# **Visitor Guide for the Visitor Center and Rhino Barn:**

## **Approaching the Visitor Center**

* 1. Watch the “Welcome to Ashfall Fossil Beds” video

In this video the virtual visitor will:

* + - Be informed by Dr. Michael Voorhies about his discovery of the fossils.
    - See and hear of the reasons so many fossils have been preserved in this area.
  1. The pdf informs the viewer how to navigate through the tour and how to see/experience all the aspects of the virtual tour.

## **Inside the Visitor Center**

As you view things in the Center, make sure you click on the arrows to reveal more in-depth videos and other learning sites.

* 1. Watch video: The Disaster Strikes

In this video the virtual visitor will learn:

* How Nebraska had a totally different environment in an ancient era.
* How Ashfall Fossil Beds has been excavated.
* About volcanic activity in the ancient past affecting life in what is now Nebraska.
* Through description and animation how volcanic ash destroyed life.

b. Read: Evolution in Action

This photo and text enable visitors to learn about the types of horses discovered at Ashfall.

1. Link to Paleo Sleuths

Visitors can gather excellent information and be challenged by:

* + - Watching a video on the drifting and depth of the ash from a volcano in southwest Idaho.
    - Reading text and viewing pictures on the animals of Ashfall.
    - About viewing a timeline and reading how the tragedy at Ashfall took place.
    - Studying a map of the excavation at Ashfall.
    - Examining various bones in high-resolution 3D models.
    - Downloading a Paleo Sleuth lesson plan (designed for grades 4-8).
    - Exploring further by clicking on the links at the bottom of the webpage
      * including:

Sleuths (explorers of the digs)

Animals

Dig Sites

Educational Resources

Documentary Films

1. Watch: “The Story of Ashfall Fossil Beds.”

In this video the virtual visitor will learn:

* + - Why this site was chosen as a possibly rich in fossils
    - About the first skeletons that were unearthed
    - About the conclusions paleontologists have made about the animals

e. Answer a Question on Ashfall that leads to a visual representation of Geologic

Time.

1. Answer a Question on a “racoon-dog” that leads to a drawing and information

about the Cynarctus (Racoon-dog).

g. View the painting of Ash Cloud Nears Water Hole by Mark E. Marcuson.

h. View and read about the Giant Tortoises.

1. View the 3-D model of the Baby Barrel-Bodied Rhino Skull

j. View other displays throughout the Center including:

* A comparison of the Idaho volcano to Mount St. Helens
* What is Volcanic Ash

# **Visitor Guide for the Rhino Barn**

## **Walking to the Rhino Barn**

Take the short walk to the Rhino barn. Make sure to get on the right path to the entrance.

## **Inside the Hubbard Rhino Barn**

1. Watch video: Building the Ashfall Fossil Beds State Historical Park

In this video the virtual visitor will learn:

* Why the original plans for the location of the walls had to be changed
* Why the building is called a “barn.”
* About the plans for a painting depicting the water hole before the coming of the ash
* Why Ashfall is so unique and why it was nearly destroyed
* What animals the paleontologists still think they will find

1. Watch video (no audio) showing the excavated floor of the Rhino Barn
2. Try to find the Kangaroo Rat