

Cherry Springs Astronomy Etiquette

Whether you're a first-time visitor, beginner, or experienced amateur astronomer there are a few guidelines to enhance your experience and that of other visitors.

Arrive Early

Arrive well before sunset to allow time to set up equipment and get oriented to the park.

Keeping it Dark

- All lighting should be red, dim, and pointed downward. Red cellophane is offered at several locations in the park.
- All types of screens (i.e. smart devices, laptops, and imaging equipment) should be red, shielded, and dim.
- Avoid use of flash photography.
- Keep your headlights on low beam when arriving or departing the parking area. Turn headlights off when the vehicle is parked.
- When parked, shield your exterior or interior car lights. Turn off or add a thick layer of red cellophane or other light reduction material, and isolate the direction in which it shines.
- All RV, trailer, and camper lights should be extinguished, unless proper shielding is installed to prevent light escaping.

Limit Smoking

Consider another location or do so downwind of other visitors and observing equipment.

Avoid Aerosol Sprays

Consider using a lotion or cream and if using a spray, do so well downwind of any observing equipment.

Cooking

Smoke and grease from cooking can damage delicate optics. Consider using the grills provided or move downwind of any observing equipment.

Drive Slow

Road dust can damage delicate optics.

Quiet Time

Observe quiet hours but also consider visitors who stay up all night and sleep during the day.

Other Recreational Activities

For throwing ball and other activities, seek out open space and avoid busier areas, especially expensive equipment.