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Cape Lookout National Seashore News Release

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Cape Lookout National Seashore Invites You to *Astronomy Night*

HARKERS ISLAND, NC –Cape Lookout National Seashore is pleased to announce *Astronomy Night* on Saturday, September 21, at the Harkers Island Visitor Center, from 8:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.

NASA Solar System Ambassador, Lisa Pelletier-Harmon, will present a 45-minute presentation in the Harkers Island Theater entitled, *Celestial Navigation Along the Graveyard of the Atlantic*. The program will show visitors the basics of maritime navigation using the night sky. Join us as we learn how to star hop across the sky without the use of modern aids to navigation.

Immediately after the presentation, park staff and local astronomers from the Crystal Coast Stargazers, a NASA Night Sky Network Astronomy Club, will host a Star Party (weather dependent) in front of the visitor center. This will offer curious participants the chance to witness planets, and stars in the dark of night above the Southern Outer Banks through the lens of a telescope.

Make the most of the night by coming prepared. Check the weather and dress accordingly. Also, bring water, snacks, bug repellent, and flashlight with a red filter that helps in maintaining everyone's night vision.

Folks may also consider bringing their own telescopes to learn how to get the most out of their own telescopic equipment from members of the Stargazers club.

The program is ***FREE***. For more information, go to <http://go.nps.gov/astronomynight>

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About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 419 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.