

4-6-22, early afternoon, clear, sunny, warm

Greetings Everyone,

As we gather in the spirit of a by gone era of light during the day and dark at night, we have noticed a gradual and steady influx of bright lanterns, head lamps and flashlights. These deprive us of some of the unique qualities that nighttime has to offer us.

It is safer, more enjoyable and more effective for those of us who navigate without the use of lights after dark, when our vision is not compromised by bright lights.

This week is not only an opportunity to acquaint ourselves with crafting skills and processes from earlier times in human existence, it is also a chance to lay aside some of the modern devices that change our experience of and relationship to night time and darkness. Devices that deprive us of an opportunity to assess whether it is truly dark or relatively dark, devices that deny us access to an era we are specifically here to honor.

In the interest of offering each other the gifts of nighttime, we encourage minimal use of modern lights in general, and non use in the heart of camp/main fire pit, (between road and pond, tipi, Backtracks office and kitchen). This area is reserved for fire light, candle light and low intensity single flame lanterns only, no porch lights broadcasting light beyond the inside of a shelter.

If one feels the need to light ones camp, give careful attention to only lighting your immediate area and not broadcasting light outwards, use a shade when necessary. And enjoy the magic of how the night presents itself to us!

The world at night is so much larger and richer than when we reduce it down to what our lights illuminate! Let's allow ourselves to have a more historically universal human experience!

Warm wishes,
Myron