FALL MUSHROOMS IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

Instructors: Michaeline Mulvey & David Porter
When: September 29th – October 3rd, 2024

Mushroom fungi are an important ecological component of our Maine fields and forests and are most commonly observed in the fall, but long-term changes may be anticipated with variable and unpredictable weather events. This three day workshop will include forays, identification (using both macro and microscopic features) and discussion of long-term observations related to changing phenology and migration of fungal species. Have our changing weather and seasonal patterns affected the fruiting and distribution of mushroom species? What is (or will be) the effect of drought, fire, and especially warmer Fall weather on our observations of mushroom fruitings? How can we best tell if change is occurring?

about the instructors

David Porter (porterd@uga.edu) lives in Brooklin, Maine. He is Professor Emeritus at the University of Georgia, where for 38 years he carried out research and was an award-winning teacher offering a variety of undergraduate and graduate level mycology classes. Now retired, he is active in outreach programs with lectures, forays and identification services and occasional mycology classes at College of the Atlantic. He is editor of the Maine Mycological Association newsletter, Mainely Mushrooms.

Michaeline Mulvey (mjpmm955i@gwi.net) has been wandering field and forest since before her mother thought she could find her way back home. Looking at everything, but always most fascinated by plants, she was most intrigued by the ephemerals. They were fun to find and challenging to identify. In Maine the best ephemerals are mushrooms, appearing like magic throughout the season, and often disappearing just as quickly. She has been an active member of Maine Mycological Association for over 30 years. As a Maine Professional Land Surveyor, she happily works, rain or shine, in field and forest across the state.