



Dark Sky Initiative

Preserve Our Night Sky.
Protect Our Wildlife.
Save Our Energy.

GO DARK!

When the sun sets on the Big Bear Valley,
a night sky wonder opens above us.

At 7,000 feet and away from bright city lights, Big Bear enjoys optimal viewing of constellations, planets and even the Milky Way. But, like our natural environment, it's as healthy as we keep it. Join us as we curb light pollution to save our sky. Let's Go Dark!

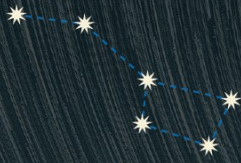
Opt for a red flashlight when stargazing to help your eyes adjust to the night sky. Numerous stargazing apps are available for free to help you navigate the stars.



Look Up!



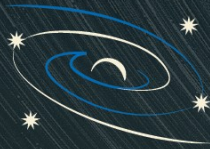
Ursa Major



Big Dipper



Orion's Belt



Milky Way Galaxy



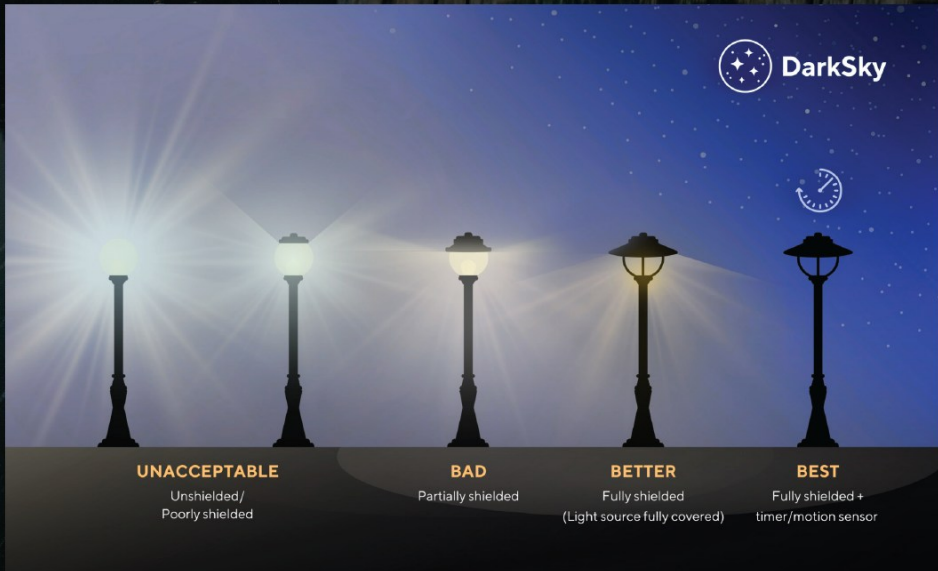
Polaris



Perseid Meteor Shower (Mid-August)

Dark Sky Practices:

- * Shield exterior lighting to prevent light trespass
- * If possible, keep exterior lighting close to the ground
- * Use exterior lighting that is motion sensor or on a timer
- * Switch off any lighting not in use
- * Get outdoors and enjoy the stargazing!



Join Us!

Dark Sky Week

April 13-20, 2026

International Dark Sky Week is a global celebration of the night. From the darkness needed for a restful night's sleep to the activities we enjoy beneath the stars, the night is filled with wonder and importance. Dark nights sustain critical wildlife ecosystems, strengthen the well-being of our communities, enable scientific discovery, and preserve shared cultural knowledge and traditions.



Sidewalk Astronomy Select Weekends

Join the Big Bear Valley Astronomical Society for "Sidewalk Astronomy" in The Village. Peer through the telescopes to view stars, planets, and more! Set up is near the entrance of Barrel 33 Big Bear on Village Dr.
More Info: www.bearvalleyastronomers.org



SkyFest Big Bear

August 14-16, 2026



Stargazing in Big Bear is a magical experience in any season, but this August, we're celebrating our celestial landscape like never before! SkyFest Big Bear puts our stars front and center along with astronomical exploration, and dark sky preservation.



One Sky Week

November 2026

Care for Big Bear's One Sky Week coincides with Dark Sky International's annual conference, Under One Sky. Enjoy night sky events and activities all week long leading up to the 24 hour, world-wide, digital conference featuring speakers and scientists from across the globe!

