



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fireflies Light Up the Lunch Hour on Jan. 16

ISM Research and Collections Center Hosts Brown Bag Program on Firefly Research

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Bring your lunch to the Illinois State Museum Research and Collections Center for a dose of summer during the heart of winter on Wed., Jan. 16. During the ISM Brown Bag program from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m., ISM adjunct researcher Dr. Tracy Evans will present recent research on fireflies.

Dr. Evans participated in a citizen science project called “Firefly Watch” hosted by the Museum of Science in Boston from 2008-2016. Adult firefly flashes, along with information on the habitat and weather conditions of the observations, were collected from more than a dozen foreign countries and 40 of the 48 contiguous United States. After Firefly Watch, Dr. Evans and her colleagues went on to use data from the publicly available database to analyze the relationship of firefly abundance to the weather variables of temperature, precipitation, and soil moisture. Dr. Evans will present general information about fireflies and the results of her research project.

Each month, the public is invited to bring a lunch and join the Illinois State Museum for a different speaker and topic on the third Wednesday of each month as part of the Brown Bag Lectures, held at the ISM Research and Collections Center at 1011 E. Ash St. in Springfield. The Collections Center must be accessed from the new gate on Ash St. and approached from 11th Street or further east due to the rail closure at Ash and 10 ½ Streets. The 10 ½ street gate is closed.

For additional information, contact events@illinoisstatemuseum.org or phone 217-558-6696.

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