FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 23, 2014

CONTACT: Debbie Carter, Extension information officer, 907-474-5406, dscarter@alaska.edu

A University of Alaska Fairbanks Mining Extension workshop in Fairbanks will cover basic techniques for field identification of rocks and minerals.

The workshop will be offered from 7 to 9 p.m. June 6 and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 7 at the district Cooperative Extension Service office at 724 27th Ave.

Extension community development agent Mara Bacsujlaky, who has worked as a field geologist in Pennsylvania and Alaska, will teach the workshop. It is designed for beginner rockhounds or those with basic knowledge of rock and mineral identification.

The workshop will focus on identifying primary rock-forming minerals and some of the more common minerals of economic interest. Participants will learn the basic mineral classification systems and simple field rock identification. The workshop will emphasize rock types that more commonly contain interesting minerals such as gold, diamonds or garnets.

The class fee of $30 will pay for a field ID tool kit. Sign up online at http://bit.ly/ces-workshops. Preregistration is required. The workshop is geared to adults but children 10 and older may participate with an adult. Participants are asked to bring a notebook, and they may bring a interesting rock or mineral. For more information, contact Bacsujlaky at 474-5741 or at mcbacsujlaky@alaska.edu.

ON THE WEB: www.uaf.edu/ces

DSC/5/23/2014