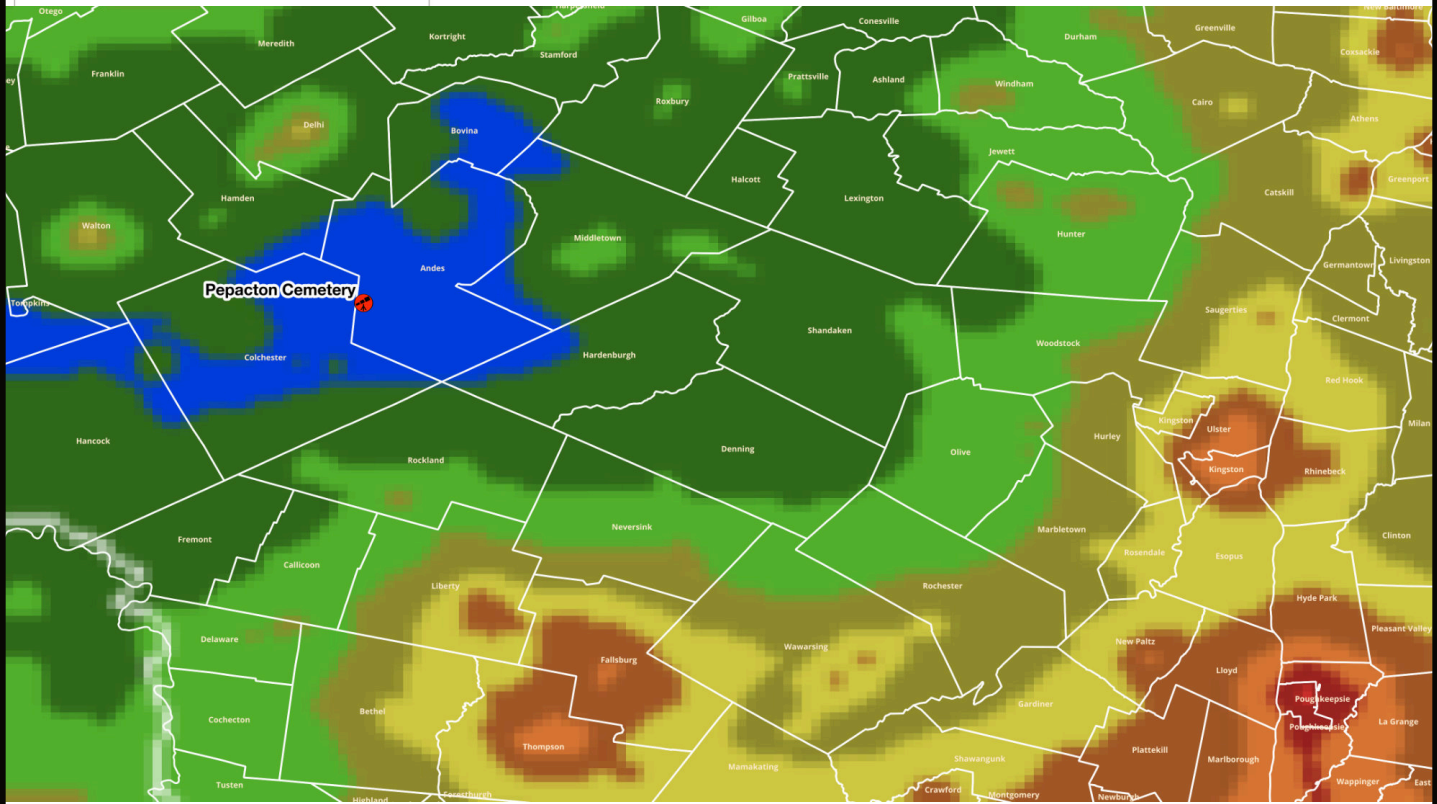




DARK SITE



Pepacton Cemetery - NYC DEP Flynn Brook Unit



Dark Level	Bortle 2
Site	Pepacton Cemetery - Flynn Brook Unit (Website)
Manager	NY City Department of Environmental Protection
Address	NYC Road #6 Andes, NY 13731 42.095, -74.8638 (Google Maps)
Season	Open year-round: 24x7
Contact	607-363-9000 (DEP Police)
Access	Two locations, one within the “Day Use” Cemetery, the other within the “Flynn Brook Unit” are recommended. See Comments in the box to the right for access considerations. Access is free 24x7 with no permits required.

Comments: This parcel overlooks Pepacton Reservoir. It is one of the most convenient public access areas in the Catskills with Bortle 2 skies. East of the Mississippi, you’d have to travel to remote sections of the Adirondacks or northern Maine to find darker.

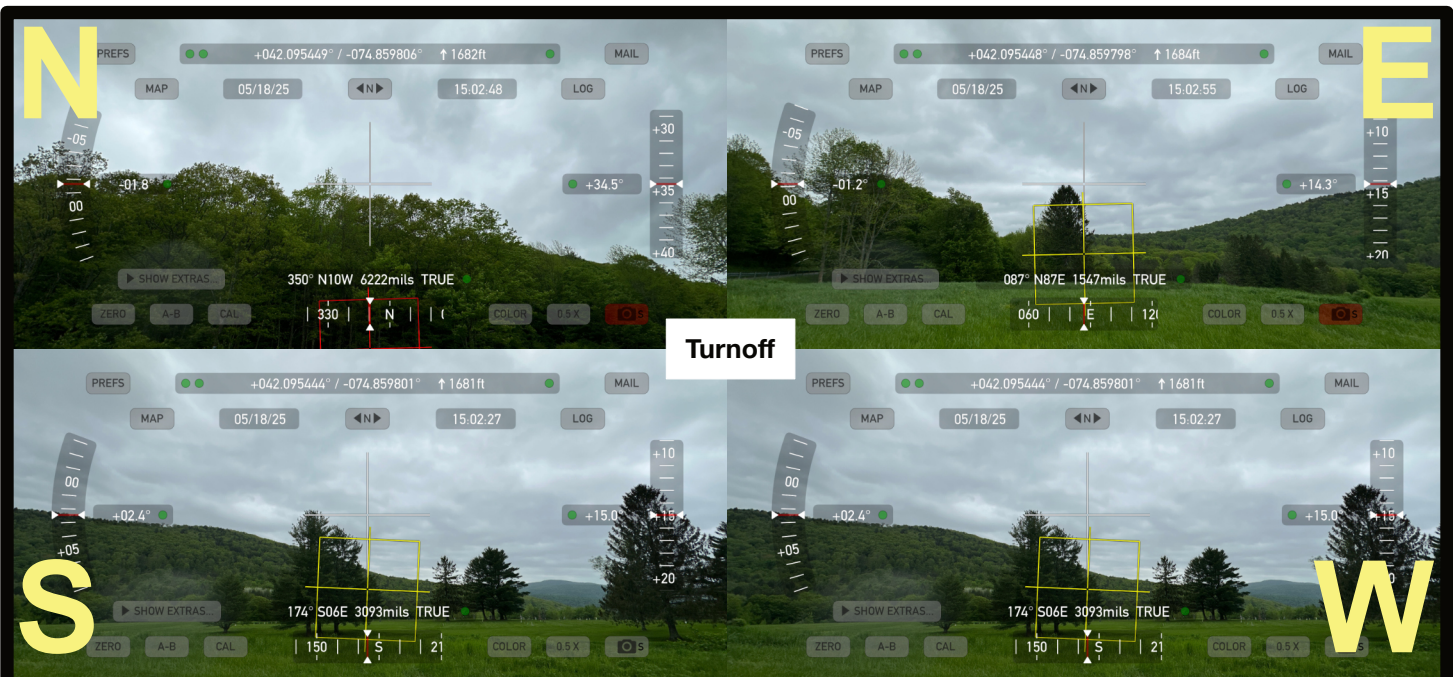
A particular advantage is that the observing surfaces will not be overgrown. Within the Cemetery, the lawn is regularly mowed; the turn-off immediately east of the cemetery, is largely gravel and does not support lush vegetation.

The Cemetery itself is regulated as a Day Use area and is sign-posted to close at sundown. However, correspondence with Marianne Greenfield, the cemetery’s caretaker, based on her correspondence with Chris Austin of the NYDEP Police, confirmed that nighttime observing would be permitted. The turn off, certainly, permits nighttime observing.

There are pluses and minuses to each location; see discussion overleaf.

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. Altitude to the upper crosshair (in degrees) is shown in the right hand window. The turnoff location east of the cemetery (pictured above) offers a better 360° horizon (on average) and easier setup close to your car. Cemetery (below) delivers a better, and truly outstanding view of the southern meridian, if you set up past the tall pine trees planted close to the entrance. However, the pine trees block significant parts of the sky in the other directions and the location is inconvenient to your car. Both sites should be brush-free year round though, according to Marianne Greenfield, the cemetery can get soggy in early spring and after heavy rains.

