



HELPFUL ITEMS TO BRING

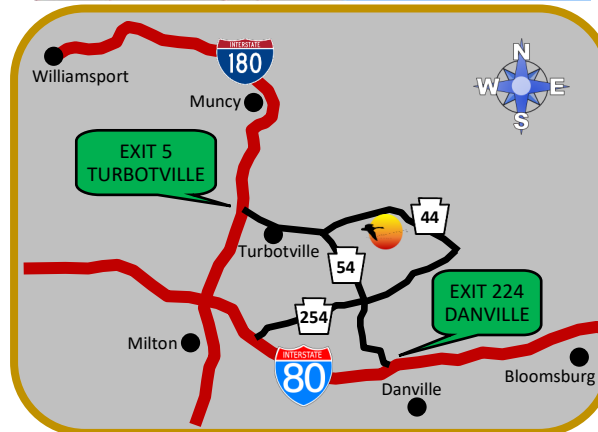
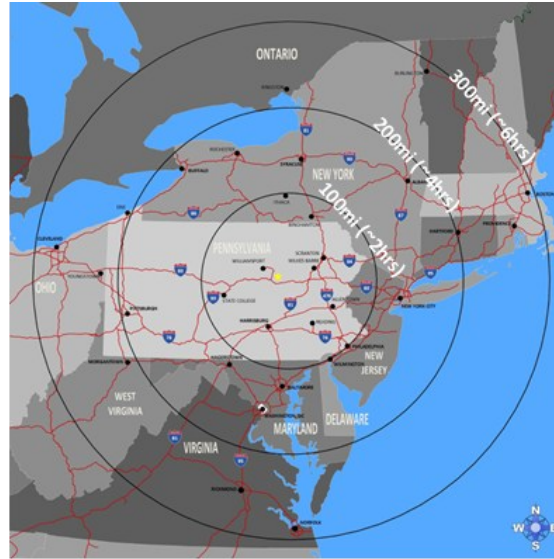
- Geologist's hammer
- Safety goggles
- Small brush
- Bag or small container
- Newspaper for wrapping specimens
- Drinking water
- Sunscreen and hat

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Be careful of sharp rock edges.
- Safety goggles are recommended.
- Closed-toed shoes and long pants are recommended.
- Please carefully supervise children.
- Beware of sunburn. There is little to no shade at the fossil pit.
- On hot days, be sure to drink plenty of water.

OTHER NOTES

- The fossil pit is open from dawn to dark year-round.
- Admission is free.
- You may keep any fossils you find.
- Dogs (except service dogs) are not allowed at the Montour Preserve.
- Restrooms are available at the Heron Cove Picnic Area, located on Sportsman Road, 0.5 miles south of the fossil pit parking lot.
- Educational materials and fossil specimens are on display in the Montour Preserve Visitors' Center, located on Preserve Road, 1.25 miles southwest of the fossil pit. The center is open daily from 8am—4pm (holiday hours may vary).



The Montour Preserve Fossil Pit
is located at:
160 Sportsman Road, Danville, PA 17821
The Montour Preserve Visitors' Center
is located at:
374 Preserve Road, Danville, PA 17821
Contact us at (570) 336-2060 or
Support@MontourPreserve.org
www.MontourPreserve.org

To learn more about places to eat, stay
and play while you're here, please visit:
www.iTourColumbiaMontour.com

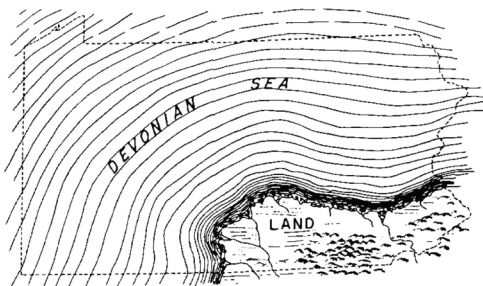


MONTOUR PRESERVE FOSSIL PIT



A Fossil Hunter's Field Guide





The Devonian Period (419 - 359 million years ago)

Fossils found in the Montour Preserve's Fossil Pit originated from creatures that lived in the Devonian Period, roughly 390 million years ago, when much of Pennsylvania, including this area, was covered by warm, shallow seas. Most of the rock left behind by that sea is either limestone or shale.

The Devonian Period is sometimes referred to as the 'Age of Ferns and Fishes'. Scale trees, tree ferns and horsetails evolved to form the first primitive forests. Fish evolved from jawless, bottom-dwelling animals to ones with jaws and a skeletal structure. Armored fish and sharks also appeared in this period.

On land, flightless insects appeared. They developed hard outside shells to protect them from drying out. Ticks, spiders and amphibians also evolved during this time.

The fossils found at the Montour Preserve come from a time roughly 116 million years before the rise of the dinosaurs (sorry - no T-Rex fossils here!)

To learn more about Pennsylvania's geology, rocks, minerals and fossils, please visit:
<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dcnr/education/geology-education/identifying-and-collecting.html>



FOSSILS COMMONLY FOUND AT THE MONTOUR PRESERVE FOSSIL PIT

BRACHIOPODS



Athyris



Atrypa



Leiorhynchus



Lingula



Mediospirifer



Mucrospirifer



Rhipidomella



Strophodonta
(interior)

CEPHALOPODS

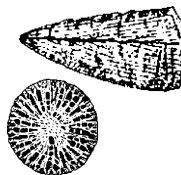


Michelinoceras

CORALS



Pleurodictyum



Stereolasma
(w/ cross-section view)



Trachypora

ECHINODERMS



Crinoid (w/ cross-section view)

GASTROPODS



Bembexia

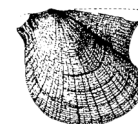


Cyclonema



Palaeozygopleura

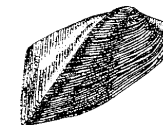
PELECYPODS



Actinopteria



Cypricardella



Goniophora



Modiomorpha



Nuculoidea

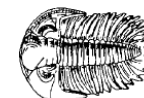


Palaeoneilo



Phestia

TRILOBITES



Greenops



Phacops

Fossil images courtesy PA DCNR Bureau of Geological Survey