



Fossils of the Black Belt – A Hands-On Field Workshop

Where: University of West Alabama in Livingston and vicinity. **Cost:** \$28, preregister early

When: Tuesday, October 16, 2018, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Who Should Attend: In-service and pre-service science teachers who will be teaching earth science or other science courses with earth-science components, life science, biology, and environmental science.

Contact: Dr. David C. Kopaska-Merkel, Phone: 205/247-3695 (office) or 205/246-9346 (cell).
Email: dkm@gsa.state.al.us

Registration Form

Name _____ Position _____ School _____

Address _____
Street/P.O. Box _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ School Phone _____ Email _____

Return registration with payment to Alabama Geological Society, P.O. Box 866184 Tuscaloosa, AL 35486.

Make checks payable to *Alabama Geological Society*.

Workshop Summary

A one-day workshop in paleontology (the study of fossils) for K–12 science teachers (in-service and pre-service). The workshop will help integrate real earth science into curricula. Participants will be better able to recommend meaningful science fair projects in earth science and to assist students with them. Objectives:

- Participants will learn about fossils and geology, so they will be more comfortable teaching these subjects.
- Teachers will learn how to recognize evidence of interactions among ancient species.
- Teachers will receive *Lost Worlds in Alabama Rocks*, a major resource for teaching about the geology of Alabama, and three *Discovering Alabama* DVDs. This course supports Alabama Course of Study/Science Processes and Applications in all grades, high school Geology and Earth & Space Science electives, and life-science concepts at all grade levels.

Alabama is one of the best places in the world to collect fossils. Paleontologists come from all over to collect here.

Workshop participants will visit a large outcrop near Livingston, solve a geological puzzle (“Fossil species interactions”) using clues from the fossils found there, and collect fossils, which can include snails, bivalves, shark teeth, or even pterosaurs (flying reptiles). In the afternoon, participants will identify and label fossils that they collected that morning, making kits they will take back to their schools.

Workshop Leaders

Dr. David C. Kopaska-Merkel has studied trilobites and other fossils and has led workshops and field trips for teachers, children, and others.

Dr. Andrew K. Rindsberg teaches courses on geology and environmental science at The University of West Alabama and has written numerous reports on Alabama geology and paleontology.

James Lamb is the leading authority on Alabama vertebrate paleontology. He has worked for four different museums, led many field trips, and authored 30 scientific publications.



Julia S. Tutwiler
College of Education
and College of NSM

