

PUBLIC OBSERVING NIGHTS



THE WILLIAM D. MCDOWELL OBSERVATORY

Observe the skies through the 20-inch diameter telescope of the William D. McDowell Observatory each Monday and Wednesday evening during our free public viewing sessions. Each session focuses on two major objects on the night sky, plus one or two other celestial objects or events depending on the observing conditions. Observing is weather dependent and will be canceled for that night if the skies are cloudy at the beginning of the observing session or if thunderstorms are predicted.

Ages: All ages, children must be accompanied by an adult

Capacity: 25, for each one hour session. Admission within each session is on a first come, first served basis.

Check-in at the NJMC Center for Environmental and Scientific Education

Note: In order to access the observatory telescope, a visitor must be able to climb 25 steps (nine steps, a landing, 16 steps) in a spiral formation. The stairs have a railing on either side, with the railings approximately 2 feet apart. Please contact the Meadowlands Environment Center offices at least one week prior to visiting to request disability related accommodations.

Summer 2013 Public Viewing Schedule

June 2013 (9PM ->10:30PM)

3rd & 5th: Arcturus, Vega, Alberio, Double-Double, M13, M57, M5, Saturn,
10th & 12th: Arcturus, Vega, Alberio, Double-Double, M13, M57, M5, Saturn
17th & 19th: Arcturus, Vega, Alberio, Double-Double, M13, M57, M5, Saturn, Moon
24th & 26th: Arcturus, Vega, Alberio, Double-Double, M13, M57, M5, Saturn

July 2013 (9PM ->10:30 PM)

1st & 3rd: Arcturus, Vega, Double-Double, M13, Albireo, M57, M5, Saturn,
8th & 10th: Arcturus, Vega, Double-Double, M13, Albireo, M57, M5, Saturn
15th & 17th: Arcturus, Vega, Double-Double, M13, Albireo, M57, M5, Saturn, Moon
22nd & 24th: Arcturus, Vega, Double-Double, M13, Albireo, M57, M5, Saturn, Moon
29th & 31st: Arcturus, Vega, Double-Double, M13, Albireo, M57, M5, Saturn

August 2013 (8:30PM ->10:30 PM)

5th & 7th: Arcturus, Vega, Double-Double, M13, Albireo, M57, M5 & Saturn (Early), Neptune(Late)
12th & 14th: Arcturus, Vega, Double-Double, M13, Albireo, M57, M5 & Saturn (Early), Neptune(Late), Moon
19th & 21nd: Arcturus, Vega, Double-Double, M13, Albireo, M57, M5 & Saturn (Early), Neptune (Late), Moon
26th & 28th: Arcturus, Vega, Double-Double, M13, Albireo, M57, Saturn(Early), Neptune (Late), Uranus (Late)

Key:

M-5 – Globular cluster in Serpens

M-13 – Great globular cluster in Hercules

M-57 – Ring Nebula, Messier 57 is often regarded as the prototype of a planetary nebula

Double-Double - Epsilon Lyrae the famous double-double or quadruple star system in the constellation Lyra.

Albireo - One of the best contrasting double stars in the sky due to their different colors

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For more information about this program, visit the Observatory's website at:
<http://www.rst2.edu/meadowlands/marshaccess/Observatory2.html> or call 201-460-8300