

Our Night Sky for January 22nd, 2024

Once again, I will guess that the extreme cold weather has taken some of the enjoyment out of standing outside in the dark under our night sky. I suggested a download of a freeware sky map software to at least help you plan your outdoor visits and perhaps quickly help you find objects of interest. Once again, I will recommend freeware that can help you find objects very quickly. This freeware also has no catches and can be downloaded for all your devices including your phone. Search for [Heavens Above](#). This software is sort of a search engine for the sky. The link provided is on the Prince George Centre website and is configured for Prince George's latitude and longitude. One of the most used searches is for the next visible pass of the ISS. The International Space Station (ISS) is easy to spot if you know where to look for it. The sky map also shows the path it follows across the sky. This of course is not the only object available. You can search for all satellites like the Hubble Space Telescope and even rocket boosters still in orbit. I like the PC software; the screen is much easier for these old eyes and there are many display selections. When you select [Starlink](#), you almost can't see the globe because the sky is almost completely filled with sky link satellites. Right now, there is a train of ten or fifteen in a line overhead.

If you are a licensed amateur radio enthusiast interested in using satellites for contacting like minded individuals, there is a link to [Amateur Radio Satellites](#).

This is a very useful piece of software you can plan your outing with on your PC. Now open the same app on your phone and step outside to enjoy ... Our Night Sky.