

Astronomy in the Park 2017 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. Also, if the sky is not clear the event may be canceled and we will try again the 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 for 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 are best seen in large aperture telescopes.
- 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/>

2017 Schedule

Saturday, January 7

No Indoor activities at the Nature Center

Sunset is at 5:00 pm

Objects: Moon, Venus, Mars, Pleiades

Deep Sky Object: The Andromeda Galaxy

Saturday, February 4

No Indoor activities at the Nature Center

Sunset is at 5:30 pm

Objects: Moon, Venus, Mars, Orion Nebula, Pleiades

Deep Sky Object: Perseus Double Cluster

Saturday, March 4

No Indoor activities at the Nature Center

Sunset is at 6:00 pm

Objects: Moon, Venus, Mars, Orion Nebula, Pleiades

Deep Sky Object: M37 (Open Star Cluster)

Saturday, April 1

Indoor activities at the Nature Center start at 6:30 pm

Sunset is at 7:30 pm

Objects: Moon, Mercury (sunset), Mars, Jupiter (later in the evening), Orion Nebula, Pleiades

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

Saturday, May 6

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

Sunset is at 8:00 pm

Objects: Moon, Jupiter

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

Saturday, June 3

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

Sunset is at 8:20 pm

Objects: Moon, Jupiter, Saturn (late in the evening), M13 (Star Cluster in Hercules)

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

2017 Schedule

Saturday, July 1

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

Sunset is at 8:30 pm

Objects: Moon, Jupiter, Saturn, M13 (Star Cluster in Hercules)

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

Saturday, July 29

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

Sunset is at 8:15 pm

Objects: Moon, Jupiter, Saturn, M13 (Star Cluster in Hercules)

10:00 pm – Deep Sky Object: M5 (Globular Cluster)

Saturday, August 26

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

Sunset is at 7:45 pm

Objects: Moon, Jupiter, Saturn, M13 (Star Cluster in Hercules)

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

Saturday, September 30

Indoor activities at the Nature Center start at 6:00 pm

Sunset is at 6:50 pm

Objects: Moon, Saturn, M13 (Star Cluster in Hercules)

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

Saturday, October 28

Indoor activities at the Nature Center start at 5:30 pm

Sunset is at 6:10 pm

Objects: Moon, Saturn, M13 (Star Cluster in Hercules)

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

Saturday, November 25

No Indoor activities at the Nature Center

Sunset is at 4:50 pm

Objects: Moon, Uranus

7:00 pm - Deep Sky Object: M31 (The Andromeda Galaxy)

Saturday, December 23

No Indoor activities at the Nature Center

Sunset is at 4:50 pm

Objects: Moon, Uranus

7:00 pm - Deep Sky Object: M33 (Triangulum Galaxy)