

National Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month
Saturday, May 8, 2010; 2pm. Reception follows 3-4pm

Free public program sponsored by the Friends of the Museums

“A New Land of the Eye: Mastodons and Mammoths in the Southern Great Lakes”
by Dr. Jeffrey Saunders, curator and chair of geology, Illinois State Museum

Mammoths have been news makers of late! Join Dr. Saunders as he talks about unexpected news of mammoths, mastodons, and the world they lived in. New data, pollen analysis, and even bone chemistry are shedding new light on a lost world. This information furthers our understanding of fossil “elephants” in the region. Coupling this with new DNA studies, these Great Lakes results “go global.”

“Adaptations Along the Ice Margin: Mammoths and Mastodons in the Western Great Lakes”
by Dan Joyce, senior curator of exhibits and collections, Kenosha Public Museum

Joyce will present a brief history of mammoths and mastodons in Kenosha. With the excavation of the Schaefer mammoth in 1992-93, a revolution in how we view the peopling of Americas had begun. Since then, much analysis has been completed on this animal and others. Is the work accepted by the scientific community? How does our mammoth fit with other new discoveries?