

For Immediate Release
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***The Dynamic Earth* exhibition opens at the Montshire Saturday, June 26.**

The Dynamic Earth exhibition is bound to grab your attention and spark your imagination.

Norwich, VT-- Opening Saturday, June 26 at the Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich, Vermont, *The Dynamic Earth* provides visitors with an intuitive understanding of earth's active and changing systems that shape our global environment— whether it's weather patterns, ocean currents, plate tectonics, or volcanoes and earthquakes.

A recent grant from NASA has allowed the Montshire Museum of Science to develop the *Dynamic Earth* exhibition that includes ten different exhibit pieces. Daily programs and activities for adults and children will also take place during the exhibition.

“There is a real need, perhaps now more than ever, to provide museum exhibits and programming aimed at increasing the public’s understanding of science in general, and Earth processes in particular,” says Brian Dade, Associate Professor of Earth Sciences at Dartmouth College and an advisor to the project.

The *Dynamic Globe*, with its sphere shaped screen, is an exciting and integral part of the *Dynamic Earth* exhibition. The digital video globe measuring almost three feet in diameter is a powerful tool with a stunning visual impact. The *Dynamic Globe* was created for the Montshire by Global Imagination and utilizes the Magic Planet globe's sophisticated digital projection system. Visitors can choose from six different animations that project NASA satellite images on the globe showing changes on the earth over time. Montshire 'explainers' will utilize other features of the globe for daily programs.

During the unveiling of the administration’s Educate to Innovate campaign, an initiative to encourage students to pursue science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), President Obama used Magic Planet as an example of innovative technology that can help students learn about global phenomena in an exciting and intuitive new way. Obama says the dynamic, interactive Magic Planet digital video globe is "an innovative and engaging way of teaching young people about our world.”

Other components of the *Dynamic Earth* exhibition include Windows on Earth. Funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), Windows on Earth was conceived and developed by TERC, an educational non-profit, and the Association of Space Explorers, to support public engagement and learning about Earth. Tectonic Basin, Fluid

Turbulence, Create a Vortex, Caldera, and four other interactive exhibit pieces give visitors a chance to experience how earth process work.

Dynamic Earth is an interactive, visual, and compelling exhibition allowing people to discover new things each time they visit.

Dynamic Earth is free with Museum admission (\$10 for adults, \$8 for children 2-17, and free for members and children under 2) and will be at the Montshire through Sunday, November 28, 2010. Additional sponsorship support has been provided by Geokon.

Montshire members are invited to preview *Dynamic Earth* at the special member opening Friday, June 25 from 5:30 to 7p.m.

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The Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich, Vermont, is a hands-on interactive science center with more than 100 exhibits on nature, technology, astronomy, and the physical sciences. Visiting exhibitions, educational programs, and special events are offered throughout the year. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed Thanksgiving and Christmas).

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photos available upon request