



Lighting Issues and Etiquette

The Spruce Woods Star Party is a **Red-Light Only Zone** from sundown to sunup. Do not use white lights.

New for 2016

Red and green laser pointers are **NOT** allowed in the observing field to provide members with **pristine dark skies** while observing and doing astrophotography. However, laser pointers will be permitted during the scheduled sky tour.

Make sure your vehicle is set up as to not violate the above, including interior lights that turn on when you open your door. The most common offending light issues with vehicles are interior dome lights and uncovered backup lights coming on unexpectedly. Red plastic will be available for you at the hospitality tent to cover your lights.

Please make sure to have your car parked in its final resting position well before darkness sets in. If you do not intend to remain in the Observing Field all night long, park and set up near to the entrance so you can leave without blinding everybody!

Should you arrive after sunset, leave your vehicle at the entrance and present yourself at the hospitality tent. Volunteers will have a limited supply of red plastic to cover car lights. Cover the following lights: interior, back-up, license plate, trunk and headlights.

Don't litter.

Drive very slowly so as to avoid kicking up dust.

Watch your step. If unsure about your surroundings, use a red light only and as dim as possible. Don't use a white light flashlight.

Be especially careful of wires on the ground. Some scopes require power and some folks use their car's battery. If your scope requires power try to make the wires as safe as possible.

Don't set up too close to another observer. When in doubt, it's always a good idea to ask, "Is it OK if I set up here?"

Be doubly careful when astrophotographers are doing their thing.

Avoid loud and boisterous behavior. Star-gazing is a quiet, peaceful activity.

Music -- some places ban music altogether, some are less strict. Just remember the music that you love may be extremely irritating to others. When in doubt use a headset.