

## **WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **Chert and Other Lithic Raw Materials Used by Native Americans in New York State: Devonian Cherts in the Mid-Hudson Valley**

**November 1, 2014, 9 AM - 5 PM**

A second annual workshop focused on the geology and archaeology of lithic resources used by Native Americans in New York will be held on Saturday, November 1, from 9 AM to 5 PM at the New York State Museum and field locations in Greene and Ulster Counties. Our 2013 workshop focused on chert-bearing Devonian formations along the Onondaga Escarpment in the Mohawk Valley of central-eastern New York. This year will feature an introductory lecture by one of the top geological experts on chert in the Northeast, and a field trip to examine chert-bearing Devonian formations in eastern New York's mid Hudson Valley. Building on the success of last year's workshop, we will again bring together archaeologists and geologists interested in geologic sources of prehistoric toolstone to continue collaborations that will benefit both.

The workshop will begin 9 AM at the NYSM with a presentation by Dr. Stephen Pollock, Professor and Chair, Department of Geosciences, University of Southern Maine. He will be speaking on models of chert formation, and aspects of his recent sourcing research in New England. A second part of the morning will examine and discuss various chert and other lithic samples. Participants are welcome to bring their own specimens to add to the discussion.

During the afternoon field trip, Dr. Chuck Ver Straeten, NYSM Curator of Sedimentary Geology, will act as field leader, guiding participants to four road-cut exposures for the examination, discussion, and collection of nodular and bedded cherts in eight different Devonian-age formations (roughly 400 million years old), between Catskill and Kingston (Greene and Ulster counties, west side of the Hudson River).

*Please note:* Participants should bring a lunch. Unfortunately, transportation to the field is not available.

For questions or requests for additional information, please contact Chuck Ver Straten (CVERSTRA@mail.nysed.gov) or Jon Lothrop (Jlothrop@mail.nysed.gov).

Space is limited to 35 participants. If you are interested in attending, *please RSVP* to Christina Rieth (CRIETH@mail.nysed.gov) by October 17, 2014.

We hope you will find this workshop to be of interest and we look forward to seeing you in Albany in November!