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## Perseid Meteor Shower 2009: Follow It Live On Twitter

August 11th, 2009 | by [Barb Dybwad](#)

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The revolution may not be televised, but the Perseid meteor shower will be Twittered. A group of intrepid stargazers in the UK, the Newbury Astronomical Society, will be [holding the first worldwide "meteor star party" on Twitter](#).

Thousands of "guests" around the globe will be encouraged to tweet live pictures of Perseid meteors and other celestial sightings during the event horizon,

as the Earth's orbit passes through debris left behind by the tail of the Swift-Tuttle comet.



The Twitter Meteorwatch event is being planned in conjunction with the International Year of Astronomy. The Newbury Astronomical Society's President Richard Fleet explained the idea behind the celestial tweetup:

"We realised early on that what people want are images of the night sky, so we used our array of telescopes and cameras to provide a constant stream of pictures which we uploaded straight to Twitter [\[D\]](#)...we had thousands of people who had probably never looked through a telescope before asking us questions directly and viewing images."

The Perseid shower is an annual event each August, with this year's peak [arriving in the predawn hours of August 12](#). Follow and/or use the [hashtag #meteorwatch](#) to get involved with the global Twitter Meteorwatch.

*Do you have plans to watch the event? Do they include tweeting about it?*

*Image courtesy of [iStockphoto](#) [\[D\]](#), [plefevre](#)*

Tags: [meteor shower](#), [Perseid meteor shower](#), [twitter](#)

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