

Featuring

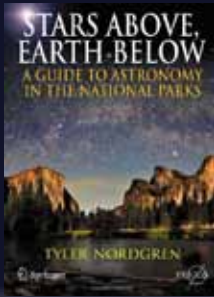
Tyler Nordgren, author of:

Stars Above, Earth Below:

A Guide to Astronomy in the National Parks

Saturday, August 11 | 8:30 p.m. | KYVC

A dark, starry sky is now as rare for most park visitors as the grizzlies, geysers, and granite peaks that bring them to the national parks each year. What can you see when you experience the parks during the half of the day that happens at night? Come see the Milky Way in your favorite national park and see the universe the way every generation of human beings used to see the world until only a couple hundred years ago.



The City Dark Film Screening

A search for night on a planet that never sleeps

Saturday through Monday | KYVC

10:00 a.m. | 2:00 p.m. | 5:00 p.m.

Filmmaker Ian Cheney asks a simple question, do we need the stars? This critically acclaimed film features stunning astrophotography and a cast of eclectic scientists, *The City Dark* is the definitive story of light pollution and the disappearing stars.



Night Sky Viewing

A few tips on night sky observation:

- Dress warmly for these nighttime events
- Do not use flashlights. Your eyes will become accustomed to the darkness.
- Food, beverages, and smoking are prohibited.
- Stargazing activities will be cancelled in the event of cloudy, stormy, or smoky weather.
- If you don't see the object through the telescope, let the operator know.
- Averting your vision to the side of an object will often bring out more detail.

Constellation Tours and Stargazing

Friday through Monday, 9:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

Bumpass Hell parking area or KYVC

A DARK night sky - the reason for our celebration! Lassen's night sky is a treasure to be experienced and protected. Enjoy spectacular views of the Milky Way, laser-guided tours of constellations, as well as telescope viewing of planets, star clusters, dying stars, and distant galaxies.

Should winds prevent viewing at Bumpass Hell, the viewing will take place at the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center (weather permitting).

Perseid Meteor Showers

Sunday and Monday, midnight through dawn

The Perseid shower is considered by many to be the year's best meteor shower. Sightings peak at 50 or more meteors per hour in a dark sky. To enjoy the show, simply dress warmly and hone your night vision by avoiding light sources - including your flashlight!

Donations received during the Lassen Dark Sky Festival will benefit future astronomy events in the park.

Lassen Volcanic Dark Sky Festival

August 10 - 13, 2012



Program Information

Activities

Planetary Hike to Brokeoff Summit

Saturday and Sunday, 8:15 a.m. | KYVC

Reserve your spot in advance at the KYVC for a guided hike led by NASA planetary geologist, Nathalie Cabrol. Delve into geology that's out of this world as you ascend Brokeoff Mountain. Be sure to pack a lunch, bring plenty of water, sunscreen, and trekking poles. This strenuous hike is seven miles round-trip and appropriate for physically fit, experienced hikers over 12 years old. Space is limited.

Solar System Hike

Saturday through Monday, 11:00 a.m.

Mill Creek Falls Trailhead

Join a park ranger on this guided hike of our solar system on the Mill Creek Falls trail. Just how far apart are the planets of our solar system spaced out? Come on this hike to find out and learn more about our closest neighbors... not to mention taking a great hike on a beautiful trail. Space is limited, reserve your spot at the KYVC. This moderate trail is 3.2 miles round-trip.

Discussions & Demonstrations

NASA Astrobiology Intern Demonstration

Friday, 11:00 a.m. | KYVC

Meet with NASA astrobiology student interns who collect and analyze samples from Lassen's hydrothermal areas for use by NASA astrobiologists. NASA's Astrobiology Program addresses three fundamental questions: How does life begin and evolve? Is there life beyond Earth and, if so, how can we detect it? What is the future of life on Earth and in the universe?

International Dark Sky Association Q&A

Saturday and Sunday, 2:00 p.m. | LP

Have you just seen the film *The City Dark*? Would you like to know more about how to save our dark skies for future generations? Stop by the Loomis Museum and meet with the International Dark Sky Association to learn more about this disappearing resource.

Venue Abbreviations:

Loomis Plaza (LP) | Manzanita Lake Amphitheater (MLA) | Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center (KYVC)

Solar Scope Viewing

Saturday and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. | KYVC and LP

Marvel at a magnified view of our closest star. Come and safely observe our sun through a solar scope and learn some surprising and interesting facts about the center of our solar system.

Junior Ranger Astronomy

Saturday and Sunday, 9:30 a.m. | MLA

Saturday, 2:00 p.m. | KYVC

Jr. Rangers will have the opportunity to explore the DARK side of Lassen Volcanic National Park. Junior Rangers will learn that *Half the Park is After Dark* through fun activities and take home some great lessons about the importance of preserving and protecting our DARK night skies for future generations.

Junior Ranger Night Explorer

Friday through Monday | KYVC and Loomis

Jr. Rangers ages 5 to 12 can earn a Night Explorer patch by completing activities in the Night Explorer workbook. Get your book at KYVC or Loomis. Supplies are limited.

Future Parks of Our Solar System

Saturday and Sunday, 7:30 p.m. | KYVC

In this fun and well-illustrated presentation you will take a guided tour of the top tourist sights of the solar system. Featuring the latest spectacular images and movies from robot space probes, you will get up close and personal with some of the most spectacular places in our solar system.

Charles Messier:

Looking for Comets and Finding the Universe

Saturday, 3:30 p.m. | Loomis Auditorium

Monday, 7:30 p.m. | KYVC

Learn about how one man's search for comets has led us to a lifetime of knowledge about our universe. Extraordinary pictures and fascinating facts about comets will be shared!

Moon Craters and Pop Rockets

Friday 3:30 p.m. | LP

Explore craters of the moon and discover how they got there in this fun, interactive program. Then make a rocket to the moon... or just to the other side of the plaza.

What Is a Meteor Shower?

Saturday 3:30 p.m. | KYVC

With household ingredients, and inspiration from above, learn about the meteors which 'shower' Lassen's night sky.

Our Moon: What do You See?

Sunday 4:30 p.m. | KYVC

Explore fascinating stories from around the world about our closest celestial neighbor, build a scale model, and answer some trivia about the Earth and Moon.

Meet Your Neighbors

Sunday 3:30 p.m. | LP

Create a personal solar system while learning about the planets of our solar system. Great for families!

Kepler Mission: Searching for Other Worlds

Sunday, 8:30 p.m. | KYVC

For centuries we have quested for other worlds like our Earth. Join Edna Devore of the SETI Institute for a discussion of the NASA Kepler Mission. The mission is designed specifically to survey our region of the Milky Way galaxy to discover other Earth-size and smaller planets where water - a necessity for life - might exist.

Power of 10: A Walk in the Sky

Friday, 8:30 p.m. | KYVC

Visitors come to national parks to walk in the wilderness. But what about a walk through the greatest wilderness: the infinite sky? Step into space with each step ten times larger than the one before. What begins with the Earth at your feet will end at the most distant objects visible in the starry darkness of the national parks.