

## Registration, Meals, Camping, Accommodations... ...And other important announcements!!!

**Registration:** Your Parking Permit Pass, dorm pass if paid for (and, if you paid for the Astro Imaging Workshop, your workshop ticket.) will be waiting for you as you check in at the gate when you enter the camp.

**Food:** Meals will be served starting Friday at lunch time and ending with Monday breakfast. Meals similar to those served in past years will be available. Meal costs will span approximately \$4-\$10 + beverages, depending on your selections. **Cash Only.**

**Camping/Dorm Space:** Only 800 camping plans (including camping or dorm) will be sold. If you have paid for camping, you may stay overnight on the grounds or in one of the 18 three-sided bunk bed shelters. You must bring your own equipment, including sleeping bags or other bedding. All space in dorms, shelters, or camp areas is first-come, first served. Signs, tents, bedding and other items placed in an attempt to reserve space before the Astronomy Expo opens on Thursday will be removed.

**Day Use:** Those not staying overnight may pay a Day Use admission. No overnight camping is permitted. The number of Day Users is unlimited. Day Users arriving after 9:00 a.m. Saturday will be directed to special parking areas.

**Pets:** The camp has requested that **NO PETS** be brought to Camp Oakes due to the wildlife in the area and to prevent any ticks on your pets.

**Recreational Vehicles/Camp Sites:** Fire regulations restrict all large RV's and those with sliders to a special area at the entrance to Camp until Thursday Noon after gates open. (You will not be allowed to park in line with other early arrivers and will not enter in the order in which you arrived!) **No RV's may set up (levelers/unhitching, etc.) on the entrance road.** Camp Oakes has no picnic tables, fire pits or marked spaces. RV's may not park on the telescope field or in a way that will impede traffic or damage the environment.

RV owners must be especially careful of interior lights. Please park so that doors open away from observers, block windows to prevent light trespass, and mask interior lights with red cellophane as necessary. Generators may run only from 11:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. **No RV's are allowed to connect to the camp electrical system except at the Indian Guide Village!**

**Quiet Times/Active Locations:** Not everybody sleeps at the same time. Many attendees observe from dusk until the wee hours of the morning. Please be courteous to your neighbors at all hours by minimizing noise. If you play music, play it quietly. On the other hand, please realize that your sleep may be disturbed by observers talking and using equipment as they stay up late. Locate your campsite accordingly.

**Door Prizes:** Drawings will be held for thousands of dollars worth of door prizes on Saturday and Sunday evenings. Tickets are free, but you must be present in or around the dining hall to win.

**Dusty Conditions:** Outdoor carpeting under your scope and a tarp or other cover for the daytime are highly recommended to protect equipment from dust.

**Cleanup:** When you leave, please make sure your area is trash free. Please leave Camp Oakes better than you found it.

***Lasers and Laser Pointers: The use of lasers, except for collimation or as a pointer by a speaker in the meeting hall or the Beginner's Corner sky orientation, is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.***

*Thank you for your cooperation.*

**Parking/Driving:** All vehicles and equipment must be off roadways, with adequate room for other vehicles, including large emergency vehicles, to pass. Please drive below the posted speed limit. Faster driving is a safety issue and also raises inordinate dust. Please be alert to pedestrians walking along the roadways, especially at night. Expo attendees may park along the side of the dirt road that enters Camp Oakes, under the direction of RTMC AE staff. RV's have certain restrictions on this road. Please maintain quiet; the camp's community neighbors and other early arrivers should not be disturbed.

**Swap Meet:** The Swap Meet will be held Saturday & Sunday mornings in front of the meeting hall. Non-commercial swap meeters do not need seller's permits or vendor registration.

**Video and Photography:** Many people make photos, video, and audio recordings at RTMC AE. By entering the grounds, you grant permission for videos and photography, including rights to publication and broadcast of images and audio. However, presentations made at RTMC AE are the intellectual property of the presenters, and their subsequent use must comply with copyright laws.

**Maps and directions:**  
<http://rtmcastronomyexpo.org/Maps%20and%20Directions.htm>

**Outdoor cooking:** Under NO circumstances will there be any outside cooking, including open fires or bbqs whether gas or charcoal—this is per the Fire Marshal's rules. Thank you for your understanding.

**Power for Telescopes and Computers:** A limited number of outlets are available for running **ONLY** telescopes or computers. These outlets are located near the cabins around the camp and at the observatory. You must supply your own three-conductor extension cord and use only the marked outlets.

**Lighting Considerations:** Please use red flashlights and be careful to point them only at the ground, so as not to ruin someone's night vision inadvertently. Remember, Astro-imagers are extremely sensitive to stray light.