

**38th Annual Gem and Mineral Show
and
Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies Convention
Rushmore Plaza Civic Center/Barnett Arena in Rapid City, SD**

Field Trips for the 2018 Show - Here are four planned trips. There could be more forthcoming as we move closer to the show date.

To register for any of these trips, we've listed how to do that at the end of each trip description.

Wednesday July 18, 2018 – Lori Green will lead a field trip to Custer Area Mines

Get your rock clothes on and pack a big lunch. This trip is not for the faint of heart. You'll find plenty "Treasures of South Dakota" on this trip. We'll be visiting 3 or 4 Custer County locations with something different at each stop, so make sure you've got carrying containers and room in your vehicle. You'll want to bring a hammer, chisel, hand rake, and a shovel when you come today. Sturdy shoes is a standard as you could be walking on level ground or climbing around in the rocks.

We'll meet at 8:00 AM in Custer at the 1881 Courthouse Museum which is located on Hwy 16 in downtown Custer and easy to find. There are public restrooms and a convenience store right there for any last-minute needs.

We'll stop for tourmaline clusters in matrix, Tee Pee Canyon agate, the Tin Mountain Mine for spodumene and apatite, and the last stop will be for rose quartz. This will be a big day so make sure you're well rested and ready to roll. I'm looking forward to giving you a day long adventure.

Call me if you need more information, if you get lost on your way to meet the group, or if you want to meet up with us later in the day (Cell service may not always be available). See you all there!

To register for this trip, call me directly prior to the date so I know how many waivers to have and I'll know when everyone is there. Cell service may not be available once we leave town. See you all there!

Lori Green 719-207-1035

Thursday July 19, 2018 – Black Hills National Forest / Hill City area

Lead by Dr. Martin Kocanda. This field trip is centered around the Hill City region. It consists of two parts where each part explores distinct geological activity all within several mile radius. The region is in close proximity to Mount Rushmore National Park; the trip locations, however, are located within the Black Hills National Forest.

The first stop will be Blackberry Trail. This is a contact metamorphic region where most of the Cambrian rock has been up thrust and metamorphosed through heat and pressure. One should expect to find pyrite, feldspar, mica schist, mica and biotite as well as some other metamorphic materials along a stream bed. The trails are somewhat rugged. Hiking boots and jeans suggested.

The second stop will be sand caves. Aptly, no formal name for the spot, but a favorite where trilobites of Cambrian origin can be found. This was a site intended to mine fracking sand, however, the sand particles did not meet the specifications and tunneling was discontinued. Several short, interconnected caves are present and some rough terrain hiking can be had. Hiking boots and jeans suggested; bring a high intensity flashlight for photography. **This portion of the trip is mainly geologic. You will see the trilobite bed impressions in the ceiling of the cave. Some sections of the ceiling have fallen for closer inspection of the impressions.**

The rally point will be the Civic Center parking lot 0800. Expect to depart by 0830. Maps will be handed out prior to departing.

To register for this trip, Call Martin Kocanda at 605-646-5264, or email him at westdakota.rocks@gmail.com

Monday July 23, 2018– Railroad Butte/Farmingdale

Led by Tabitha Wood. Farmingdale is about 25 minutes east of Rapid City and is part of the National Grasslands recreation areas. You will be able to find agates (prairie agates and possibly one of those illusive Fairburn agates), coral, petrified wood, chalcedony and other treasures. The area is accessible by car, but if the weather has been on the wet side, you will want to make sure that you keep your vehicle on the trails or in the gravel parking areas. Since this area is prairie and our summers can be quite warm, remember to bring water for drinking and a spray bottle with sufficient water to bring out the 'color' in your finds. Sturdy shoes and jeans are also recommended because there can be knee high grass and the slithery creatures that reside in the grasslands. We will meet at the Civic Center at 8am and depart at 8:30am. Maps will be provided at the Civic Center on the day of the field trip.

If you have a smart phone and would like to download a map of the National Grasslands area, download the "Avenza" app and download the Buffalo Gap NG – Fall River Ranger District MVUM map.

To register for this trip, Call Tabita Wood at 402-706-0168 after 6:00 PM, or email her at westdakota.rocks@gmail.com

Monday July 23, 2018 – Antelope Ridge

Ellen Tilley will lead this trip This is an easy walking area and is very accessible from the road. You will find fan coral on this field trip. Departure time to be determined.

To register for this trip, call Ellen Tilley at her home number 605-787-4659

Monday July 23, 2018 – Ancient Rock of the Black Hills Core AM – Keystone South Region PM.

Led by Dr. Alvis Lesenbee, professor emeritus from School of Mines. This will show some of the interesting features of the Black Hills metamorphic geology. He will also make a presentation on Friday (20th) discussing the region's geology. Bring a lunch.

To register for this trip and to obtain meeting time and location, contact Martin Kocanda at 605-646-5264, or email him at westdakota.rocks@gmail.com

Tuesday July 24, 2018 – Conata Basin

Led by Kelli Wold. Some of the things you will be able to find on the field trip to Conata Basin are prairie agates, petrified wood, Fairburn agates, coral and a lot of other beautiful rocks. Meeting time has not been determined. More information forthcoming.

This trip is mostly surface picking but you might want to bring a small shovel in case you need to dig something out. It's pretty level ground for walking.

To register for this trip, contact Kelli Wold at westdakota.rocks@gmail.com

Be safe and Be kind to the land

Bring water to drink, food to eat, chairs to rest, sunscreen to not burn, tools, buckets and anything else you might need.