National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Obed Wild & Scenic River



Dark Sky Viewing



The Milky Way over Nemo Bridge at night - Brandon Jett

International Dark Sky Association Dark Sky Parks exhibit an exceptional quality of starry nights.

Their nocturnal environment is protected for its scientific, natural, cultural heritage, and educational attributes, as well as, for the enjoyment of the public.

With an overall goal of promoting education and stewardship for night sky resources, park staff have offered ranger-led astronomy and night sky programs to the public since 2013, with a strong emphasis on preserving our dark sky resource for present and future generations to enjoy.

LILLY BLUFF OVERLOOK VIEWING LOCATION

From the boardwalk platform overlooking the 200-feet high walls of the Clear Creek Gorge, Lilly Bluff Overlook offers unobstructed, sweeping views in all directions; a perfect location to enjoy the dark night sky of the Obed. The Milky Way, planets, constellations, and nebulae can all be observed year-round. The boardwalk viewing area is located at the end of the Overlook Trail. The short walk from Lilly Overlook picnic area parking lot leads 0.3 miles to a large boardwalk overlook with benches for comfortable viewing.

HISTORIC NEMO BRIDGE VIEWING LOCATION

Spanning the Emory River, the Historic Nemo Bridge provides a unique night sky viewing location right from the deck of the bridge; a favorite spot for astrophotographers to capture the splendor of the Milky Way framed by the imposing bridge structure. With the sounds of the river rushing below, and the cosmos strewn across the sky above, the location embraces stargazers in the sights and sounds of Obed. The bridge is located adjacent to the Nemo Picnic Area parking lot.



Park ranger providing instruction on how to use a telescope.

