

DATE!

Mr/Mrs/Sir/Madam XXXXXXXXX

This may sound like a strange request, so let me introduce myself: My name is (Your Name), and I have lived in (Name of Town) for (Length of Time). I am (Your Age) years old, married with xxx children. Normally I would prefer to approach you in person, however I feel that a letter before hand is a better emissary than just knocking on your door at an inconvenient time and invading your privacy.

I have been engaged in the hobby of metal detecting for a number of years and find it a healthful, enjoyable pastime that allows me to meet many interesting people. The thrill of finding old coins, buttons, etc. is very exciting to me.

Recently, I have researched information that your property and the area surrounding it goes back many years. I would like to obtain permission for myself, / and a friend to detect on your property.

I want you to understand that I always respect the land, property and livestock and my search will not cause damage. Any small amount of rubbish found will be bagged and disposed of safely guarding against livestock and farming equipment. Normally the targets are no deeper than 4 or 5 inches and I retrieve them such, that the ground appears not to be disturbed.

In addition, I would like to offer my services to you. Perhaps you or someone you know has lost a valuable ring, a cache or a farm tool. I would be willing to assist just for the thrill of the search.

I have enclosed a self-addressed envelope for your convenience and would be happy to meet with you for further discussion concerning agreements and/or conditions to any finds found.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours faithfully, (note: Initially, will be on business terms)

(Your Name)
(Telephone Number)
(e-mail)
(Website if applicable)