

## ***SPRING FIELD TRIP FOR EARTH SCIENCE TEACHERS***

**Where:** Moss Island & Herkimer Diamond Mines

**When:** Friday May 8, 2009

**Time:** 9:00 – 3:00

**Facilitators:** Jud Spanneut, Bob Allers (New Hartford Central Schools)  
Mike Hinman (SUNY Oneonta)

### **Description:**

This full day field trip will familiarize (or re-familiarize) participants with some of the glacial, structural, and economic geological features, and stratigraphy of the Mohawk Valley. Herkimer diamonds are known worldwide for their beauty and rarity, not to mention clarity. The Little Falls dolomite, in which they are found, is a desirable material for aggregate production. The potholes on Moss Island have been identified as one of New York's unique natural features. These giant potholes were scoured out by meltwater during a period of glacial retreat.

A guidebook will be provided. It will contain maps, diagrams, literature, and activities to use in the classroom.

Everyone is encouraged to bring hammers, chisels and other rock splitting gear for the diamond mines (and/or cash for the gift shop), and of course your cameras. We will stop along the way for lunch (please pack your own) drinks will be provided.

We will meet that morning at 8:30 in the parking lot of the Herkimer Diamond Mines (4601 State Route 28 Herkimer, NY). This trip is a rain or shine event, field attire is recommended (boots, jeans, raingear, etc.). If you would like to carpool from Utica please email Jud Spanneut ([jspanneu@nhart.org](mailto:jspanneu@nhart.org)).