

Climate versus rock properties: what shapes Virginia's highest relief?

College of William & Mary



Virginia's mountains were created millions of years ago from ancient continental collisions, yet today high relief is supported in the Valley and Ridge and Blue Ridge. What "bottom-up" structural factors keep these mountains tall (such as at Crabtree Falls, the tallest waterfall east of the Mississippi), and what "top-down" climate factors like periglaciation might tear them down? W&M undergrads and I plan to find out!



Visitor: Joanmarie Del Vecchio

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Joanmarie is an Assistant Professor of Geology at William and Mary in Virginia.