

## Our Night Sky for August 25th, 2025

While we still are not fully into fall availability of solar system planets, we do have a great opportunity to catch Saturn well above the eastern horizon an hour before midnight. Saturn is easy to spot and with good binoculars you should be able to see the almost edge on rings. But if you look slightly left and up you might also see a blue dot that is Neptune. Usually very hard to pick out. If conditions are right, you should see an un-blinking blue dot that is the gas giant Neptune.

And speaking of good sky conditions I hope you had a chance to see some meteors during the Perseids meteor shower a few days ago. I was with my daughter and her family, and we drove many kilometers North of Vancouver to a very dark location ocean side. I had mentioned not to be disappointed because this year the meteor shower shared the sky with a nearly full moon. This location as well as clean stable air also had a mountain east of it which blocked the light from the full moon and we saw some spectacular meteors. A lot of things affect our night sky, fumes from industry and transportation. Dust from agriculture and traffic. Moisture from a number of sources. The biggest negative effect is light pollution. Many population centers have bylaws or constructions regulations to limit the unnecessary light that is spilled into the sky by in-efficient lighting. Light spilling into our night sky is not performing the function it was installed for. Check our website for links to information to help save Our Night Sky.