Collectors.
- The full Code is available in German, French and Italian on SVSMF.ch



Appropriate **behavior in nature** means being considerate of animals and plants and maintaining a respectful attitude toward the natural environment. **Visitors must observe the permits and prohibitions of individual municipalities, as well as regulations concerning the use of alpine and forest roads, and rules on parking and camping.** It is also important to avoid noise, leave no trash, refrain from disturbing wildlife, and light fires only in designated areas in order to protect sensitive habitats.

A document listing **permits and prohibitions for the whole of Switzerland** can be found at SVSMF.ch



Our practical guidebook in German and French:
CHF 22.– / CHF 20.– for SVSMF members + postage.
Order from: sekretariat@svsmf.ch