

Glendive Dinosaur and Fossil Museum
FOSSIL DIG PREPARATION CHECKLIST

406-377-3228 (museum)

406-939-4427 (Robert's cell)

robert@creationtruth.org

Dig Supervisor contact for day of dig: 719-351-0087 (Joshua's cell)

=====

We are pleased you are interested in joining us for a dinosaur dig! Because we offer an authentic paleontology experience, we have included important information to prepare you for the day. We strive to provide a safe and enjoyable experience you will treasure, and we need your cooperation to accomplish that.

Please read and reference this document carefully as you prepare for your adventure.

What you should know:

Terrain. You will be excavating on private property in the badlands. From the parking area, we hike about 1/3-mile, climbing 125-feet over rough, uneven terrain. Some guests have called the trail strenuous. Once at the dig site, you will be sitting, kneeling, or lying on the ground to excavate. We will choose an appropriate hiking pace and encourage breaks as often as you need them, but *be realistic about your physical ability!*

Natural dangers. In addition to terrain, cacti and yucca grow along the trail, and there is an unlikely possibility of encountering prairie rattlesnakes or small scorpions. The weather varies greatly through the summer, including cool overcast days, moderate heat with wind, and 100+ degrees with no shade or breeze.

Effort involved. We do much labor before you arrive to make the process easier, but you must patiently and diligently work through layers of clay and sedimentary rock using a screwdriver, hammer, and brush. The necessary tools will be provided at the dig site, including small gardening pads to sit on.

Restrooms. A portable unit is stationed in the parking area. No enclosed facility is available at the dig site; as needed, you will be directed to a private area out of view (be prepared to pack out trash).

Bring your camera/phone. We will stop for photographs along the hike and you may also want to photograph your digging experience and discoveries.

Ownership of fossils. All fossils on the property belong to the museum and may be of value for display or ongoing study. We understand that taking home fossil souvenirs from your excavation is a special part of the experience; these will be granted at your guide's discretion at the end of the dig.

For everyone's safety, only paying guests who have read and signed our waiver of liability are allowed at the dig site. Minors must be accompanied by a paying adult parent, guardian, or approved sponsor.

Admission to the museum is included in your dig fee. As you make your travel plans to Glendive, we encourage allotting 2-3 hours to explore the museum. Please note the museum is closed on Sunday.

What is not included in your dig fee:

Transportation to the dig site. Your guide will meet you the morning of your dig in the museum parking lot under the T-rex head at 8 a.m. (unless other arrangements have been made due to weather). You will follow them to the dig property in your own pre-arranged vehicle.

Water. *Bring at least 2 bottles of water per person.* Our climate can quickly cause dehydration. Powdered electrolyte replacement or Gatorade may be desired on hot days (guest recommended).

Food. Be prepared to carry snacks with you in a backpack or small cooler and pack out your trash.

Clothing Recommendations:

- **Hat.** A wide-brimmed hat with an adjustable string to secure in windy conditions is ideal.
- **Long-sleeved shirt** keeps us cooler than short sleeves, so the sun's heat doesn't absorb into our arms.
- **Full-length pants.** Same heat principle as above, but also protects from abrasions from terrain and plants.
- **Sturdy, laced-up shoes.** Hiking boots are best; athletic shoes are okay. No slip-on shoes, crocs, or sandals.
- **Fitted gardening gloves.** Loose gloves cause blisters and damage fossils.
- Bug spray or a netted hat may be desired for gnats and pests.
- Sunscreen if you do not cover your skin completely with clothing (remember to bring it for reapplying)
- Hiking stick if you are not sure-footed or have trouble walking over steep rough terrain.
- Contact lenses will be uncomfortable due to dust, dirt, and wind. Wear eyeglasses, if possible.

We look forward to meeting you for your dig at 8:00 a.m. in the museum parking lot under the T-rex head!

~Your Dig Guides

Our cancellation policy: For the safety of all participants, digs are always weather-permitting and cannot be guaranteed. If weather conditions require us to cancel, we will contact you as soon as possible prior to your dig (via phone call or e-mail) to reschedule or refund. If circumstances require you to cancel your dig, please contact us as soon as possible so that we may try to accommodate other dig guests. Please note: we regret we will be unable to refund your deposit if your cancellation is made within 72 hours of the scheduled dig and we are unable to schedule other guests to take your place.