The Massanutten Mountain area is a beautiful one, with fascinating and easy-to-observe features. Many long trails weave across it through the National Forest, so it’s easy to access as well, with wonderful views from many points. There is some great information in this book: notes on the history of geologic study of the area, roadcuts where fossils are easily viewable, and an overview of the geology of Virginia. But it’s so horribly written, it’s very difficult to enjoy reading it. In some chapters, the sentences seem like they were implanted at random. Subjects are brought up out of nowhere, and then immediately dropped, obscure geologic terms and geographic names are defined only after they’ve been used for a good dozen pages. I hate to bash a loving account of such a nice area, but this really is a sorry book that probably wasn’t edited very much. I don’t recommend buying it. If you live in Virginia, you can probably find it at a library, where you can poke around in it and gain some facts about the area.