

Trail directions to Green Mountain kimberlite pipe, Boulder

Follow Flagstaff Road (westward continuation of Baseline Road) to Realization Point Trailhead (small parking area; where the Flagstaff Summit Road begins).

Realization Point Trailhead, 6750'; follow Green Mountain Lodge road, downhill.

Junction with Gregory Canyon trail on left, 6660' (stay on the road, now climbing uphill).

Green Mountain Lodge and intersection with Long Canyon trail, 6740'; take the Ranger Trail (left fork).

"T" junction, 6950'; take the E.M. Greenman Trail (left fork).

From the ridge top, ~7000', there are two ways to get to the kimberlite:

- 1) Leave the Greenman Trail and descend the steep, narrow valley on the left, off-trail. Reach the valley bottom, ~ 6850'; cross the drainage (usually dry) and climb the opposite hillside; you'll find a crude dirt path to follow. Start keeping an eye out for dark-colored kimberlite float among the normal rock which is pink granite.
- 2) Continue following the Greenman Trail as it contours across the valley to the east and then northeast and up a little to the junction with the Saddle Rock Trail on the first ridge (not the ridge above Saddle Rock).

Go down the ridge for less than 200 feet of elevation to the kimberlite outcrop. The dark colored kimberlite outcrops on top of the ridge. (It is not a prominent outcrop, as the kimberlite is not very resistant to erosion.) Look for the dark-colored kimberlite.

This option probably gains a little more elevation gain than the first option, but it may be easier than crossing the valley. [from Chris Morrison]

Green Mountain kimberlite outcrop, 7050'

Start to finish elevation change on hike, 300', but actual up-and-down elevation gain, 540'.

GPS location of the kimberlite: 39° 59' 26" N, 105° 18' 4" W. The kimberlite is in the SW ¼ of sec. 1, about ½ mile south of Gregory Canyon and slightly more than ½ mile north of the summit of Green Mountain, about 1000 feet SSW of Saddle Rock, on the Eldorado Springs 7.5' quadrangle.

Note: City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks forbids:

"Collecting, removing, destroying or defacing any natural or man-made object is not permitted; this includes picking wildflowers."