

## GEOLOGIC MAPS

You will find a geologic maps of Dallas County and of Texas on the Dallas Geological Society web site ([www.dgs.org](http://www.dgs.org)).

In the Dallas area, we are most concerned with the Woodbine, Eagle Ford, and Austin Chalk Formations. Cretaceous rocks are usually represented by shades of green on the geologic maps, which are representations of the areas of the surface where specific rocks are found. The fundamental mapping unit of rocks is called a formation. You should easily find the contacts of the formations on the maps. The pattern of rock units on a map is an important tool for understanding Earth history.

**Formation:** A body of rock generally characterized by some degree of internal lithologic homogeneity or distinctive lithologic features, and by mappability at the surface scales on the order of 1:25,000 (or traceable in the subsurface). A formation is generally a product of uniform or uniformly alternating conditions.

You should be able to distinguish easily among the Woodbine Sand, the Eagle Ford Shale, and the Austin Chalk. In the area of I-30 and Cockerell Hill Road (the type area of the Eagle Ford Formation) there are exposures of a fossiliferous sandstone referred to as the Kamp Ranch. Is the Kamp Ranch a formation? Why or why not? If not, to which formation does it belong?