

FREE SCIENCE / EARTH SCIENCE TEACHER WORKSHOP

Knoxville, TN – Tuesday, October 6, 2009

MASTODON MATRIX: A CITIZEN SCIENCE PROGRAM

Sponsored by:

**The University of Tennessee GK-12 Earth Project, funded by the National Science Foundation
The Tennessee Geographic Alliance
The Department of Geography at the University of Tennessee**

Date and Time of Workshop: Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 4:30pm – 7:00pm

Location of Workshop: Room 401, Burchfiel Geography Building on the UTK Campus

Intended Audience: Science and Earth Science teachers of grades 3-12

Deadline for Applications: Friday, September 18, 2009

Content and Benefits: The workshop will be led by Dr. Sally Horn, Professor of Geography. Participants will be introduced to and work through an inquiry-based activity that will provide their students with an opportunity to analyze actual samples of fossil matrix (matrix is the paleontological term for the material a fossil is found in) from a mastodon excavated in New York. Each participant will take fossil matrix back to their classroom for analysis by their students.

The Mastodon Matrix project was developed by the Paleontological Research Institution in Ithaca, New York, in collaboration with Cornell University. We are pleased to be working with the Paleontological Research Institution in our University of Tennessee GK-12 Earth Project, and want to share this great project with more Tennessee teachers.

The excavated mastodon died about 12,000 years ago, when the last great continental glacier that covered parts of North America was melting. Students are able to sort through the matrix to find ancient shells, bones, pieces of plants, and rocks from the time when the mastodon lived and died. The students' discoveries will be sent back to the Paleontological Research Institution, where they will be cataloged and further analyzed by paleontologists to help scientists form a true picture of the ecology and environment where—and when—the mastodon lived and died. Here is a chance for your students to contribute to a real research project!

Free parking in the University Center Parking Garage will be provided by the GK-12 Earth Project. Certificates of Completion will be provided by the Tennessee Geographic Alliance.

Application Submission: Mail your application, with a \$25 refundable deposit (checks made out to the Tennessee Geographic Alliance), to: Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925 to be received **no later than Friday, September 18, 2009.**

Questions and Information: Kurt Butefish, Coordinator, Tennessee Geographic Alliance
865-974-4841 or kbutefis@utk.edu .

APPLICATION FOR MASTODON MATRIX WORKSHOP

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The Tennessee Geographic Alliance
The Department of Geography at the University of Tennessee

Knoxville – Tuesday, October 6, 2009

401 Burchfiel Geography Building
University of Tennessee in Knoxville

SUBMIT \$25 WORKSHOP DEPOSIT
checks made to TENNESSEE GEOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE

Refunds will be made to participants who complete the workshop and to applicants whose applications come in after the workshop is filled.

Name _____

Home Address _____
Street and No. City State Zip

Home Phone _____ - _____ - _____

School _____

E-Mail _____

Please return this application along with your \$25 refundable workshop deposit via a check made to the Tennessee Geographic Alliance, TO: Kurt Butefish, 304 Burchfiel Geography Building, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-0925.

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