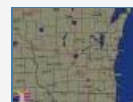




Clear



## Meteorite Hunters Flock To Village Of Livingston

### Man Describes Finding Meteorite Fragment Thursday

Posted: 11:30 am CDT April 17, 2010

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**LIVINGSTON, Wis.** -- Meteorite hunters are searching the area for fragments from the meteor that lit up Midwestern skies Wednesday night.

#### VIDEO: Man Describes Finding Meteorite Fragment In Area

The National Weather Service said radar information suggests the meteor landed in southwest Wisconsin. The search is centered in the Grant County village of Livingston, which is about 50 miles west of Madison.

There is a huge market for meteorite collectors and a lot of money involved, especially after a fall like what was seen earlier in the week, WISC-TV reported.

However, for some, the scientific value outweighs all else.

"I've just been kind of running up and down the roads," said Brian Hall, who traveled from Delafield searching for another meteorite.

He claims to have found a piece of a meteorite several years ago. While in Livingston, he showed his rock to Paul Szipera, adjunct curator of meteorites at Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History.

"Well, it's not a meteorite. It's hematite," Szipera told Hall.

Unfortunately for Hall, his first find was just plain rock.

Szipera and his team also rushed to Livingston and are having success in their search.

"These are the building blocks of planets like the Earth and Mars. So if we can get a good idea of how these things came about, then we put the big picture together and try to understand our own origin a little bit better," said Szipera.

Searchers said debris is likely spread over a large area, over fields, but looking in the grass and dirt for a pebble is very tough.

Those who are experienced are not starting their search in the fields -- they're looking on the pavement, WISC-TV reported.

"They would hop out of the car and they would literally walk along to see if they could find one," said Terry Boudreaux, referring to his two sons who traveled with him from suburban Chicago.

Boudreaux traveled about 400 miles on local roads, leaving no stone uncovered -- literally.

He's working with the field museum team and recovered the first meteorite fragment Thursday, WISC-TV reported.

"You can see the black crust on it. This is from the entry into the atmosphere," said Boudreaux as he showed another meteorite discovered Thursday.

He and his two sons gave up driving in their search. The first meteorites were recovered after speaking with a local farmer and asking to take a look around.

"You may not know this, but you're in ground zero. The guy goes, 'Oh I know it.' I said, 'How do you know it?' And he said, "Because I was sitting in that chair at 10:10 (Wednesday) night having a beer with my buddy, and the meteorite exploded above my head, and a piece hit my shed, and landed at my feet," said Boudreaux.

The first two days turned up about a half dozen meteorite pieces and by what much of southern Wisconsin saw Wednesday night, experts said there's a lot more still out there.

"The main mass could be 50 to 60 kilos and it could be in a crater in a farmers' field right now," said Boudreaux.

Those already searching told WISC-TV that meteorite collectors and dealers from Europe are trying to get to the area, and over the next two to four weeks, people will add to the growing group.

Authorities said searchers should remember that farm fields are private property and must be respected as such.

**Previous Stories:**

- April 17, 2010: [UW-Madison Scientists Analyzing Possible Fragment From Meteor](#)
- April 16, 2010: [Giant Fireball Spotted Flying Over Wisconsin](#)

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**larry** 7 months ago

50 or 60 Kilo's ? No wonder there are so many looking!

**larry** 7 months ago


I can't remember anything #!\$^%&\*<> ??????????????????????????????

**tammyopal** 7 months ago

Props to you and your boys Terry!! I tried to do my own research, but being a layman hindered me I surmise.I am very interested in this story, as I seen the fireball with my own eyes. If it is any help to you at all, the meteor was traveling horizontally, so it didn't just come in straight down. Good luck to you and your team! Tammy Opal.



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 **tammyopal** 7 months ago in reply to tammyopal

By the way, have a beer for me too! lol :)

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Because they are the keys to finding "Scully" and "Mulder"!

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