

## **BEDROCK GEOLOGY OF MT. WASHINGTON, PRESIDENTIAL RANGE, NH**

LEADER: J. Dykstra Eusden, Dept. of Geology, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine 04240  
email: deusden@bates.edu cell: (207) 240-9150

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](#).