



Lake Afton Public Observatory

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FOR: Immediate Release

FROM: Lake Afton Public Observatory  
WSU Fairmount Center for Science and Mathematics Education  
Robert Henry, 316.978.3991 or Greg Novacek, 316.978.3854

DATE: July 8, 2013

RE: Bring Your Own Telescope Night at the Lake Afton Public Observatory.

### **Learn How to Use Your Telescope from the Pros**

So you have a telescope but you haven't figured out how to get the most out of it yet? You're in luck! The Lake Afton Public Observatory and the Kansas Astronomical Observers (KAO) invite you to bring your telescope to the Observatory for one or more "*Bring Your Own Telescope*" events this summer. At these events, members of the KAO, will be on hand to help you learn how to take full advantage of your telescope's capabilities. Bring your telescope to the observing pad behind (North of) the Observatory building where members of the KAO will be waiting to assist you.

Kansas Astronomical Observers members will also have a number of different types of telescopes available for you to look through. So, if you don't have a telescope but are thinking of buying one, you might consider attending one or more of these *Bring Your Own Telescope* programs to get more information about the different types of telescopes, and their advantages and disadvantages.

There is no charge for the *Bring Your Own Telescope* program, however if you would also like to take in the Observatory's regularly scheduled program, and interesting exhibits, regular admission charges will apply. The KAO and Lake Afton Public Observatory will be hosting *Bring Your Own Telescope* evenings on the third Friday of July and August.

**Friday, July 19 at 9:00 p.m.**  
**Friday, August 16 at 9:00 p.m.**

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**Office:**  
1845 Fairmount  
Wichita, KS 67260-0032  
(316) 978-3191

**Program Information:**  
(316) WSU-STAR  
**Internet:**  
<http://webs.wichita.edu/lapo>

**Observatory:**  
20 mi. SW of downtown Wichita  
on MacArthur Rd. at 247th St. W.  
(316) 794-8995

### **Opening Times and Admission**

The Lake Afton Public Observatory is open to the public on Friday and Saturday evenings. Through the end of August, the regularly scheduled public programs run from 9:00 - 11:00 pm. Admission to the Observatory is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6-12, and children under 6 get in for free. We also have a special family admission where 2 adults and their immediate minor children or grandchildren get in for \$15.00. Current program information is available from our information line at WSU-STAR (978-7827) or on our website at <http://webs.wichita.edu/lapo> or you can “friend” the Lake Afton Public Observatory on Facebook.

### **Location**

The Observatory is located about 20 miles southwest of downtown Wichita on MacArthur Road at 247th Street West in Lake Afton County Park. It is immediately north of the lake, just off MacArthur Road. Lake Afton can be reached by any of the following routes: west from Wichita on U.S. 54 to the Lake Afton sign at Viola Road three miles past Goddard, then three miles south and one mile east; or southwest on K-42, 7 miles to Schulte and nine miles west on MacArthur.

The Lake Afton Public Observatory is operated by the Fairmount Center for Science and Mathematics Education, a part of the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Science at Wichita State University. Additional support is provided by Sedgwick County.

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