



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Agate Fossil Beds National
Monument
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Agate Fossil Beds News Release

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A Starry Night Will Provide a Spectacular Backdrop for Agate Fossil Beds National Monument's Star Party

Harrison, NE: Agate Fossil Beds National Monument is sponsoring an evening of night sky enjoyment Friday, September 26th with a cloud date of Saturday, September 27th at Agate Fossil Beds. On Friday, activities start at 7 p.m. with Ranger Wilson's program "What's Your Galactic Address?" in the theater. Then star viewing, with help from local amateur astronomers, takes place from 8 p.m. – 10 p.m.

On Friday, September 26th, local astronomers will set up their telescopes near the picnic area at Agate Fossil Beds National Monument. Starting at 7 p.m., gather in the theater for "What's Your Galactic Address?" then join rangers out-of-doors to experience the night sky away from city lights. Local astronomers will set up their telescopes from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m. and will help visitors see the night skies in detail. View deep space star clusters, double stars, planets and constellations. Agate Fossil Beds National Monument is known for some of the darkest skies and best star viewing in the country.

Night viewing is dependent on clear skies; so if clouds or rain occur on Friday the 26th, Saturday the 27th will be the cloud date. Please dress appropriately for cool temperatures, bring your binoculars, and bring your flashlight to be turned into a "red" flashlight to enhance your night vision.

Agate Fossil Beds National Monument is located just 22 miles south of Harrison, or 34 miles north of Mitchell, Nebraska, on State Highway 29, then east on River Road for three miles to the visitor center. The Visitor Center is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. The park's two trails are open from dawn to dusk. For more information, call 308-668-2211 or 308-436-9760, go to www.nps.gov/agfo or visit Agate Fossil Beds on Facebook.

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About the National Park Service: More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 401 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov.

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