

# ★ DISCOVER THE NIGHT SKY

- Borrow a binocular from the front desk and head out to a dark spot outside. Looking towards the West or North (away from Rt. 28) will yield the darkest sky. Our location has a class 3 dark sky, just two classes away from the darkest skies in the world!
- Try not to use a flashlight or phone too much since they will inhibit your eye's natural night vision. After 10-15 minutes your eyes will begin to adjust and see objects in the sky more clearly
- To help you get oriented, look for the brightest objects in the sky and compare to your diagram. Facing North, look for the Big Dipper, part of the Ursa Major constellation. Imagine a straight line passing up through the two stars on the pan that are furthest from the handle. If you continue this line until you find a distinctively bright star, you've found the North Star! From here you can begin to locate other features and constellations nearby.
- Just looking at our Moon alone can be very rewarding, especially through binoculars! You should be able to see the craters clearly, especially when the moon is in a crescent phase. Look also for Jupiter's Moons, reddish Mars, Neptune and Uranus.



## A GUIDE TO THE CATSKILLS NIGHT SKY

*"This great rolling sphere with its sky, its stars, its sunrises and sunsets, and with its outlook into infinity — what could be more desirable?"*

*-John Burroughs, famed Catskills Naturalist of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and friend of our namesake, Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

# LOOK FOR THESE CONSTELLATIONS

Your view of the night sky will change depending on season, month, and time of day! On the right are some of the most recognizable of the constellations.

To fine-tune your observations, scan the QR code below to go to a sky chart that can be customized to your location and exact day and time. Another aid is to download the **Star Chart app** and get a handy visualization of the constellations overhead.

SKY CHART



STAR CHART APP

