



The annual Perseid meteor shower is looming again, which means that the annual NIAAS bbq and observing session is almost upon us.

Peak viewing time is after dark on the night of Thursday 11th August. This year the number of visible meteors will be somewhat reduced owing to the waxing moon, which reaches first quarter on 10th August. However, astronomers are predicting that the normally rather broad meteor shower will be enhanced on the night of the 11th/12th August by an additional approximately 100 meteors per hour, that is, the shower will exhibit a rare meteor "outburst".

UPDATE! BBQ on TONIGHT (Saturday)! Based on the latest weather forecast we are now planning to run our annual BBQ tonight. As usual we will be meeting in the carpark at Killylane Reservoir about 9.30pm. Directions [here!](#)

No optical aid is needed to see the meteors, although by all means bring your telescopes and binoculars along for some regular observing as well as meteor watching. A comfortable seat, or even a sun lounger, is useful, and if you are so inclined, you can bring along pencils and paper or a counter of some sort to record the number of meteors seen.

Cooking equipment will be provided, but please bring your own food and drink. If you have a portable barbecue, bring it with you, as the more cooking facilities we have, the quicker everyone will get fed. We'll try to provide some boiling water for tea and coffee.

Make sure to wrap up warm, and bring a blanket or even a sleeping bag for extra warmth.

As always, let's hope for clear skies on the night. Hope to see a good turnout.