

Dark Sky Protocol



Hammond Astronomical Society

Personal Items

Turn off flashlights.

Shield computers with red foil.

Shield all lights for charts and confine them to the target area.

Vehicle

Turn off all interior lights before arrival

Turn off headlights.

Park so backup lights are not required upon exit.

Rationale

Most people need 30 minutes to achieve optimum night vision. Accidental exposure to light from cars, computers or flashlights means the period of dark adaption must begin again. Some individuals can tolerate small amounts of red light without significant vision degradation, as long as the light source is dim and does not shine into the eyes. For more information, see Dr. A.