

EARTH SCIENCE WEEK - OCTOBER 13-19, 2002

FREE LECTURE SERIES

**Sponsored by the GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY of AMERICA
In Partnership with REI**

Celebrate Earth Science Week with an "Adventure Geology" Lecture Series by scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS); National Park Service (NPS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and Colorado Geological Survey Avalanche Information Center (CAIC)

These lectures are free and open to the public. No registration is required.

**PROGRAMS HELD AT: REI FLAGSHIP STORE AUDITORIUM
1416 PLATTE STREET
DENVER, COLORADO**

LECTURE DATES AND TOPICS:

Tuesday, October 15 - 7:00-8:00 p.m. - HIDDEN CAVES OF THE WORLD

Ronal C. Kerbo, National Cave Management Coordinator, National Park Service. Through a slide presentation, we will visit places as diverse as the lava tube caves of Azores in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean to the deepest limestone cave in the United States, Lechuguilla Cave in southeastern New Mexico. From the great caves of southeastern China to the caves of South Africa we will see how people have used caves through the centuries. From Mammoth Cave in Kentucky to Otimisticskaja in the Western Ukraine, journey to some of the world's most interesting caves.

**Wednesday, October 16 - 7:00-8:00 p.m. -CLIMBING AND GEOLOGY IN COLORADO;
WHY OUR STATE HAS IT ALL**

Russell Dubiel, Geologist, U.S. Geological Survey. Colorado has an abundance of high mountains, steep cliffs and deep canyons. To a geologist, Colorado is an exquisite outdoor laboratory in which to examine and decipher the history of the rocks and the landscape. To a climber, Colorado presents a wide assortment of both rock types and mountain or crag settings. To learn why Colorado has such a wide diversity of geologic features that attract climbers, mountaineers, and other outdoor enthusiasts, come hear this presentation.

**Friday, October 18, 7:00-8:00 p.m. - RECONSTRUCTING RECORDS OF PAST
DROUGHTS IN COLORADO USING TREE RINGS**

Connie Woodhouse, NOAA Paleoclimatology Program. Colorado and much of the intermountain western U.S. has been experiencing severe drought conditions in 2002. The drought, along with several years of below-average snowpack, has resulted in stream flows lower than any year in the instrumental record. Learn how tree ring reconstructions can help

define the current conditions in relation to past severe droughts, and place them in long-term perspective.

Saturday, October 19, 2:00-3:00 p.m. - AVALANCHE SAFETY IN COLORADO

Halsted Morris, Avalanche Safety Course Instructor and Field Observer, Colorado Geological Survey, Avalanche Information Center (CAIC). Learn about the anatomy of avalanches, avalanche accidents and rescues in Colorado, and how to recreate safely in Colorado's backcountry during the winter.