

Please fill out the following membership application form and email it to EFMLS@gmail.com apply for membership in the EFTA Field Trip Sharing Program of the EFMLS Field Trip Committee. To prevent transcription errors, printed and mailed forms are not accepted; only emailed forms are accepted.

Full Name of the Club: _____

To be accepted, the club applying for membership in the EFMLA EFTA Field Trip Sharing Program must qualify as described below and it must provide all of the information requested. By submitting this form to the EFMLS Field Trip Committee, the club is affirming that it meets all of the requirements for a EFTA hosting club as described below, and will abide by all of the rules and requirements listed.

(1) The Club is a fully paid and active member of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, Inc. (Due January 31st)

(2) The club is covered by field trip liability insurance for the current year. (EFMLS insurance is due March 31st) Please indicate the type of liability insurance below.

EFMLS Insurance __ **SFMS** __ **Private Insurance** __

(3) TWO or more e-mail addresses must be provided to coordinate the set-up and distribution of field trip information to the EFTA Coordinator. And because of past communications problems, the EFTA is also requesting a back-up contact e-mail address. Field trip leaders and newsletter editors are perfect candidates for this.

E-mail address #1 _____

E-mail address #2 _____

Back-up address _____

(4) Please provide the following for the president of the club:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____

Phone: _____

(5) The club's board of directors has agreed in their official meeting minutes to host a rock, mineral, or fossil field trip to a location that can accommodate at least one member per EFTA member club. The club as a whole must commit to the responsibilities of being a member of the EFTA program.

(6) The club agrees to provide the EFTA Field Trip Committee with a specific, non-conflicting, future month in which it will host its EFTA field trip. The EFTA Coordinator will provide an initial range or list of months from which the club must choose. Subsequent hosting month/year is determined in EFTA membership renewal.

(7) When choosing a collecting location for hosting a trip, the club agrees to abide by the following rules:

- a) The location must be within a radius of 300 miles (400 miles if located on a coastal border) of the club's home location or the club is the only organization that can obtain exclusive access to a

desirable collecting site outside the 300 mile range. This ensures a wider dispersion and a better diversity of collecting sites

- b) **To ensure the diversity of trips, the location cannot be a location where another club has already hosted a EFTA trip in the calendar year.** Exceptions may be granted depending on individual circumstances.
- c) **If the location is a commercial site, the hosting club should request a discount and exclusive access for the day of the trip.** It is acceptable if a discount and or exclusive access cannot be negotiated, but they should be requested. These terms make the site more desirable as a DMC trip versus any other day.
- d) **The general public, clubs that are not members of the EFMLS, and clubs that are members of the EFMLS but are not covered by liability insurance are not allowed to collect at the hosted location on the same date as the EFTA trip.** Because of this rule, easily accessible public locations are generally not suitable for DMC field trips. Exceptions may be granted depending on individual circumstances.
- e) **EFTA field trip details, whether for the host club or another hosting club, must not be published publicly before or after the trip.** These details include the name if it is a commercial site, directions to the site, and pictures that have GPS coordinates embedded in them. Before and after the trip, dates and generic descriptions can be published without specific details about the location of the site. Clubs are encouraged to promote the fact that they offer field trips, so after a EFTA trip, reports without detailed information about the location of the site as well as pictures without GPS coordinates embedded can be published. Websites, newsletters posted on websites, Facebook pages, Twitter, Instagram, and all other social media must be carefully managed in this matter. This is to prevent the general public from visiting a trip site before, during, or after the trip. When in doubt, please contact the EFMLS Field Trip Committee.
- f) **The field trip location should be large enough to accommodate at least one person per EFTA member club.** It should have adequate parking for a large group of collectors and enough potential material for a large group. If such a location is not possible, the club may limit attendance to **no less than one person per EFTA member club** and require pre-trip registration. Attendees should provide the host club with their name and the name of the EFTA club of which they are a member. In this situation, the host club must provide a registration contact phone number and/or e-mail address on the EFTA field trip form.

(8) If possible, the club should provide members to act as guides at its hosted field trip. These members should be familiar with the collecting location and should stand ready to identify specimens and to direct field trip attendees to more productive areas.

(9) The club agrees to follow the rules below to provide the EFTA Coordinator a completed "Field Trip Form" for its EFTA.

- a) **The host club is required to submit its field trip form before the first of the month prior to the month of their hosted trip, e.g. the April hosting club must e-mail the completed field trip form to the EFTA Coordinator before the first of March.**
- b) **IMPORTANT!!!** If the field trip form is not received by the **10th of the month** prior to the hosting club's DMC field trip, the trip will be **cancelled** and **the offending club will be dropped immediately from the EFTA field trip sharing program and will not be allowed to attend EFTA field trips.** For example, a club hosting an April EFTA trip must submit their field trip form by March 10th. If a club is dropped for not providing a scheduled trip, it may re-apply for EFTA membership only after at least 1 year and must meet all current membership requirements to be accepted.
- c) **The EFTA Coordinator will evaluate the submitted trip to ensure that the location and date for the trip are acceptable. If a proposed trip is rejected, the hosting club must provide an alternate proposal (or proposals) until an acceptable date and location are agreed upon.** This is to ensure that EFTA field trips adhere to the EFTA field trip rules.

(9) EFTA field trips can be published as an "official" field trip for the club's own members only. A club must not invite members of the general public, clubs that are not members of the EFMLS, or EFMLS member clubs that are not covered by field trip liability insurance. **Only clubs that are members of the EFTA may attend EFTA field trips.** If a club is not a member of the EFTA but their members attend a EFTA trip, they are not contributing to the program by hosting a trip, but they are receiving the benefits of the program. That is not fair to the EFTA member clubs who work hard to provide great trips. EFTA trip leaders may use their discretion to invite individual members of an EFMLS club that is covered by field trip liability insurance and is not a member of the EFTA, but not the entire club.

The EFMLS EFTA Field Trip Sharing Program will provide the EFTA member club with an e-mailed Field Trip Notice for each EFTA field trip. When possible, notices will be e-mailed by the first of the month before the month of the trip, e.g. e-mailed on June 1st for a EFTA trip taking place during the month of July.

Membership Renewal Rules

- **Renewal is due upon completion of the club's hosted trip.** A hosting reminder with the latest month/year the club can choose will be sent at least one month before the club's hosting month.
- **Hosting month/year must be a non-conflicting, open month/year i.e. only one EFTA trip is allowed per month.** Exceptions may be granted depending upon individual circumstances.
- **The club must choose an open month from the next available month through the latest month provided by the EFTA Coordinator.**
- **Any member club that has not renewed within six (6) months of completing their hosted trip will be suspended from attending EFTA field trips and will not receive EFTA field trip notifications until it renews.**
- **Any member club that has not renewed within twelve (12) months of completing its hosted trip will be dropped from EFTA membership.** The club will not receive EFTA field trip notifications and cannot attend EFTA field trips. The dropped club cannot re-apply for membership in the EFTA field trip sharing program for at least 1 year after being dropped. After 1 year, the club may submit a membership application and must meet all current EFTA membership requirements to rejoin.

The renewal month limit is calculated as follows:

Last hosting month + Number of EFTA Clubs + 6 months = latest month/year allowed

Example for a club that hosted in January 2018 with 31 member clubs active:

January 2018 + 31 months = August 2020 + 6 Months = February 2021 (latest month/year the club can choose)

To renew, the January host club would simply choose an open month between the next available month and February 2021, then send their choice to the EFTA Coordinator.

Optional Field Trip Report

Following completion of a hosted trip, an optional field trip report is requested from the hosting club. The field trip report must be sent to the EFTA Coordinator who will prepare the report for submission to the SFMS Lodestar newsletter. Besides letting the EFMLS know the trip was completed, field trip reports encourage other clubs to join the EFTA. The more clubs in the EFTA, the longer the interval between hosting responsibilities. A report can be just a paragraph or two. Pictures are optional, but highly recommended.

EFTA Membership Agreement

By submitting this form to the EFTA Field Trip Committee, the club is affirming that it meets all of the requirements for a EFTA hosting club as described above, and will abide by all of the rules and requirements listed.