

# APS 2023 Field Trips

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Winter is in the rear-view mirror so that means the summer field-trip season is coming up! We have a great assortment of trips – big and small – for 2023 and hope there is something for everyone. Trips previously postponed and long-promised are finally happening this year. We are finally going to visit the Devil's Coulee dinosaur egg site near Warner, Alberta and will venture into the USA and travel all the way to Kemmerer, Wyoming! Our friends at the University of Alberta will show us the Danek hadrosaur bone-bed in their backyard and provide a tour of their lab too. We will also revisit the Cretaceous-Paleogene boundary site at Knudsen's Farm and see Ordovician-aged fossils in building stone at some Calgary landmarks. This year's line-up would not have been possible without the help of fellow APS members Mona Trick and Tako Koning. Thank you Mona and Tako! Let us dive into the details below!

Please watch the *Bulletin* and website for further updates as these plans may change. Remember, you have to be a member to participate in a Society field trip.

## **Trip 2023-1, June 17, 2023**

### **Devil's Coulee Museum and field tour, Warner, AB**

#### **Leader: Mona Trick**

Mona will lead us to the famous Devil's Coulee dinosaur egg-site in southern Alberta. In the morning, we will enjoy a guided tour of the Devil's Coulee Dinosaur Heritage Museum (located in Warner, Alberta). In the afternoon, we will have an extended tour of where dinosaur eggs were first discovered in Canada. We will also have time to search for Late Cretaceous (Campanian) fossils (such as dinosaur eggshell) but we will not be able to keep anything we find, as this is a protected site. The price includes admission to the museum and the guided tour of the egg-site. Due to the restricted amount of parking at the egg-site we will car pool the 30 minutes from the museum to the egg-site.

This field trip is just one day in length and Warner is about a 3-hour drive from Calgary. Registration is limited to 40 people and the **deadline for registration is June 1**. For additional details, including camping and motel information, contact Mona Trick at [giftshop@albertapaleo.org](mailto:giftshop@albertapaleo.org) or (587) 578-4579.

#### Price:

\$40 per adult (includes \$30 admission fee and \$10 insurance fee)

\$30 for child (12 years old and younger) (includes \$30 admission fee)

Time: 10 am – 4 pm on Saturday, June 17, 2023

### **Trip 2023-2, July 8, 2023**

#### **K/Pg boundary, Knudsen's Farm, Huxley, AB**

##### **Leader: Tako Koning**

If you missed this tour last year, Tako will again lead us to the famous Cretaceous-Paleocene boundary (formerly the "K/T boundary") site on Knudsen's farm near Huxley, AB. This site is the best location in Canada to view the K/Pg mass extinction boundary. It marks the event when dinosaurs and 75 percent of the Earth's creatures and plants died almost instantaneously. Extensive academic research at this site has contributed materially to our knowledge of what happened to the world at that time. Huxley is about a 2-hour drive from Calgary. This is a single-day trip and the **registration deadline is July 1.**

### **Trip 2023-3, July 14-16, 2023**

#### **Green River Formation, Kemmerer, Wyoming, USA**

##### **Leader: Keith Mychaluk**

We have been planning this trip for a number of years and finally it is here! The Green River Formation is world-famous for fossil fish, rays, palm leaves and even prehistoric horses and birds preserved in stunning detail in Eocene lake sediments. This trip will take place over 3 days – excluding the long drive to and from Wyoming – in order to accommodate everything we hope to see and do. *Kemmerer, Wyoming is a 13.5 hour drive from Calgary* (excluding the time required to cross the USA-Canada border; which can be quite variable. Participants will have to find their own way to and from Kemmerer and I strongly recommend splitting-up the drive over (at least) two days in each direction.

Here is the proposed itinerary:

Friday July 14:

1:00pm Tour of Fossil Butte National Monument (no admission cost)

4:00pm Drive to Kemmerer (about 20 mins from Fossil Butte) and check-into hotel(s)

Saturday July 15:

8:00am-12:00pm Half-day dig at Warfield's Quarry (\$70 US/person fee payable upon arrival; cash or cheque only). All tools, including rock saws, provided.

Afternoon free – Good time to rest and/or visit Ulrich's Fossil Gallery in town

6:30pm-12:00am OPTIONAL nighttime "V.I.P Dig" at Warfield's Quarry. There is no cost for those observing, but will cost \$500 US/person to participate *and keep a fossil* (see more below)

Sunday July 16:

Half-day dig at either Warfield's or at a different quarry (again, \$70 US/person)

5:00pm Official end of trip

Please view the videos on Warfield's website [www.fossilsafari.com](http://www.fossilsafari.com) to give you an idea of what to expect. Most exciting is the opportunity to watch the professionals excavate fossils at nighttime from the famous "18 Inch Layer" during their "V.I.P dig". Artificial illumination helps the pros spot subtle clues in the rock indicating where fossils are located. Then they excavate with special shims, chisels and rock saws. It should be quite the learning experience. For those willing to pay an optional fee, you will be able to keep one fossil fish recovered during the night dig. I understand these are quite remarkable; however, the nighttime experience is optional whether you are paying or simply observing.

We have already reserved a block of rooms at the Fossil Country Inn (Best Western Plus) in Kemmerer, Wyoming at a group rate discount. Each room is non-smoking with two queen beds. Details will be provided once you have completed registration on a first-come, first-served basis. There are other accommodations in Kemmerer but not near as nice as the Best Western. I am also told by many sources to BOOK ROOMS EARLY as there are several large industrial construction projects in the region and rooms are disappearing fast. The next nearest town for accommodations is Evanston, Wyoming, which is 1 hour to the south of Kemmerer. However there are many campgrounds within and near Kemmerer as another option.

*Please register early and ONLY if you are serious about attending.* Expect hot weather! There are no restrictions for attendance but motel space could be a limiting factor. The **registration deadline is June 15** but I highly recommend registering early. Please contact Keith at (403) 809-3211 or [fieldtrips@albertapaleo.org](mailto:fieldtrips@albertapaleo.org) if you have any questions.

### **Trip 2023-4, August 19, 2023**

#### **Danek Bone-bed and University of Alberta Paleo-Lab tour, Edmonton, AB**

**Leader: Keith Mychaluk**

Our gracious host, Eva Koppelhus of the University of Alberta, will guide us to a hadrosaur bone-bed located within the city limits of Edmonton. The Danek Bone-bed is used to teach students enrolled at the paleontology program at the University of Alberta as their field school. Eva has also arranged for us to have a backrooms tour of their paleo-lab so we can better appreciate how fossils are prepared and studied. Normally closed on weekends, we will also be provided special access to the University of Alberta Paleontology Museum, which houses the university's fossil collection. Participants may also wish to tour the Royal Alberta Museum across town on their own schedule. Due to limited physical space at both the bone-bed and the lab, registration is limited to 20 participants. This is a single-day field trip. **Registration deadline is August 1.**

## Trip 2023-5, September 16, 2023

### **Fossils-in-Tyndall Building Stone, Walking tour, Calgary, AB**

#### **Leader: Tako Koning**

Once again, Tako Koning has agreed to conduct his popular tour of Calgary buildings clad with Ordovician-aged Red River Formation limestone originally quarried in Tyndall, Manitoba. See impressively preserved fossils of corals, gastropods, starfish, orthocones and even algae at Calgary landmarks like the historic Bank of Montreal building. This will be a walking tour of several buildings in downtown Calgary, the community of Kensington and the SAIT campus and is suitable for all ages. **Registration deadline is September 1.**

For more information on any of the field trips please contact Keith Mychaluk at (403) 809-3211 or by email at [fieldtrips@albertapaleo.org](mailto:fieldtrips@albertapaleo.org). A field trip registration form is included with this issue of the Bulletin and is available on the APS website ([www.albertapaleo.org/fieldtrips.html](http://www.albertapaleo.org/fieldtrips.html)). All fees are due at the time of registration. **Fees for trips are \$10.00** unless noted otherwise. **Non-members and unaccompanied minors will not be allowed to attend field trips.** All participants are required to have their membership in good standing. Any membership applications received after **May 1, 2023** will not be reviewed and voted on by the Board of Directors until **September, 2023**. Therefore, if you are a non-member and would like to join be sure your application is received prior to **May 1, 2023**. All participants will be required to read and sign a release form (waiver). Detailed information will be provided to all those registered shortly after the registration deadline. After the registration deadline no refunds will be given; however, you will receive the guide for the trip. Registrations are accepted on a first come first served basis so sign up early to avoid disappointment. For the 2023 field trips I will be sending you the waiver and medical forms along with the trip information. This information will be sent to you via email or Canada Post. Please ensure that your addresses are correct and legible when sending in registration forms. When you arrive at the meeting place please have all forms completed. All participants are required to have fully completed all waiver and medical forms in order to attend the trip. There will be no exceptions. All personal information is held in confidence and ultimately destroyed.

#### Trip Participant Responsibilities

It is understood that risk is inherent to some degree in outdoor activities. Before registering for a trip please ensure you understand the risks involved and are prepared to accept them.

- As a participant you are responsible for your own safety and equipment at all times.
- Inform the trip leader of any medical conditions they should be aware of in an emergency.
- Ensure that your previous experience, ability and fitness level are adequate for the trip