



Green Bank Observatory (GBO) is home to the world's largest fully-steerable radio telescope, the Robert C. Byrd Green Bank Telescope (GBT). Astronomers from all over the planet use the GBT to investigate everything from the properties of near-earth asteroids to the environments surrounding super-massive black holes. Breakthrough Listen, the most comprehensive campaign to search for techno-signatures from other civilizations in the Universe, is also a regular project on the GBT!

GBO is truly a high-tech village. Skilled engineers, technicians, computer scientists, machinists, and mechanics ensure that the GBT always functions at the top of its capabilities. We cordially invite you to visit, take a tour, and discover more!

Want to go deeper? Try one of our behind-the-scenes tours.

## Be a part of our Science!

Making a gift to the Observatory supports our daily operation and mission, including our Education and Public Outreach program, which reaches nearly 10,000 students annually. Your donations and memberships can be made in honor of- or in memory of- and are wonderful gifts for any science lover!

To learn more about advancing our mission, visit our website:

[greenbankobservatory.org/engage/](https://greenbankobservatory.org/engage/)

Green Bank Observatory  
P.O. Box 2  
155 Observatory Road  
Green Bank, WV 24944



   @GreenBankObservatory  
 @GreenBankObserv



# 2022

## GREEN BANK SCIENCE CENTER

## Visit us today!

# 304-456-2150

[greenbankobservatory.org](https://greenbankobservatory.org)



# Plan Your Trip

## PUBLIC SITE TOURS

Public site tours offered year-round!

Tour the fascinating world of radio astronomy from the groundbreaking instruments of the 1930s to the world's premier radio telescope, the GBT! This family-friendly tour is our most popular offering!

### Visit the Exhibit Hall

Discover how radio astronomers learn about the Universe through interactive exhibits. Fascinating facts await you in our exhibit hall, built inside a massive Faraday cage. Don't know what a Faraday cage is? You'll learn that and so much more on our site tours!\*

### Do Some Shopping

The Galaxy Gift Shop offers apparel, collectibles, and the best variety of educational toys around! Indulge your inner scientist! Can't make it for a visit? Shop from home on our online store!\*

[shop.greenbankobservatory.org](https://shop.greenbankobservatory.org)

### Have a Bite

The Starlight Café is currently offering pizzas, subs, and snacks. Keep an eye on our website where we'll announce menu expansions and indoor dining.\*

[greenbankobservatory.org/visit/starlight-cafe/](https://greenbankobservatory.org/visit/starlight-cafe/)

Visit [shop.greenbankobservatory.org](https://shop.greenbankobservatory.org) to purchase tickets in advance (strongly recommended).

For all tours, events, and educational programs, visit our online guide.

[greenbankobservatory.org/2022-science-center/](https://greenbankobservatory.org/2022-science-center/)

## SPECIAL TOURS

### SETI Tours

Our SETI tour celebrates Green Bank's historic Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI). It begins with an exclusive presentation right in the control room of our 85-1 Telescope, where the search began with Frank Drake's **Project Ozma**. From there, guests enjoy exclusive admittance into the 140-foot telescope where Jill Tarter's **Project Phoenix** took place and then to normally-restricted GBT access points. The tour ends with a discussion with a GBO astronomer, where you will learn about the future of SETI and the role of the GBT in the Breakthrough Listen project.\*

### High Tech Tours

Look inside receivers and marvel at the precise engineering required to collect the faintest signals from the Universe. An Observatory engineer will pull back the curtain on our site labs and control room as you see what makes our Observatory one of the world's premier radio telescope facilities!\*

### Nature Walk

Explore one of our many trails with a resident naturalist. Experience the flora, fauna, and geology that makes our Observatory unique.

### Virtual Opportunities

Can't make it to Green Bank? Join us virtually! We field trips, live stream events, and more!



## EVENTS

### Star Parties

GBO staff will treat you to views of the night sky through optical telescopes!

### Family Science Labs

Get your family started in science! Kids, ages 4-9, will love our fun-filled, hands-on science experiments.\*

### Drake Lectureship

The Frank Drake Lectureship is awarded each year to a member of the sciences, arts, or humanities community in recognition of their contributions to advancing human knowledge and creativity.\*

### Open House & Family Science Day

Where else can you build and launch a rocket, test your engineering skills, do fun science experiments, and see some of the biggest telescopes in the whole world ALL IN ONE DAY?\*

### Turkey Trot

Burn off the Thanksgiving feast at the annual Turkey Trot hosted by Green Bank Observatory! Race in a traditional 5k run/walk, a 10K trail run, or the 1K Gobble Wobble for kids 8 and under.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Space Race Rumpus

Join us for a weekend-long cycling festival with a variety of trails! Whether you are an experienced mountain biker or complete novice, there are rides, races, and cycling for all ages and levels.

[www.spaceracerumpus.org](https://www.spaceracerumpus.org)

### Star Quest

The nation's largest optical and radio star party! Enjoy optical presentations, hands-on workshops, and dark West Virginia skies.

[www.greenbankstarquest.org](https://www.greenbankstarquest.org)

### Garth Newel Emerging Artist Fellow Showcase

Music comes to the Observatory from the Garth Newel Music Center in Warm Springs, Virginia, and the Emerging Artist Fellowship program.

[www.garthnewel.org/education/emerging-artist-fellowship-program/](https://www.garthnewel.org/education/emerging-artist-fellowship-program/)

## GROUPS & FIELD TRIPS

### Organized Group Tours

Motor coach groups are welcome. Tours can be scheduled any day of the week, year-round. A \$5 fee per person is required for motor coach tours; anticipate a two hour minimum visit for the full tour.

### Educational Field Trips

Organized educational groups may schedule free tours, activities, day-trips, and overnight field trips. See a full list of approved groups here. Overnight students experience science first-hand by completing research projects with a real radio telescope. A trip to the Observatory might just inspire your students to join the next generation of scientists and engineers!

### Scouting Trips

Tour reservations are free for organized scout groups but advance arrangements are required. For overnight stays and badge events, see dates on our website events calendar. Day trips can be scheduled any day of the week.

### We'll come to you!

West Virginia educators, formal and informal, can request a college ambassador from our Science Public Outreach Team (SPOT) to visit their school or group and deliver standards-based presentations and hands-on activities. Virtual presentations are available for in-state and out of state presentations.

[www.wvspot.org](https://www.wvspot.org)

## PLEASE NOTE

Dates and offerings may change at any time and without notice. We highly recommend checking our website for current operations and applicable COVID restrictions before traveling.

Advance reservations required for groups, field trips, special tours, and some events. Space is limited for all activities. Background screening required for SETI Tours, High Tech Tours, and overnight groups. Masks and other safety restrictions apply to all visitors.

Find schedule, pricing, policies, and in-depth activity information at [greenbankobservatory.org](https://greenbankobservatory.org)



Use this QR code to view our online brochure and events schedule.

Email [tours@gboobservatory.org](mailto:tours@gboobservatory.org) for questions and reservation information.

\* COVID protective requirements may apply for tours or facility access.



# Visit the Green Bank Telescope

Green Bank Observatory

## Hours of Operation

**Nov 1 - May 27**

Open Thur - Mon,

9:30-5:30

Closed Tues - Wed

Tours: 10:00, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00

**May 28 - Sept 5**

Open Daily;

8:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Tours Hourly 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Sept 7 - Oct 31**

Open Thur - Mon,

8:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Closed Tues - Wed

Tours Hourly 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Starlight Café Hours**

Nov 1 - May 27

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

May 28 - Oct 31

11:00 a.m. - 7 p.m.

**Closed Dates:**

4/17 for Spring Holiday

11/22-25 for Thanksgiving Holiday

12/24-28 for Christmas Holiday

1/2/2023 for New Year's Holiday

## Admission & Tour Rates

### Science Center Admission

\$5/pp (Ages 6+); Explore our interactive Exhibit Hall, learn about the history of radio astronomy, and attend a presentation about GBO!

### Bus Tours

\$10/pp (Ages 6+); One hour; Includes admission to explore Science Center, presentation, & bus ride!

Children 5 and under — free

Veterans & Active Service Members — free

Our Members get special discounts. Ask about becoming a Member today!

## HOURS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Visit our website & social media for updates

@GreenBankObservatory

@GreenBankObsrv

## Getting Here is Easy!

Only  
40 minutes  
to Snowshoe;  
15 minutes  
to Cass!



## Welcome to the Quiet Zone!

The Green Bank Observatory Science Center is at the heart of the National Radio Quiet Zone, a 13,000 square mile region of minimized radio signal interference designated by the U.S. Government in 1958 to create a safe haven for radio astronomy.

**Thank you for placing your phone in airplane mode when you arrive and turning it off completely, along with all other electronic devices, while touring the Observatory and grounds.**

You can bring a film camera (non-digital) or purchase a disposable camera in our Gift Shop to capture your experiences at Green Bank Observatory.

[greenbankobservatory.org/about/national-radio-quiet-zone/](https://greenbankobservatory.org/about/national-radio-quiet-zone/)



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