Instructions for accessing the NYSGA database

Download the zipped file for your software:

ottohmuller.com/nysga2ge/NYSGAExcelWord.zip

ottohmuller.com/nysga2ge/NYSGANumbersPages.zip

There are two files which need to be used together, Through99.xlsx and GETemplate.docx or Through99.numbers and GETemplate.pages. Some manipulation is required, but the result is a set of placemarks showing field trip routes and locations of stops and views from 1956 to 1999.

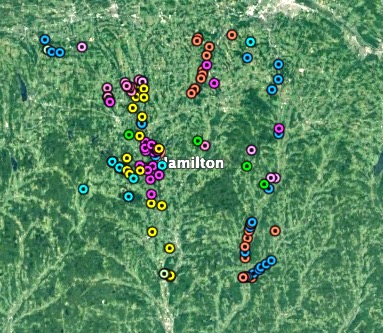
All the data exists in the spreadsheet in column G, which you will use to export it, but the other columns are there so that users can use the Table attributes of Excel or Numbers to narrow their searches effectively.

**Location Limited Example:** You wish to explore stops in the area of Hamilton, NY.

1. Use Google Earth to find Hamilton's coordinates: 42.82, -75.54.

2. You wish to limit your search to 15 miles in both the N-S and E-W direction. Go to the sheet labeled "Calculate Limits" and put these numbers into the correct cells. This tells you the numbers to put into the Latitude and Longitude search fields of the Table of Data.

3. Click the Latitude filter disclosure triangle and go down to where it says, "Choose One" and select "Between" and then put in the numbers. Do the same for Longitude. This gives you about 127 placemarks in column G.



4. Copy and paste them into the space near the bottom of the Word or Pages file, in between the lines of red type. That file is 10 pages long before you paste, 90 pages long after you paste.

5. Save this file as a .txt file to your desktop, using any name other than GETemplate.

6. Change the suffix from .txt to .kml and then open it in Google Earth. You should get something like:

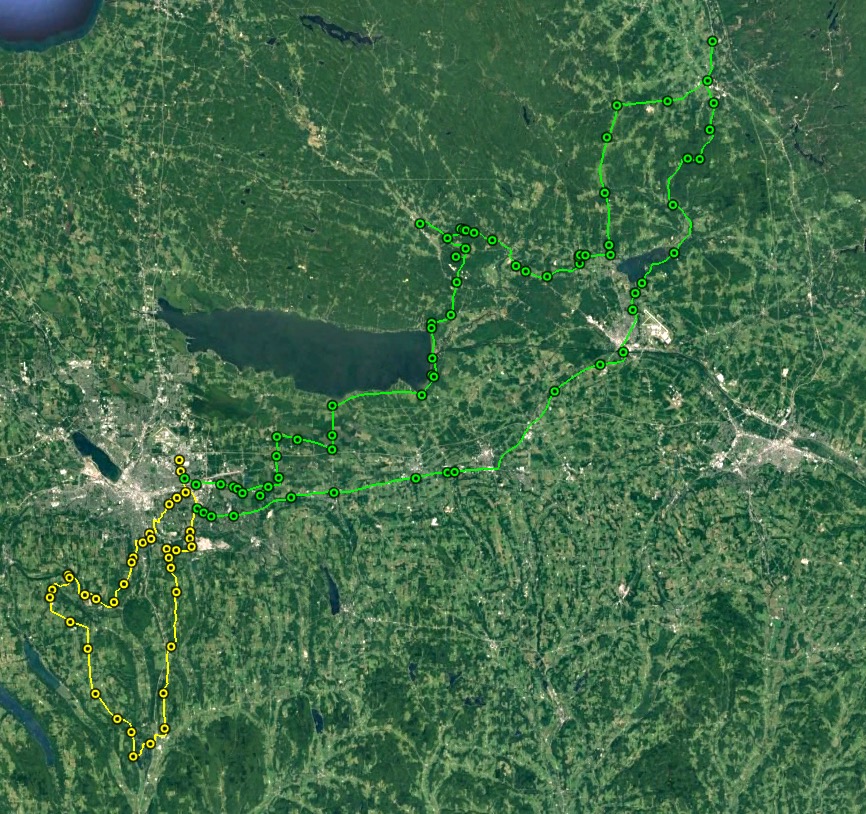
**Field Trip Limited Example**: You wish to follow the routes Ernie Muller took during the 1964 NYSGA meeting in Syracuse.

1. Use the filter for "year", go down to where it says, "Choose One" and pick "Equals", and then type in "1964".

2. Next use the filter for "leader" and type "Muller" in the search field. This should result in 106 records from trips B and D.

3. Copy the cells under G, and paste these results into the Word or Numbers document, at the bottom, between the lines typed in red.

4. Save this as a text file with your own name, perhaps, "Muller1964.txt".



5. Change the .txt to .kml and open it in Google Earth. You should get something like:

**Normal text** searches in column G result in 88 hits for "esker," 43 hits for "phlogopite," 230 for "precambrian," 15 for "sewage," and 17 for "stereolasma" as many sub-disciplines of geology are represented.

There are a couple of sneaky ways to find things, because of the way in which the descriptions were coded into html:

1. Any fossil name which was italicized in the description was given <i> </i> tags. Any other use of italics in the descriptions used <em> tags, so searching column G for <i> will result in the 463 placemarks where fossils were identified at the species level. The 1036 such fossils are listed, with whatever spelling ended up in the database, on the worksheet titled, "Unique fossil list 56-97".

2. Similarly, fold generations with subscripts can be found by searching column G for "f<sub>" which yields 85 records. (At least one referred to a chemical formula of a fluoride mineral, though).

Other html structures or entities may prove useful, especially in referring to chemical formulas or isotopes.