

THE *TRICERATOPS* ARE COMING TO ROCKFORD!

- Burpee discovers two new dinosaurs in Montana's Hell Creek Formation
- Dinosaurs will arrive at Burpee Museum Monday, August 21 at 1 pm

ROCKFORD, IL

Burpee Museum staff have just returned from southeast Montana with quite a treasure!

The public, media & friends are invited to join us **Monday, August 21 at 1 pm** at Burpee Museum for the return of three pods containing over 110 bones recovered from the museum's dig site in southeastern Montana. The largest dinosaur, nicknamed Homer, was discovered by Burpee volunteer Helmuth Redschlag in July 2005.

With over 1,500 hours spent so far laboring in boiling heat and sudden downpours, Burpee staff and volunteers have been working feverishly to recover this rare find, a juvenile *Triceratops*. With the generous support of Woods Equipment of Oregon the bones were recovered from Burpee's remote field site on Friday afternoon and will make a 1,000 mile journey to their new home in Rockford. Museum officials are planning a brief ceremony to welcome the new dinosaurs to Rockford at 1 pm on Monday.

"When put on display, our visitors will see a truly spectacular addition to Jane's savage ancient world", says Lew Crampton, President/CEO of Burpee Museum. "We also believe that Homer will rival Jane in scientific importance because we have the brain case of this dinosaur which can indicate what qualities it depended on for survival"

Michael Henderson, Curator of Earth Sciences for Burpee Museum called in from the field to say, "We are confident that we have a mountable specimen and possibly two. We don't have a final tally yet on how complete these specimens are because we are still finding bones out here and we have some bones that are not ordinarily found at *Triceratops* sites".

"Triceratops dinosaurs are known to be solitary animals and it is very rare to find two of them together", said Burpee Collections Manager, Scott Williams. "Even more important is the fact that Homer and his friend are juvenile *Triceratops*. As of today, we know of no juvenile *Triceratops* on display at any museum anywhere in the world."

We invite you to join us Monday, August 21 at 1 pm for yet another new adventure for Burpee Museum and for Rockford.

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Established in 1941, Burpee Museum of Natural History is located on the banks of the Rock River in Rockford, Illinois. Museum hours are: Monday–Saturday 10 am–5 pm and Sunday 12 noon–5 pm. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$4 for children ages 3–17. (*Admission is FREE for members and every Wednesday for the public.*) The annual membership fee is \$60 for families or grandparents and \$50 for an individual. Free parking is available at Burpee Museum at 737 North Main Street or in Riverfront Museum Park parking lot directly next door at 711 North Main Street. For more info, phone 815-965-3433 or log on to www.burpee.org.