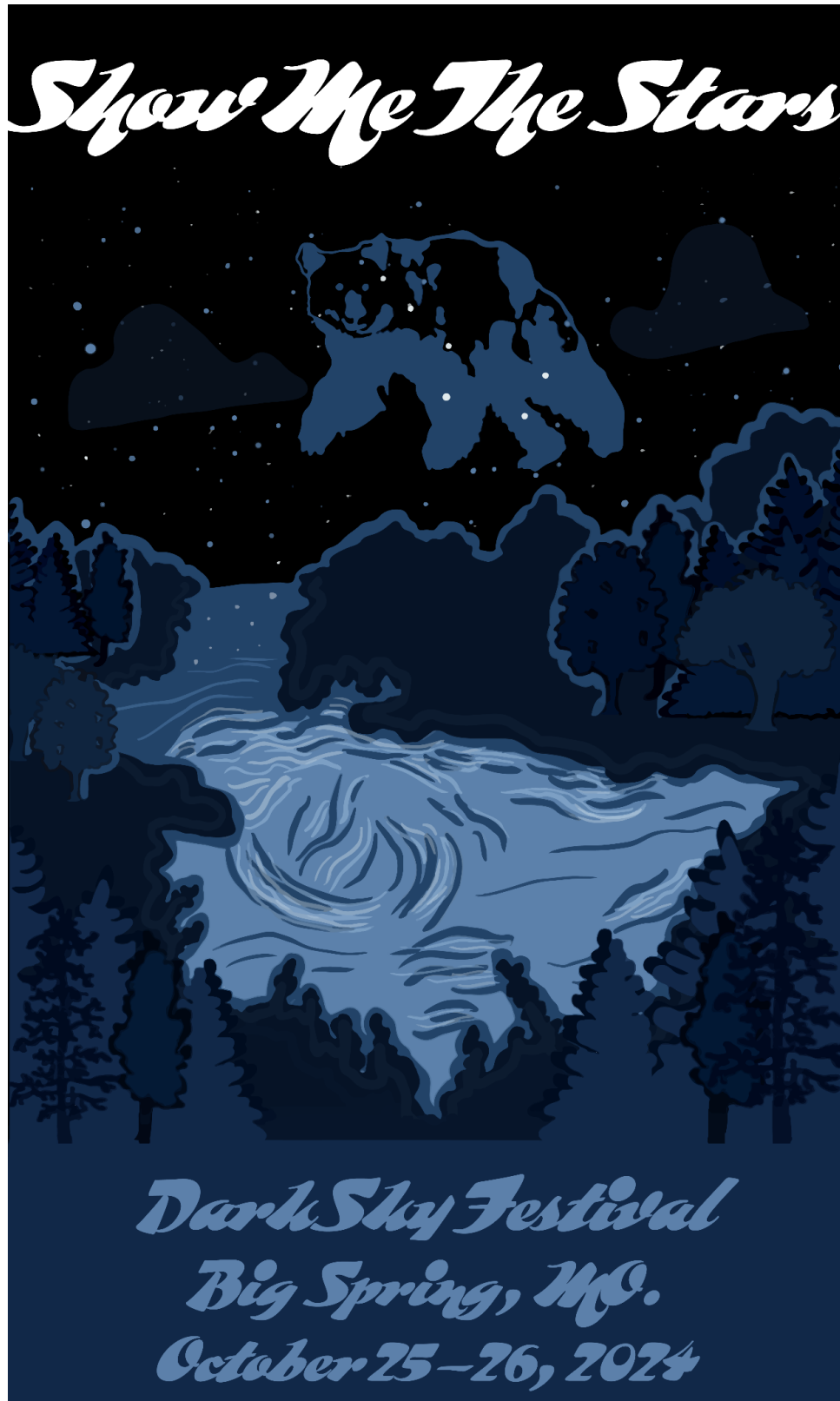




DarkSky
MISSOURI

DarkSky Missouri Festival

October 25-26, 2024
Ozark National Scenic Riverways Park - Big Spring





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Event Schedule (Preliminary)

Dark Sky Festival taking place October 25-26, 2024

Friday Afternoon - 5:00 pm:

- Meet and greet with light snacks/ drinks provided.
- Tentative foraging walk scheduled for Friday afternoon, time to be determined.

Friday Evening - 7:00 pm:

- Informal Star Party begins with an introduction to stars/constellations likely to be seen.
- Setup telescopes anytime in the afternoon on the grounds.
- Lasting till 11 pm but can extend later if wanted.

Saturday Morning - 8:00 am:

- Nature Walk with MDC naturalist.
- Rest of morning free to explore the area-hike, float, fish, etc.

Saturday Afternoon - 2:00 pm:

- Tabling booths/groups to be set up and active during the afternoon with speakers/ presenters to have hourly programs.

Saturday Evening - 5:00 pm:

- Break for Dinner

Saturday Evening - 7:00 pm:

- Formal Star Party begins with an introduction to stars/constellations likely to be seen.
- Lasting till 11 pm but can extend later if wanted.



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Accommodations:

Campground information:

- Camping is first come, first serve with 23 electric only sites (no water or sewer)
- Dump stations available at campground entrance, water hydrants available at restrooms. \$20.00 per night.
- Non-electric sites are \$10.00 per night- 20 sites available but more could open up depending on demand.

Vacation Rentals:

- Multiple vacation rentals available in the area with [Vrbo](#) and [Airbnb](#).

Area motels include:

- [The Rosecliff Lodge at The Landing](#)
- [Big Spring Road Motel](#)
- [Current River Inn](#)
- [Big Spring RV Camp](#)
- [Skyline Drive Vacation Rental](#)

Restaurants:

Some of the most popular restaurants in Van Buren include:

- [The Blue Heron Restaurant at The Landing](#)
- [Redbeard's Steak and Seafood](#)
- [Jolly Cone Drive-In](#)
- [Float Stream](#)
- [Smalley's Convenience](#)

More Information:

For more information on hotels/restaurants in the area, please visit the Van Buren Chamber of Commerce website at vanburenmo.com



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Questions:

1. Is there a fee for entering the park area or for the event itself?

The event is free.

2. Will there be food vendors? Will food or water be available for public purchase Friday and Saturday?

Water will be available at hydrants by bathrooms. We will have a big orange cooler with water to fill attendee water bottles. No water for sale. No food vendors are currently scheduled.

3. What sort of tables/booths are you planning?

Tables include DarkSky, Audubon, MDC, various river groups, Master Naturalist. We hope to get astronomy groups to do demos and help with telescopes as needed.

4. Will power be available at booths on or at the observing field?

Power is available at pavilion, 3- 220 outlets, 3- 120 outlets

5. Do you know what cellphone reception is like in the viewing area?

Cell phone reception is spotty but was able to get forecast info during eclipse there and take light meter readings at night.

6. Can we park our cars next to our telescopes?

Cars won't be allowed to park by telescopes so that visitors can more easily go to each telescope. However, telescope operators could probably unload/ load then go to parking area which is very close.

7. Do you plan any merchandise like t-shirts?

We are investigating the possibility of merchandise, but no firm plans yet.

8. What do you recommend volunteers bring and what should the public bring?

Chairs, coolers for food/drinks, insect repellent, sunscreen.

9. Any activities on Sunday?

No activities are planned for Sunday.



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Ozark National Scenic Riverways:

Website:

Ozark National Scenic Riverways: <https://www.nps.gov/ozar/index.htm>

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 490
Van Buren, MO 63965

Phone: (573) 323-4236

Telephone Numbers:

Big Spring Entrance Station (located south of Van Buren, MO):

- Call (573) 323-4236.

Alley Springs General Store (located west of Eminence, MO):

- Call (573) 226-3945

Round Springs Ranger Station (located north of Eminence, MO):

- Call (573) 858-3297



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Event Area - Map:

Link to event area: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/MtF3P62iVGhCVxxQA>





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Telescope Viewing Area - Map:

Link to event area: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/MtF3P62iVGhCVxxQA>

