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Jurassic Journal

Newsletter of the Morrison Natural History Museum



Dear Friends,

We're thrilled to have you on board with us as we continue to explore the wonders of natural history. Your continued support means the world to us, and we're excited to have you as part of our community of curious minds. We're passionate about sharing our love for the natural world with others, and we're grateful for your help in spreading the word. Thanks again for being a part of our mission, and we look forward to continuing to learn and grow together!

See you at the museum,

Matthew T. Mossbrucker
Director & Curator

A banner image showing the exterior of the Morrison Natural History Museum. The text "Museum News" is overlaid in large white font. The building has a sign that reads "MORRISON NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM".

Museum News



Triceratops Gulch Project: Field Season Wrap

We just wrapped up our best field season yet and it's all thanks to our amazing guests who joined us. Together, we collected so much fossil material and we couldn't be more grateful. We're now starting the process of sorting and identifying everything and we're excited to dive into the research and cataloging. Stay tuned for updates on our findings!

Save the Date:

The annual end-of-season lecture will be scheduled for December 2023. This annual remote talk will cover what we recovered, learned, and plans for the 2024 field season.

Reach out to [Sarah Miller](#) be notified of the exact date and time.



Triceratops Gulch Project: 2024 Schedule

Get ready to mark your calendars because the 2024 field program schedule is coming in hot this November! Don't miss out on any of the excitement, make sure to follow MNHM's social media accounts for a sneak peek before anyone else.



What is the *Triceratops* Gulch Project?

Looking to unleash your inner paleontologist? The *Triceratops* Gulch Project has got you covered! This fantastic program is all about giving regular folks like you and me the chance to get our hands dirty in the field of paleontology. Not only do you get to have a blast digging up dinosaur bones, but you'll also be supporting the Morrison Museum and the Glenrock Paleontological Museum. And if you're looking to take things to the next level, there are scholarships and volunteer opportunities aplenty. So what are you waiting for? Join the dino-digging revolution today!

Our programs are like a cool, laid-back field school. We don't just throw a brush at you and hope for the best. Nope, we actually give you guidance and support while you work on awesome, project-based paleontological digs. Plus, we won't steal your thunder when you make a sweet find – we'll make you feel like part of the crew. Basically, the *Triceratops* Gulch Project is the raddest field program around. Come join us and let's uncover some prehistoric treasures together!

[Notify me when the 2024 TGP schedule is available](#)

Exhibits & Collections



As the summer season comes to a close, the museum crew is gearing up to give the Ice Age Colorado room a facelift. They're rolling up their sleeves and getting to work, ready to mount the cast of a *Megalonyx*, a giant ground sloth. This furball, along with other specimens, is going to be a permanent fixture in the exhibition. Looks like the Ice Age Colorado room is going to be cooler than a saber cat's toenails.

The planned debut of this exhibition is 2024. Watch MNHM social media and future editions of 'Jurassic Journal' for updates.



Mammoth Update

Looks like the museum staff are getting their hands dirty by fixing up a Columbian mammoth skull over at the Lamb Spring Archaeological Preserve. Talk about a prehistoric DIY project! They'll be giving it a little facelift this autumn and you can catch the finished product on display at both Lamb Spring and the Morrison Museum.

Museum Events



Morrison Ciderfest

Hey there, come swing by our banging table at Morrison Ciderfest! This shindig is totally free and packed with fun stuff, like a cider press and live tunes! Join us for some cider-sipping shenanigans!

Details: September 30; 10 am until dusk.

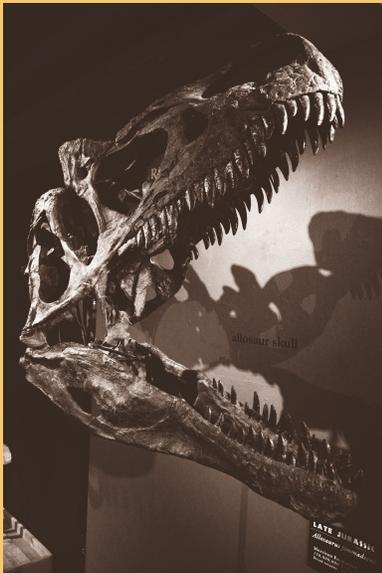
Located at 150 Summer Street in Morrison, CO.

National Fossil Day

Get ready to dig up some fun because National Fossil Day is just around the corner! You don't have to be a paleontologist to appreciate the half-price admission to the Morrison Natural History Museum. Come explore our local fossil exhibits and learn about the fascinating fossils we've unearthed during our 2023 field season. And don't worry, our curator won't bite...unless you're a dinosaur! So come on down and discover the wonders of the prehistoric world at the Morrison Museum. Remember, fossils are the ultimate time travelers, so don't be tardy for this Jurassic party!

Event details: October 11; 10 am - 4 pm

Located at Morrison Natural History Museum



Mines Museum Spooktacular

Get ready for a spooky and spectacular event at the Mines Museum! This free trick or treat extravaganza is the place to be. Dress up in your most creative costume and join in on the STEM-tastic activities and treats. And guess what? You might just win some wicked prizes! Oh, and did we mention you'll have the chance to snap a photo with Ms. Colorado? So, don't be a scaredy-cat and come say hi at the MNHM table. See you there if you dare!

Event details: October 21; 2 pm - 6 pm

**Located at the Mines Museum of Earth Science 1310
Maple St, Golden, CO 80401**

Morrison Trunk or Treat

Get ready to have a spook-tacular time with the Morrison Police Department and local businesses at our Trunk or Treat event! Trick or treaters can get their candy fix and check out some prehistoric fossils at MNHM. Best of all, admission is totally free from 3 pm to 5 pm. Don't wait until the last minute to make your Halloween plans - join us for some boo-tiful fun!

Event details: October 28; 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm



Located along Bear Creek Ave in downtown Morrison.
Free admission at MNHM from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm.



Night at the Museums

Get ready to travel back in time and experience the ultimate prehistoric party! Dinosaur Ridge and Morrison Natural History Museum are teaming up to bring you Night at the Museums 2023 - and it's going to be dino-mite! Best of all, it's totally free!

Explore the exhibits, get hands-on with activities and take an optional guided tour of the Nation's #1 dinosaur tracksite - all for just \$8. And that's not all - Morrison Museum will have special interpretive stations and fossil-themed crafts, with a suggested donation of \$8.

Mark your calendars for November 4th, from 4pm to 9pm. You can start your journey at either museum and get access to both for the evening - no time machine required! Plus, a free shuttle will be provided between the two locations. So, what are you waiting for? Get ready to rock the prehistoric party scene!

Dinosaur Ridge 'Fireside Chat' Series:

New Evidence from the Lakes-Marsh *Atlantosaurus* Beds of Dinosaur Ridge.

The Morrison, Colorado historical excavations are a significant yet often overlooked site. In the 1870s, fossils were collected at Dinosaur Ridge for the Yale Peabody Museum from six sites in the Upper Jurassic Morrison Formation, which was then known as the "*Atlantosaurus* Beds." Through salvage paleontology, site investigation, and a census of material housed at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, the Morrison Natural History Museum has diversified the census. The conclusion is that the historic quarries are ecologically and taxonomically unique. We invite you to explore this fascinating piece of history. Presented by MNHM director and curator Matthew T. Mossbrucker.

Event details: November 1; 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm (Registration Required)

Venue: Dinosaur Ridge Discovery Center. Located inside Entrance #1 to Red Rocks Park and Amphitheatre off Highway 93.



[Register Here](#)



Museum Programs



Come explore with us!

Don't just stand there like a statue! Join in on one of our daily museum programs to make your visit truly unforgettable. Trust us, you won't want to miss out on the fun. Whether you're a dinosaur buff or just looking for a good time, we've got something for everyone. So come on, don't be shy – let's make some memories together!

Tickets are limited. Reservations are not required, but appreciated.

MNHM also offers programs for schools, private groups, and museum rental for birthday parties.

[Purchase Tickets](#)



Adult Museum Programs

Volunteer With Us!

Ready to dig deeper into the thrilling world of paleontology? Why not take your passion to the next level and volunteer for some hands-on experience?

Volunteers can receive specialized training in a variety of areas, ranging from general service techniques to the intricacies of paleontology interpretation and preparation laboratory procedures.



**Dig
Deeper**
Volunteer
with us!

Volunteer With Us!



'Digging Deeper' Lectures & Field Trips

Get ready to dig deeper into the fascinating world of local paleontology with the Morrison Natural History Museum's 'Digging Deeper' series! This program is a must-attend for all you curious and knowledge-hungry volunteers out there. With 13 remote talks and 3 in-person field trips, you'll be an expert in no time. And, hey, if you're not an MNHM volunteer, don't let that stop you! Friends of the museum are always welcome. Keep your eyes peeled for the schedule, which will be announced in our next newsletter. Trust us, you won't want to miss out on this prehistoric adventure!

[Learn More](#)



Membership

Ready to take your museum experience to the next level? Become a member and enjoy the VIP treatment! We're talking free admission, discounts, and exclusive invites to the hottest events. Plus, you'll get that warm, fuzzy feeling knowing you're supporting something truly amazing. So why wait? Join the club and let's make some art-loving memories together.

[Purchase or Renew Membership](#)

Donate

Looking to spread some love and support the Morrison Museum's mission? Look no further! By making a donation to the museum's foundation, you'll not only be helping out a great cause, but you'll also get a nifty tax deduction to boot. Plus, you can even specify which programs you want to support - it's like being a personalized philanthropist! So, why not give a little and help the Morrison Museum continue to educate and inspire for years to come? Trust us, the museum and your wallet will thank you.



[Make a Gift](#)



GIVE
WHERE YOU
LIVE





Get ready to mark your calendars with the most important event of the year - Colorado Gives Day! It's happening on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, and we can't wait to see you there. In the upcoming edition of 'Jurassic Journal,' we'll be sharing some exciting news on how you can support the Morrison Museum Foundation's efforts to keep the museum thriving. Trust us, it's going to be dino-mite!

[Learn more](#)



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