Astronomy at the Great American Campout



Presented by:
Delaware Valley Amateur
Astronomers



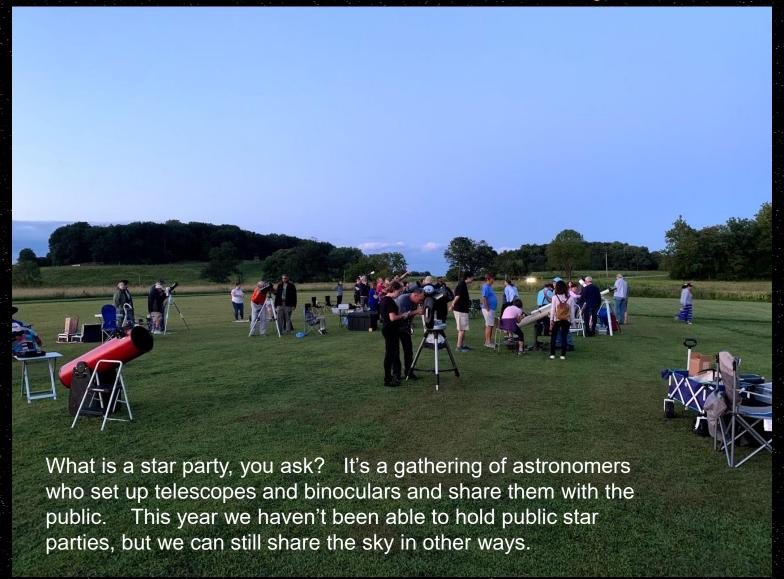
The DVAA is a group of local astronomy enthusiasts. We are so glad you are planning to do some camping this summer, and hope you have a chance to look up at the stars while you camp!

Public Star Parties hosted by DVAA



In past years, the DVAA has participated in public star parties, which always include lots of people and tons of fun. The DVAA is a group of local astronomy enthusiasts, with membership open to the public.

What is a Star Party?

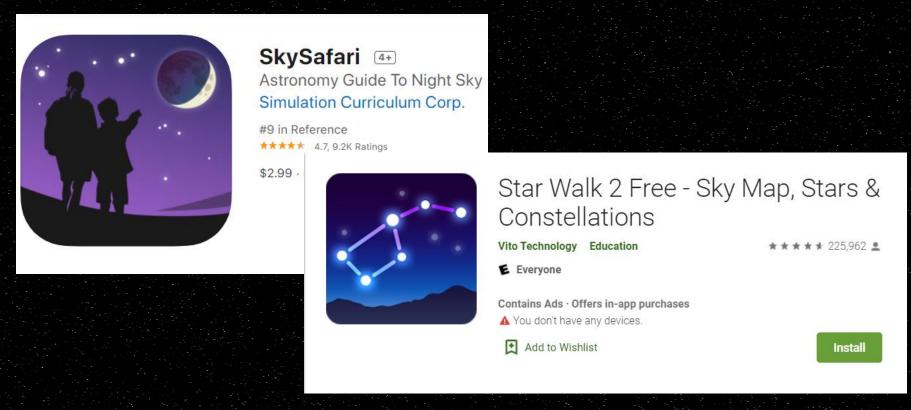


Look Up at the Stars When You Camp



When you are camping, look skyward and try to pick out some constellations. Look for some easy ones such as the Big Dipper (part of Ursa Major), Cassiopeia, and Scorpius. You can also try to spot passing satellites and shooting stars. If you have a pair of binoculars, even better! Be sure to look for Jupiter (if it's up, it will be the brightest object in the sky with the exception of the moon), Saturn and Mars.

Download an Astronomy App for Your Smartphone



Before you go outside, download an astronomy app for your smartphone. This will make it easy to locate constellations and identify bright stars and planets. The most widely used app by amateur astronomers is SkySafari.

Go Camping at a "Dark Sky Site"





Cherry Springs State Park (near Coudersport, PA) is the darkest camping spot in the northeastern US. As long as the weather is clear, the best time to go is during the 10 days or so surrounding the new moon, when the skies will be darkest, since the full moon creates natural light pollution.

Video Links to Begin your Astronomy Adventure

Losing the Dark (on the importance of light pollution) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dd82jaztFlo

What's Up: June 2020 Skywatching Tips from NASA https://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov/planner.cfm

Getting Started with Stargazing
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XLgPe_f-QCc

Observing the Moon
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Ftr-aAJO1w

What is a Telescope? How does it work?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7eLwbil7Ddk

Your place in the Universe https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GTiDfxATYa4



Hope to see you in person at our next star party!

