

The 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Virginia Geological Field Conference

**Geology of Shenandoah National Park region, Virginia**

**October 2-3, 2009**

**Big Meadows Byrd Visitor Center, Shenandoah National Park**

*Scott Southworth, Bill Burton*

*U.S. Geological Survey*

*Chuck Bailey, Greg Hancock*

*College of William & Mary*

*L. Scott Eaton*

*James Madison University*

Shenandoah National Park lies astride the Blue Ridge Mountains in north-central Virginia. Rocks in the region include Grenvillian basement rocks, Neoproterozoic sedimentary and volcanic rocks, and early Cambrian siliciclastics. The structural geometry of the Blue Ridge is the product of late Neoproterozoic rifting, Paleozoic contractional deformation, and Mesozoic extension. The modern landscape developed during the Cenozoic as differential erosion at a regional scale generated the highlands. Both Quaternary and active surficial processes have constructed distinct landforms.

In the past decade there has been plethora of geological research in the Park and new geologic maps of the region have been recently completed. The 2009 Virginia Geological Field Conference will highlight new research, visiting exposures along and near the Skyline Drive. The focus of the trip will be broad, encompassing bedrock and structural geology as well as surficial geology and rates of erosion at local and regional scales.

The VGFC will be based at Big Meadows (Mile Post 51). A pre-trip reception with introductory talks will be held at the Byrd Visitors Center on Friday evening, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. The field trip will leave from the parking lot at the Byrd Visitors Center at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday and return at about 5:00 p.m. Transportation, lunch, and guidebook will be provided. There will be a few short (approximately one mile roundtrip) hikes on trails during the trip; participants should be prepared to walk over rugged terrain.

Due to logistics in the park, two 54-passenger buses will convey the field trip participants. **No other vehicles** will be permitted on the field trip. Given the space limitation, attendance will be limited to 100 participants. Register early to ensure your place at the Conference.

Questions: contact C. M. Bailey, 757-221-2445, cmbail@wm.edu

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Names(s) _____	<u>Registration (by Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> 2009)</u>
Address _____	Student (\$20) _____
City, State, Zip _____	Regular (\$45) _____
Telephone _____	<u>Late Registration (after Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>)</u>
e-mail _____	Student (\$30) _____
	Regular (\$55) _____
	<i>Total submitted</i> _____

**Registration deadline is September 16, 2009**

Make checks payable to **Virginia Geological Field Conference** and send to:

Virginia Geological Field Conference  
Virginia Division of Geology and Mineral Resources  
900 Natural Resources Drive, Suite 500  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903