BEDROCK GEOLOGY OF MT. WASHINGTON, PRESIDENTIAL RANGE, NH

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DESCRIPTION: Great rocks await you in the alpine zone of Mt. Washington. We'll
drive as a caravan in our own vehicles to the top of Mt. Washington, then work our
way down the mountain during the day. The field stops are a mix of road outcrops
and several strenuous hikes with considerable elevation loss and gain (+/- 500 feet
elevation) of approximately 1 to 2 miles in length. We'll visit mostly outcrops of the
Devonian Littleton Formation and some of the Silurian Madrid, Smalls Falls and
Rangeley Formations. You'll see graded bedding, multiple generations of
deformation fabrics and coarse pseudomorphs of andalusite, all a product of the
Acadian and Neoacadian orogenies.

TIME, PLACE, LOGISTICS: Saturday September 30th, 7:30 AM in the gravel parking
area on the west side of NH 16 to the immediate south of the Auto Road entrance
(322363.00 m E, 4906302.00 m N). The base of the Auto Road is about 30 miles
west of Bethel, ME and takes about 40 minutes to drive. From Bethel follow Rte. U.S.
2 west to Gorham, NH then take Rte. NH 16 south to the Auto Road entrance. Due to
the fragile nature of the alpine ecosystem, please always walk on trails or rocks.

Warning: Expect extremely cold and unpredictable weather. Be prepared with
proper clothing and good hiking boots for very rocky, uneven terrain, winter–like
conditions and extremely high winds. Bring your lunch and water as there will be
absolutely no chance to pick up anything once the trip begins. There are no
bathrooms facilities. Vehicles must be consolidated. The folks at the Mt. Washington
Auto Road have kindly agreed to charge us only $29 per vehicle and waive the
passenger fee. Half-ton vans are permitted up the road but with a maximum
passenger and luggage weight of 900 lbs (that's approximately 6 people, including
driver). If you are planning on driving your vehicle, please carefully check the
vehicle restrictions on the Auto Road web site that can be found here.