

CCFMS Field Trip Kit

KW Field Trips 2026

Starting this year all organized KW field trips have to follow the CCFMS procedures.

Participants need to:

- 1) Read the CCFMS Chapter 4 - **Responsibilities of Field Trip Participants**
- 2) Follow the CCFMS **Code Of Ethics for Rockhounding**
- 3) Read the CCFMS **Health and Safety Best Practices for Field Trips**
- 4) Complete the CCFMS – **Appendix A - Field Trip Liability Wavier**
- 5) Complete the CCFMS **Photo and Video Release Form**
- 6) Bring the completed paper copies of the **Field Trip Liability Waiver** and the **Photo and Video Release Form** to the trip to be handed to the organizer.



Chapter 4 – Responsibilities of Field Trip Participants

Participants on field trips hosted by the CCFMS or CCFMS-affiliated clubs are expected to:

- 1) **Only register for trips with a limited number of participants if you are fully committed to attending** – If you have to cancel, let the field trip leader know well in advance so they can offer your spot to another participant.
- 2) **Understand the expected degree of physical exertion required** – Only participate in field trips if the expected degree of physical exertion is unlikely to exceed your ability considering your general state of health and medical conditions.
- 3) **Read and follow the CCFMS Code of Ethics for Rockhounding and CCFMS Field Trip Health and Safety Best Practices** (see Chapter 1).
- 4) **Read and sign the Field Trip Liability Waiver** – Carefully read and acknowledge that you understand and agree to all terms in the *Field Trip Liability Waiver* by signing it. If something is unclear, ask! Provide a signed *Field Trip Liability Waiver* to the field trip leader based on their instructions.
- 5) **Provide the field trip leader with contact information** such as cell phone number in case you become separated from the group.
- 6) **Follow all direction from the field trip leader**, including that described during the *Tailgate Safety and Orientation Talk*.
- 7) **Wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment** at all times at the collecting site as specified by the field trip leader.
- 8) **Use only tools that are permitted on the site** as specified by the field trip leader.
- 9) **If there is an emergency, offer assistance** to the field trip leader that is consistent with your knowledge and skill.
- 10) **Ensure you have completed a photo consent form** (Appendix F) indicating whether you do or do not grant permission for photos or videos of you or any minor children accompanying you to be taken and used in newsletters or on social media. If you have not already submitted a photo consent form, sign and send a digital copy of the photo consent form to the field trip leader before the field trip. **You do not need to complete a new photo consent form for each field trip you attend, unless your wishes change.**
- 11) **You are responsible for minor children** – Parents, guardians, and supervising adults are responsible for the safety and well-being of any minor children accompanying them and must provide direct supervision at all times.

Have fun collecting!! – Help others to have a safe and fun day too!



CCFMS Code of Ethics for Rockhounding

All field trip leaders and participants will abide by the following CCFMS Code of Ethics for Rockhounding when attending and/or participating in field trips sponsored by CCFMS and CCFMS-affiliated clubs. We also encourage all rockhounds who are not CCFMS members, or who are engaged in independent collecting activities, to follow this Code for the betterment and public image of this hobby:

- 1) I will not collect without permission on private land or land under mineral claim, lease, patent, etc;
- 2) I will respect site owner's wishes while on private property (for example, staying away from certain areas, filling in any holes that are dug, etc);
- 3) I will, to the best of my ability, keep informed on all legislation and policies governing collecting on private or public lands, and will observe them;
- 4) I will, to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect;
- 5) I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind (for example, fences, signs, buildings, etc), and leave all gates as found;
- 6) I will discard no burning material, including cigarettes, while walking or collecting;
- 7) I will light fires only where/when permitted, and will adhere to safe burning practices and/or burn advisories/bans as prescribed by provincial and/or local authorities;
- 8) I will cause no willful damage to collecting areas and material, and if specimens cannot be reasonably extracted, I will leave them in situ for others to enjoy;
- 9) I will take home only what I can reasonably use as a hobby mineral collector;
- 10) I will carry out my own litter; and, if reasonable to do so, remove other litter when found;
- 11) I will co-operate with CCFMS and CCFMS-affiliated club field trip leaders and those designated in authority in all collecting areas;
- 12) I will report to the relevant provincial geologist any geological feature on public lands that should be identified for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational & scientific purposes;
- 13) I will, at all times, conduct myself in a manner that will enhance the public image of rock, mineral, and fossil hobby collectors;
- 14) I will encourage and help new collectors to increase their enjoyment of hobby mineral collecting;
- 15) I will promote appropriate collecting methods, tools, techniques, and procedures that respect the land, specimens, health and safety, and other best practices of hobby mineral collecting.

Please note, that when on CCFMS and CCFMS-affiliated club field trips, Field Trip leaders have overall responsibility and authority to refuse entry and/or ask participants to leave.



CCFMS Health and Safety Best Practices for Field Trips

Mines and other collecting sites can be hot and dry and may contain piles of loose waste rock, sharp objects, open holes, steep slopes, overhead hazards, harmful substances, and other hazardous conditions. The following best practices will reduce the chance of injury or illness caused by the most common risks and hazards associated with field trips to these sites. Field trip leaders and site owners may identify other risks and hazards and/or mitigative measures (such as Personal Protective Equipment PPE) on specific field trips. On all field trips, participants must follow direction provided by field trip leaders and site owners.

If you, or any minor children accompanying you, sustain any injuries or illnesses while on a field trip you must advise the field trip leader.

- 1) To reduce the risk of dehydration, sunburn, or heat exhaustion/heat stroke:
 - i) Wear appropriate clothing including hats or other head gear;
 - ii) Use sunscreen;
 - iii) Carry and drink sufficient water to remain hydrated;
 - iv) Pace yourself on a hot day, take frequent breaks; and
 - v) Monitor yourself and others for signs of heat exhaustion (e.g., excessive sweating, dizziness) – rehydrate and rest in a cool shady spot and advise the field trip leader if symptoms are detected.
- 2) To reduce the risk of trips and falls which may lead to cuts, bruises, sprains, broken bones, or more severe injuries:
 - i) Wear sturdy footwear with closed toes, good traction, and ankle support – such as hiking, work, or safety boots;
 - ii) Always watch where you step – test footing before stepping on objects that may move – be extra careful on wet slippery rocks;
 - iii) Avoid hazardous areas such as open or capped shafts, steep slopes, large loose rock piles, old headframes or buildings, or any other areas identified by the field trip leader – pay special attention to any warning signs or fencing; and
 - iv) Wear high visibility clothing so you can be located if you fall.
- 3) To reduce the risk of eye injuries from flying rock fragments, soil, dust, or other debris:
 - i) Wear safety glasses or goggles when using (or near someone using) hand or power tools to hammer, break, cut, drill, or blast rock; and
 - ii) Use only hand or power tools safe for rockhounding and approved for use by the field trip leader.
- 4) To reduce the risk of foot/ankle injuries sustained from falling or rolling rocks, stepping on sharp objects, or twisting ankles:
 - i) Wear sturdy footwear with closed toes, firm soles, and ankle support – footwear with crush-resistant toes and puncture-resistant soles (green patch) provides the greatest protection;
 - ii) Tread carefully – test footing before stepping on objects that may move; and
 - iii) Avoid stepping on old metal or old lumber or beams that may contain rusty nails or spikes.
- 5) To reduce the risk of hand/finger injuries resulting from handling sharp rocks, use of hand tools, or moving rocks:
 - i) Wear gloves;
 - ii) Be careful when using hand tools such as hammers and chisels; and
 - iii) Be careful not to crush hands/fingers when moving rocks.
- 6) To reduce the risk of head injuries caused by falling overhead hazards:
 - i) Wear a hard hat (make sure it has not expired) when there is a potential for overhead hazards;
 - ii) Work carefully around any sites that may have loose rocks or other material at or above head level (e.g., rock or cliff faces); and
 - iii) Never loosen (or throw) rocks that could fall on yourself or others.
- 7) To reduce the risk of back injuries from lifting, moving, or carrying heavy rocks:
 - i) Do not attempt to move or lift rocks beyond your limits;
 - ii) Use pry bars to roll rocks; and



- iii) Use proper lifting techniques (e.g., lift with legs, not back).
- 8) To reduce the risk of cuts, scrapes, and bruises to face, arms, or legs from tree branches and other vegetation:
 - i) Wear appropriate clothing, especially long pants; and
 - ii) Avoid walking through dense vegetation, especially patches of thorny or prickly shrubs such as raspberries or blackberries.
- 9) To reduce the risk of illness from ingesting or handling harmful plants, fruit, fungi, rocks, minerals, soil, or dust, or drinking contaminated water:
 - i) Know and avoid touching poisonous plants such as poison ivy, giant hogweed, and poison sumac;
 - ii) Do not eat plants, fruit, or fungi growing at old mine sites;
 - iii) Wash hands thoroughly after handling potentially harmful rocks, minerals, soil, or dust (e.g., galena, arsenopyrites); and
 - iv) Never drink standing or flowing surface water.
- 10) To reduce the risk of injuries associated with interactions with dangerous animals such as bears or rattlesnakes, stinging or biting insects, or ticks:
 - i) Know how to react if you encounter a bear (see [Be Bear Wise and prevent bear encounters](#)) – always carry a safety whistle to alert others (provides a very loud sound that requires very little blowing effort);
 - ii) Don't reach where you can't see, especially in rattlesnake habitat;
 - iii) Be watchful for nests of stinging insects when moving rocks – always carry an EpiPen if you are allergic to stings;
 - iv) Wear long pants and use insect repellent to deter ticks. Carefully check for, and remove, ticks after a field trip; and
 - v) Be wildlife-aware during collecting and when driving – helpful links to look at are:
 - [Staying Safe Around Wildlife](#)
 - [Wildlife and Safety](#) and [Top tips to respect wildlife and stay safe](#) english & French versions
- 11) To reduce the risk of injuries sustained from collisions with vehicles or heavy equipment:
 - i) Watch for vehicles or heavy equipment when exiting a vehicle or walking along or crossing roads;
 - ii) Stay well clear of heavy equipment in operating mine sites; and
 - iii) Wear high visibility clothing so you can be seen.
- 12) To reduce the risk of damage to personal vehicles or injury to drivers or passengers when driving on roads that are narrow, rough, dusty (or muddy), loose-surfaced, soft-shouldered, or wash-boarded:
 - i) Drive slowly and carefully, watching for potholes, ruts, and protruding rocks – drive especially slowly on narrow shrub-lined roads to avoid scratches on vehicles;
 - ii) Drive with lights on and give the driver in front lots of room;
 - iii) Stay to the right when cresting rises with poor visibility;
 - iv) Don't stray too far to the right when shoulders are soft;
 - v) Use four-wheel drive on roads with loose surfaces or washboards;
 - vi) Test flooded parts of roads to verify water depth and ensure the road bed is firm; and
 - vii) Always watch for other vehicles, ATVs, and pedestrians.
- 13) To reduce the risk of becoming lost:
 - i) Always collect with a 'buddy' who knows where you are at all times;
 - ii) Ensure any minor children accompanying you are always within sight;
 - iii) Carry a safety whistle and compass (repeat 3 short blasts of the whistle if you become separated) – know which direction to walk to return to parked vehicles; and
 - iv) Wear high visibility clothing so you can be located more easily.

Please note, that when on CCFMS and CCFMS-affiliated club field trips, Field Trip leaders have overall responsibility and authority to refuse entry and/or ask participants to leave.

CCFMS Field Trip Kit – Appendix A – Field Trip Liability Waiver

English version – dated April 2024 **CONFIDENTIAL**



Voluntary Participation

I, the undersigned, wish to attend and participate, voluntarily, in the following field trip hosted by

[name of CCFMS-affiliated hosting club]

Being the field trip located at

[name and street address location of field trip and optional GPS co-ordinates]

Taking place on

[date(s) of field trip]

Health, Safety, and Inherent Risks Affirmations

I understand, acknowledge, and agree that when attending / participating in the aforesaid field trip:

- 1) I will take responsibility and reasonable care for my own health and safety during the aforesaid field trip.
- 2) I have read the CCFMS Field Trip Code of Ethics and the CCFMS Field Trip Health and Safety Best Practices and I am thus aware of the most common potential risks and hazards to me associated with attending / participating in the aforesaid field trip.
- 3) Additionally, I will take note of any additional site-specific and field trip risks and hazards that the field trip leader(s) and/or property/site owners may identify.
- 4) To mitigate the most common potential risks and hazards associated with attending / participating in the aforesaid field trip, I will follow all direction in the CCFMS Field Trip Health and Safety Best Practices document, as well as all directions from the field trip leader(s), including, but not limited to, the wearing of personal protective equipment (PPE) and appropriate clothing, use of appropriate tools, etc.
- 5) Attending / participating in the aforesaid field trip involves physical activity and requires a reasonable level of fitness. I, and any minor children who may be accompanying me, will not over-exert myself (ourselves) and will stop, rest, and hydrate, when necessary.
- 6) I will inform the field trip leader(s) of any behaviour(s) and/or condition(s) that might endanger me and/or other participants on the aforesaid field trip.
- 7) I will inform the field trip leader(s) of any medical condition(s) that may affect my ability to participate safely in the aforesaid field trip, including medication that may cause drowsiness.
- 8) If I become injured or ill while on the aforesaid field trip:
 - i) I will immediately advise the field trip leader(s).
 - ii) I grant permission for first aid to be performed, including the use of CPR and/or Automated Electronic Defibrillators (AEDs), as necessary.
 - iii) I authorize the sharing of medical information with medical personnel, if required.
 - iv) I authorize, and will assume the costs of emergency transport, if required.

Assumption of Liability

In consideration of permission granted to me in attending / participating in the aforesaid field trip by:

[name of CCFMS-affiliated hosting club]

And by

[name of property/site owner]

And in consideration of the liability insurance provided for the aforesaid field trip by the Central Canadian Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CCFMS),

I agree to and hereby assume all risk of any and all injuries to myself and/or damage or loss of my property while attending / participating in the aforesaid field trip.

I further remise, release and forever discharge and agree to indemnify, and hold harmless on behalf of myself, my family, and next of kin, personal representatives, assigns, executors, administrators, successors, and heirs, the hosting club, the property/site owner, and the CCFMS, including as applicable to each of these entities, its board/council members, officers, field trip leaders, representatives, agents, volunteers, employees, assigns,

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and successors, from all manner of actions, suits, demands, and claims whatsoever which myself, my family, and next of kin, personal representatives, assigns, executors, administrators, successors, and heirs may have now and in the future in connection with all and any injuries to myself and/or damage or loss of my property while attending / participating in the aforesaid field trip. This agreement shall be binding on my heirs, executors, and administrators.

Inclusion of Minor Children (under 18 years of age)

I further understand, acknowledge, and agree that as a parent, legal guardian, or supervising adult that I agree to and hereby assume all risk of all and any injuries to and/or damage or loss of their property to any minor children accompanying me who are listed below, while attending / participating in the aforesaid field trip and that:

- 1) I will ensure that any minor children accompanying me who are listed below will be under my direct supervision and care.
- 2) I also agree that all and any provisions in this Liability Waiver that apply to myself also apply to the minor children accompanying me who are listed below in the participant signatures section.

Concluding Statement

I acknowledge that I have carefully read and understand the entire contents of this Liability Waiver, the CCFMS Field Trip Code of Ethics, and the CCFMS Field Trip Health and Safety Best Practices, as appropriate to participant and/or field trip leaders, and that:

- 1) I am fully aware of the potential risks and hazards associated with attending / participating in the aforesaid field trip.
- 2) I am fully aware of the legal consequences of this Liability Waiver and understand I am waiving certain rights and assuming the risk of any and all injuries to myself and/or damage or loss of my property arising from attending / participating in the aforesaid field trip.
- 3) I agree to the terms and conditions of this Liability Waiver.
- 4) I agree that any part or provision of this Liability Waiver, which is prohibited or which is held to be void or unenforceable, shall be ineffective to the extent of such prohibition or unenforceability without invalidating the remaining parts or provisions hereof.
- 5) The undersigned further expressly agrees that the foregoing Liability Waiver is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the province / jurisdiction in which the field trip is conducted and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

Date

Participant Name(s) (include names of any minor children + their ages) (printed)

Address

Telephone

Allergies or Special Medical Instructions

Participant Signature(s) and/or Parent/Legal Guardian/Supervising Adult Signature(s). Include all adult participant signatures. Digital signatures are acceptable.

Please note that this sheet can be applied to all CCFMS-affiliated club events and activities.

Photo and Video Release form

English version – April 2024 **CONFIDENTIAL**

PHOTO AND VIDEO RELEASE FORM

CCFMS recommends that participants at CCFMS and CCFMS-affiliated club events sign a photo and video release form, such as the one below, before photos or videos are taken of them or their children for publication in documents or on social media platforms.

A separate form is not required for participants at each event, field trip or other activity. Therefore, clubs may incorporate the form into their membership application process.

If the form has been signed, no further permission is required. However, CCFMS suggests that, as a courtesy, all participants should be asked for verbal permission before a portrait-style photo or video of them is taken.

Photo and Video Release Form:

As part of my participation in CCFMS and CCFMS-affiliated club workshops, presentations, and events, I, hereby, grant permission for photographs or video recordings to be taken of me and my minor children (if applicable), and I consent to the collection, storage, uploading and sharing of such content in promotional literature, and its release to print media, television, social media platforms or their agents and assignees without further consideration.

- 1) I understand that I am granting an irrevocable, perpetual, and unrestricted right for the CCFMS or CCFMS-affiliated club _____ to take, use, publish, and transfer and assign the rights of such image content at their sole discretion.
- 2) I understand that while the CCFMS or CCFMS-affiliated club _____ aim to maintain confidentiality, anonymity cannot be ensured as my image may be used without alteration or distortion. I understand and agree that I will not hold CCFMS or CCFMS-affiliated club _____ or its employees or agents responsible for any harm that may arise through the sharing of such image content.
- 3) This agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the jurisdiction in which the event is conducted. I also understand that no royalty, fee, nor other compensation shall become payable to me by reason of such use.

_____ I (we) consent (Yes/Y) to this photo and video release for adults

_____ I (we) do not consent (No/N) to this photo and video release for adults

_____ I (we) consent (Yes/Y) to this photo and video release for my / our minor children

_____ I (we) do not consent (No/N) to this photo and video release for my / our minor children

Printed name(s) of adult(s), and /or parent(s) or guardian(s) _____
