



## MARYLAND S PAST

During the middle of the Miocene epoch, 10 to 20 million years ago, a shallow ocean covered southern Maryland. At times, the sea spread as far west as present-day Washington, DC.

Living in these water was a diverse community of sharks, stingrays, whales, long-snouted dolphins, seals, and seacows, along with clams, scallops, oysters, and snails.

On the shore and farther inland, turtles, crocodiles, and oceanic birds mingled with now extinct peccaries, camels, horses, elephants, rhinos, and beardogs.

Over time, rivers flowing from the Appalachian Mountains to the Miocene sea carried mud and sand, building up the layers of sediments now exposed as cliffs along the western shore of Chesapeake Bay. Wind, rain, and frost erode these sediments, along with embedded fossils, which now provide fossil collectors with a "bountiful harvest."



## WARNING!

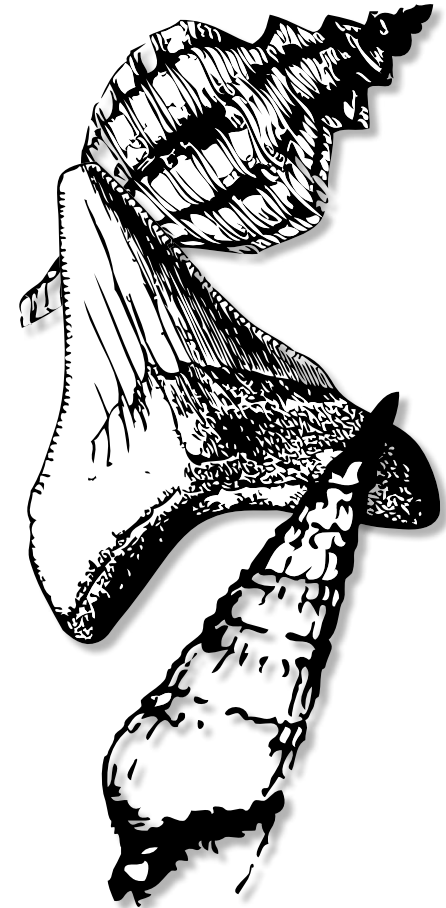
Digging in cliffs along Chesapeake Bay is dangerous and prohibited. (However, Maryland law does permit digging on beaches up to the high tide mark.) On land, you must receive the owner's permission before crossing or collecting from private property. If you discover a skull, bone, or unusual fossil anywhere in Maryland, please notify the museum curator at (410) 326-2042, ext 28. We will obtain the necessary permission and send trained personnel to collect the specimen and give full credit to the finder.



P.O. Box 97  
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[www.calvertmarinemuseum.com](http://www.calvertmarinemuseum.com)

# FOSSIL CLUB



**Fossil Collecting,  
Lectures, Meetings,  
Fairs, Activities, and  
Much More!**

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Calvert Marine Museum Fossil Club is open to anyone interested in paleontology, earth sciences, and related fields. You do not have to be a professional to join our club. Anyone with an interest in fossil collecting is welcome.

Club members come from a wide variety of occupations and disciplines. Many are teachers, students, government workers, retirees, military members, museum curators, and geologists. Our members range in age from 8 to 80.

**NOTE:** You must be a member of Calvert Marine Museum in order to join the fossil club. Museum dues range from \$35 for individuals to \$50 for families per year. Museum members receive free admission for one year, the award-winning *Bugeye Times* quarterly newsletter, a 10% discount in the museum store, charter discounts on the *Wm. B. Tennison*, special invitations to concerts and other events, and the opportunity to purchase concert tickets before they go on sale to the general public.



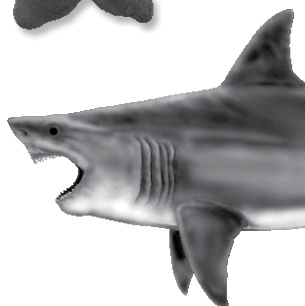
## BENEFITS



Club membership includes access to one of the best Miocene paleontology museums and collections in the world, plus a subscription to the quarterly newsletter, *The Ecphora*.

Exhibits include original fossils of all the known groups of seashell animals that occur in the Miocene deposits of Calvert Cliffs, as well as the remains of vertebrate species such as sharks, fish, whales, and land animals. Club members can also get "hands-on" experience in our fossil preparation lab.

In addition, club members are eligible to attend lectures by world-renown experts and to participate in field trips to prime fossil sites along the eastern seaboard that are off-limits to individuals.



## FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are held throughout the year, most often in the spring and fall. All field trips are led by either a club officer or a member familiar with the paleontology of the particular field site. Field trips occur throughout Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, with occasional forays into New Jersey, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, and Delaware.

Opportunities also exist for members to participate in field research throughout the country and overseas.

Some field trips may require members to pay for overnight lodging and special equipment (construction helmets, steel-toed shoes, etc.)

## MEETINGS

The club meets quarterly at the Calvert Marine Museum located in Solomons, MD. Meetings usually last an hour and are followed by a guest lecturer. Meeting dates and times are announced in advance. Typically, we meet at 1 p.m. on the third Saturday of the month (February, April, September, and November).

## DUES

Annual dues are \$10. Dues are payable when you apply for membership and are due every January 1st thereafter.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the Calvert Marine Museum Fossil Club at [cmmfossilclub@hotmail.com](mailto:cmmfossilclub@hotmail.com) or (410) 326-2042. To join, fill out an application available on our website at [www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/cmmfc/index.html](http://www.calvertmarinemuseum.com/cmmfc/index.html).