

Public Observing Tips

Astronomical Observation is for the **whole family**. Here are a few tips to make your evening at DHO more enjoyable and educational.

1. Feel free to bring your own telescope or binoculars. Members often bring theirs and will be glad to show you how to use yours, but we do ask that you contact us first to make sure someone familiar with your scope type is present. Our dark sky site is equipped with concrete pads for telescopes, as well as outside electrical hook-ups. Club scopes are available at DHO for those trained in their use.
2. Plan on arriving just after sunset. It will still be light enough to find your way, but you won't have to wait long for the real celestial show to begin at the end of astronomical twilight (this time is also excellent for finding constellations which are usually of the brightest stars).
3. Dress for cold nights, even in July. We're not kidding! It can get cold at Darling Hill, even in mid-summer. Suggested attire: duck boots or other dew proof shoes, long pants, winter coat and warm hat. And bring a lawn chair if you just want to stare at the sky from a comfortable orientation. Bug and tick repellent strongly recommended.
4. Call ahead if you are bringing a group so that we can prepare for your educational needs. If you are bringing children, bring blankets or sleeping bags -- they love to lie on the ground and look at the sky.
5. Red flashlights preserve night vision. In a pinch, cover a regular flashlight with a red balloon.
6. Cell phones become blinding to night-adjusted eyes. If you must answer it, please step away from observing groups.
7. Turn your headlights off but leave your parking lights on when you get to the top of the driveway. People already at the observatory are "dark adapted" and will appreciate your consideration.

2022 SAS Public Observing

These public observing sessions (Star Parties) are open to everyone and there is no charge for admission. Schedule changes, weather conditions, and sky charts are available on our website.

General Observing Schedule**

2022	Public	Members	Special
Jan			
Feb			
Mar	25/26	4 /5	
Apr	22/23	1-2 & 29/30	8/9
May	20/21	27/28	6/7
Jun	17/18	24/25	3/4
Jul	22/23	29/30	1/2
Aug	19/20	26/27	5/6
Sep	16/17	23/24	2/3 & 30
Oct	14/15	21/22	1 & 28/29
Nov	11/12	18/19	25/26
Dec		23/24	

	DHO Closed for the winter
	Weather / Grounds permitting

**Viewing sessions are decided by 5 PM on the first date (Friday) listed for each month. Second date is a rain date. Check the website below for schedule changes or cancellations due to weather.

www.syracuse-astro.org



Syracuse Astronomical Society
Amateur Astronomy in Central New York
www.syracuse-astro.org

The Syracuse Astronomical Society (SAS) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public about astronomy, preserving a national heritage – the Night Sky, and exploring the splendors of our universe.

We invite you to join us. We have **Free Public Observing Nights** at our **Darling Hill Observatory (DHO)** in Vesper, NY, just a few minutes from downtown Syracuse. Public observing is held monthly from approximately April to November. Other sessions occur throughout the year when the Night Sky is clear. SAS members are welcome to go to the observatory anytime. Check the website for more information about upcoming events.

The DHO Cave Telescope is a 16-inch Newtonian capable of showing you celestial objects in great detail. For those with their own telescopes or large binoculars, DHO has four concrete pads, outside-accessible outlets, and a dark sky that will provide viewing opportunities that are not available in suburban skies.

We also have several society meetings and host astronomy-related lectures throughout the year. When CNY skies do not permit observing, our website and Facebook pages are always active with astronomy-related and astrophotography discussions.

Come and Join Us for Free Public Sessions at our observatory.

Directions to Darling Hill Observatory (DHO)

- Take Interstate 81 to the TULLY Exit (20 minutes from Syracuse or Cortland).
- Turn WEST on ROUTE 80 (the Burger King Direction, NOT the Nice n' Easy Direction).
- Travel 3.3 miles to the hamlet of VESPER.
- Turn LEFT onto STRONG ROAD.
- Travel SOUTH (steeply uphill) on STRONG ROAD (it winds a bit) for 0.4 miles. At the poorly marked fork in the road, head up the hill to the LEFT.
- Drive for about 1 mile, over the hill and half way down the other side. Look for an OPEN GATE on the RIGHT with a large gate sign saying "SAS OPEN."
- Turn RIGHT and drive on up the hill.
- If it is dark, remember to turn your headlights off and use your parking lights (otherwise you will affect other observers' night vision).
- Park in the meadow facing the woods and proceed up to the observatory building.



Using google maps (maps.google.com) you can type in the plus code "QRW8+6H"

Contact Information.

Website:

www.syracuse-astro.org

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/syracuseastronomicalsociety/>

Email your Questions to:

infosyracuseastro@gmail.com

Officers

Anthony Krishock, *President*
Raymond Dague, *Observatory Director*
Jeff Higgins, *Secretary*
David Wormuth, *Treasurer and Webmaster*

Board of Directors

Ray Dague, Jeff Higgins,
 Dave Wormuth, Mike Brady, Tony Krishock,
 Dan O'Shea, Greg Sigworth, Bob Stell, Mike Fratto, Bob Ostrander

Rev 10, January 2022

How to Join the Society

To Join SAS, fill in, cut out, then mail your completed form with a check payable to:

Syracuse Astronomical Society
 c/o David Wormuth
 6781 Morehouse Flats Road
 Jamesville, NY 13078

Annual Membership Dues

	Individual or Family	\$50
	Youth (22 & Younger)	\$5
	Tax Deductible Donation	_____
Total Enclosed Amount		_____

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ ST: ____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ (optional)

EMAIL: _____

Do you own a telescope or binoculars? Yes ___ No ___

Some Reasons to Join the SAS...

1. Learn how to get started in Astronomy and what equipment you'll need to achieve your astronomy goals.
2. Meet like-minded people
3. Gain access to a dark-sky site and world class observatory, with views of the Milky-Way, only minutes from Syracuse
4. During the winter, enjoy monthly lectures on deep space objects, equipment for astrophotography, methods for locating exoplanets and much more.
5. Bring a friend for free.