

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR CARAVAN TRAVEL

**Vehicle Assignments:** On each day during the trip, passengers will be assigned to ride in a different vehicle. There are two reasons for this; 1) for safety – to insure that all students are accounted for prior to departing at each stop, 2) to provide the opportunity for students to meet many other students and staff in the course. You will also have assigned vehicles for your luggage. The vehicle number will be found on the windshield and in the rear window of each Suburban. Details of vehicle assignments will be explained in further detail at the opening meeting.

Relief drivers will rotate with official drivers for safety, but the head driver remains with his/her vehicle for the duration of the trip.

**Daily Schedule:** Departure time each morning will be 7:00 am local time unless counter instructions are given the night before. You will be awakened at approximately 5:45 am to give you time to eat breakfast and load your baggage before 7:00. We have found in the past that the best routine for morning departure is to dress as quickly as possible and have breakfast. Following breakfast, use the remaining time for packing and loading the vehicles. If you delay breakfast to pack and load the vehicle, it is usually difficult to find a restaurant that can serve you at the last minute. The cities in which we stay have adequate eating facilities that are open at 6:00 am.

It is essential to the operation of the caravan that you are ready to depart from the motel at promptly 7:00 am. One person who fails to meet this obligation can hold up the balance of the caravan, and such delays often result in late arrivals the next evening or the elimination of important geologic stops along the way.

**Instruction Routine (G429/G429e only):** During the caravan trip to Montana, you will receive instructions in the regional geology in many ways. First, you have a manual which covers the important aspects of the geology along the route. Study this manual in the evening in preparation for the next day's work; along the way it will help keep you informed about details of the local geology. Second, each vehicle will carry the geologic map of the northwest portion of the U.S.A. These maps, supplemented with local topographic maps, should enable you to maintain a general geographic and stratigraphic orientation. Third, staff members will be assigned to vehicles so that during the course of the trip you will probably ride with a member of the staff. This will enable you to ask questions and receive personal instruction during the trip. Fourth, each vehicle is equipped with a two-way radio which will allow us to point out the important features of the geology as we travel along the highway. It will also enable you to direct questions to members of the staff riding in various positions in the caravan. Fifth, and most important, the caravan will stop at important points along the way so that you can receive instruction and make observations. With these many opportunities to learn about geology along the route, we hope that you will derive the maximum benefits from the trip.

