



DARK SITE

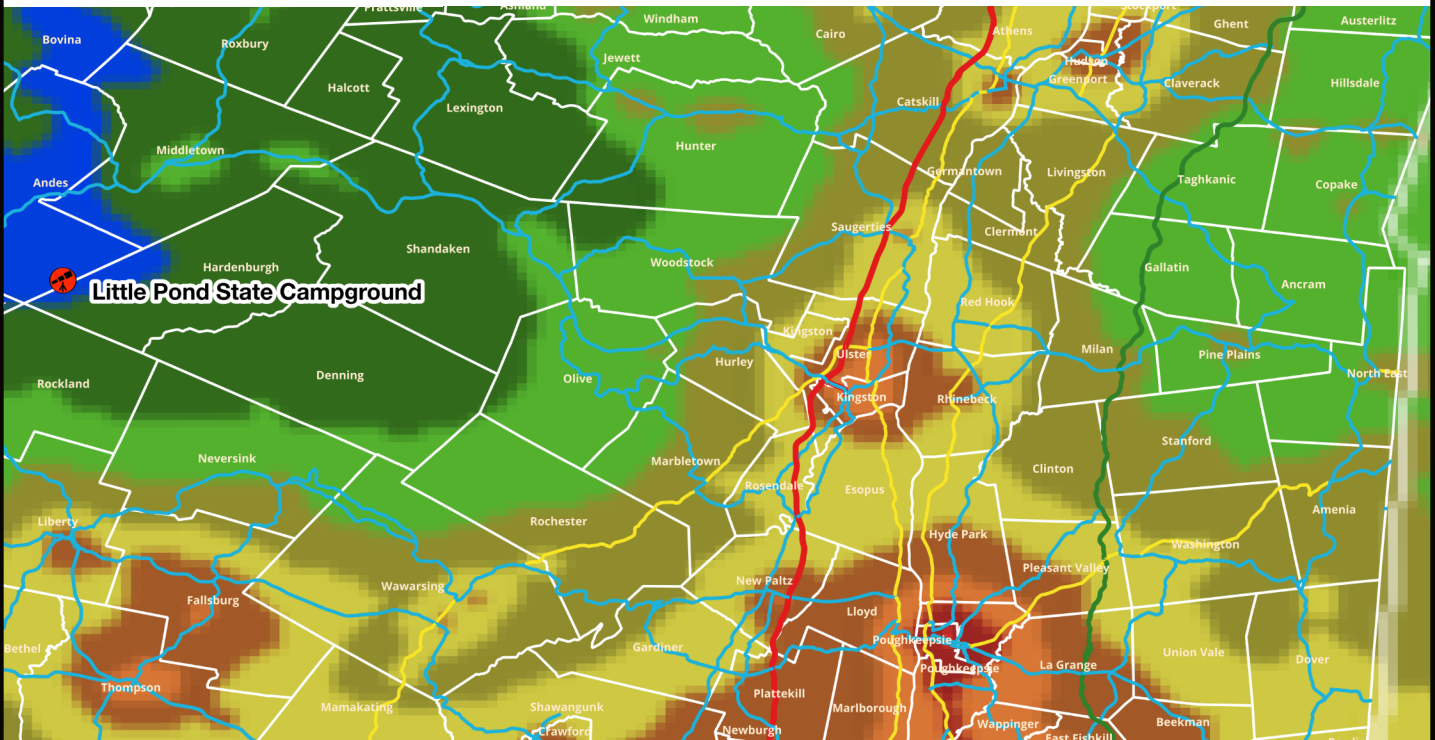
DEC Website



Google Maps



Little Pond State Campground



Dark Level	Estimated at Bortle 2
Site	Little Pond Campground and Day Use Area (Website)
Management	New York DEC
Address	549 Little Pond State Campground Road, Andes, NY 13731 (Google Maps)
Season	Open from the weekend prior to Memorial Day through Columbus Day Weekend. Accessible out of season with restricted vehicle access and limited camping privileges
Phone	(845) 439-5480
Permit cost in season	Camping \$22 per night, plus \$5 surcharge if you are not a NY resident. Day use \$8/car.

Comments: This site provides some of the darkest skies available in the Catskills, potentially Bortle 2!

The site is heavily wooded, and the pond area provides the only useful astronomical sight-lines. You should be prepared to set up your telescope on uneven ground or packed sand. No power or reliable cell phone coverage is available.

In season, access to the viewing site is guaranteed with a camping permit. Currently day use holders are allowed to stargaze as well, but such access is subject to change. Parking is located close to observing locations.

Campers must hold an advanced reservation which must be booked before 5 PM on the day of arrival, available online via ReserveAmerica. You must check in before 9 PM.

Out of season, access to the site is free, but the access-road gate is locked approximately half a mile south of the pond. You'll need to carry or cart-in your equipment.

Mid-Hudson Astronomical Association has educated the public and supported amateur astronomers since 1985. We partner frequently with local organizations to conduct observing parties and educational events while enjoying the camaraderie of amateur astronomers from all walks of life. We sponsor monthly, public star-parties year-round at Taghkanic State Park, and a seminar series at SUNY New Paltz: midhudsonastro.org





Cardinal directions are approximate (see bottom center window in each image for accurate compass bearing). Views taken from southern end of pond. N/S/W taken from beach. E taken from clearing to the west of the outlet close to beach. Better eastern and northeastern views may be available from parking lot near boat ramp on western shore of pond. Window on middle-right of each image indicates altitude in degrees at center of cross-hair.

Note that observing over water can improve or degrade viewing conditions. Broadly speaking, the best viewing takes place when water surface temps are close to air temps. Warm evening temps (unusual at this location) can cause lake fog; colder temps (more common) may cause dew. You should be prepared with dew shields and dew heaters.

