

## **Astronomy in the Park 2018 Schedule**

Members of the Stockton Astronomical Society will volunteer to setup their telescopes for the public at S.J. County Oak Grove Regional Park on the Saturday nearest the First Quarter Moon.

During the months of April through October, the Nature Center will also be open with indoor astronomy activities. If the sky is cloudy or there is bad weather, the telescopes may not be available.

During the months of November through March, the Nature Center will not be open. If the sky is cloudy or the weather is bad, we may cancel the viewing and try again next month.

- S.J. County charges a Parking Fee of \$6.00 per vehicle but the Nature Center and telescope viewing is free.
- SAS telescope volunteers; show the person at the kiosk that you are part of the SAS volunteer staff and they should let you in free.
- Indoor astronomy themed activities for kids (both big & small) will be in the Nature Center.
- Telescope viewing starts after Sunset, the Moon will be visible in the telescopes from the start. As the sky darkens, more objects become visible. Darker and clearer sky is better for viewing.
- Every month we will feature a different deep sky object. We will point one of our large telescopes at this object during the last hour of the evening. These objects are dim and fuzzy and large aperture telescopes see them better.
- To view objects it may be necessary to stand on a ladder or step stool that will be next to the telescope.
- We will update this schedule with new information as it becomes necessary.

For more information, call SAS volunteers:

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Website: <http://stocktonastro.org/>

## 2018 Schedule

### Saturday, January 20

No Indoor activities at the Nature Center

Sunset is at 5:15pm

The Moon, The Pleiades, The Hyades

Deep sky Object: M31 (The Andromeda Galaxy)

### Saturday, February 24

No Indoor activities at the Nature Center

Sunset is at 5:53 pm

The Moon, Venus at sunset, Orion Nebula, The Pleiades

Deep sky Object: NGC 869 & 884 (Perseus Double Cluster)

### Saturday, March 24

No Indoor activities at the Nature Center

Sunset is at 7:20 pm

The Moon, Venus and Mercury at sunset, Orion Nebula, Pleiades

Deep sky Object: M37 (Open Star Cluster)

### Saturday, April 21

Indoor activities at the Nature Center start at 7:00

SAS Potluck in the Park at the Poplar Pavilion

Sunset is at 7:46pm

The Moon, Venus, Jupiter will join us late in the evening, Orion Nebula, The Pleiades,

9:30 pm - Deep Sky Object: M81 & M82 (Bodes Galaxies)

### Saturday, May 19

Indoor activities at the Nature Center start at 7:30 pm

Sunset is at 8:12pm

The Moon, Venus, Jupiter

9:30 pm - Deep Sky Object: M104 (Sombrero Galaxy)

### Saturday, June 23

Indoor activities at the Nature Center start at 8:00 pm

Sunset is at 8:31pm

The Moon, Mercury at sunset, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, M13 (Star Cluster in Hercules)

10:00 pm - Deep Sky Object: M51 (Whirlpool Galaxy)

## 2018 Schedule

### Saturday, July 21

Indoor activities at the Nature Center start at 8:00 pm

Sunset is at 8:23pm

The Moon, Venus, Jupiter, Saturn, M13 (Star Cluster in Hercules), Mars will join the party after 10:30 and will be at it's closest on July 30

10:00 pm - Deep Sky Object: M3 (Globular Cluster)

### Saturday, August 18

Indoor activities at the Nature Center start at 7:30 pm

Sunset is at 7:54pm

The Moon, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, M13 (Star Cluster in Hercules),

9:30 pm - Deep Sky Object: M8 & M20 (Lagoon Nebula & Trifid Nebula)

### Saturday, September 15

Indoor activities at the Nature Center start at 7:00 pm

Sunset is at 7:12pm

The Moon, Venus at sunset, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, M13 (Star Cluster in Hercules)

9:00 pm - Deep Sky Object: M57 (Ring Nebula)

### Saturday, October 13

No Indoor activities at the Nature Center

Sunset is at 6:30pm

The Moon, Mars, Jupiter at sunset, Saturn, M13 (Star Cluster in Hercules)

8:00 pm - Deep Sky Object: M27 (Dumbbell Nebula)

### Saturday, November 17

No Indoor activities at the Nature Center

Sunset is at 4:51pm

The Moon, Mars, Saturn, Uranus

8:00 pm - Deep Sky Object: M31 (Andromeda Galaxy)

### Saturday, December 15

No Indoor activities at the Nature Center

Sunset is at 4:46pm

The Moon, Mars, Uranus

8:00 pm - Deep Sky Object: M33 (Pinwheel Galaxy)