



Gold Panning Information

People have panned for gold at Reed Gold Mine off and on since the early-1800s, just a few years after young Conrad Reed discovered a 17-pound gold nugget in 1799. In 1966, Reed Gold Mine and the property's creeks were designated National Historic Landmarks. Today, it remains a protected historic property by both federal and state law, and panning is no longer allowed in the creek.

Reed Gold Mine's mission is to preserve and interpret the history of Reed Gold Mine and gold mining in North Carolina. To further that mission, an educational panning area adjacent to Little Meadow Creek was established. Today, visitors to Reed Gold Mine can learn the proper process and various techniques of gold panning from site staff. Gold is not guaranteed, so not every pan will have a flake. If a visitor finds gold in their pan, staff will bottle it for them to take home. Panning is available April 1st through October 31st, weather permitting.* The panning area troughs meet ADA requirements.**

Pricing:

- ❖ The group rate for panning tickets is \$2.14 per pan, or \$2.00 per pan if a tax ID is provided when the visit is scheduled. Your reservation must be made at least 2 weeks in advance to qualify for the group rate and your group must have 10 or more people. Otherwise, panning tickets will be \$3.21 each. Children must be 8 and older to pan for gold.

Age Requirements:

- ❖ All participants must be 8 years of age and older. Any child who is 7 years of age and under must be individually paired with an adult in their group to pan. School groups 3rd grade and up are eligible for panning, grades 2nd and below are not. No exceptions will be made.
- ❖ For groups with children ages 7 and under or adult groups unable to pan, a panning demonstration may be scheduled for \$5.00 per 30 people.

**Inclement weather includes temperatures below 55°, a heat index of 100°, torrential rain, thunder, lightning, etc.*

***Because of the physical demands associated with panning (pans weighing 10-15 pounds and troughs 3 feet off the ground), each child under the age of 8 years cannot pan unless individually paired with an adult in their group. No exceptions will be made.*