



UNM WEST

“Explosions in the Sky: The Scary Physics of Asteroid Airbursts”

UNM West Community Lecture Series

Lecture Details

What: Free Lecture and presentation “Explosions in the Sky: The Scary Physics of Asteroid Airbursts”

Who: Dr. Mark Boslough, Recognized International Expert in Comet/ Asteroid Earth Impacts, Physicist, Principal Member of Sandia National Laboratories Technical Staff

Where: Room 1226 at UNM West, 2600 College Blvd. NE in Rio Rancho

When: Saturday, February 25, 2012 from 3:00-4:30 p.m.

For More Information: Call UNM West at 925-8669



Small asteroids can explode in the air with more power than the largest nuclear weapons, and can be more dangerous than crater-forming impacts because their energy is directed downward over a large area. They are capable of incinerating everything beneath them, and can even melt solid rock. Mark Boslough will show supercomputer simulations of airbursts, describe his participation in expeditions to ground zero of two of these events, and talk about what can be done to reduce the risk from such explosions in the future.