

THE WILLIAM D. MCDOWELL OBSERVATORY

FREE PUBLIC OBSERVING NIGHTS WINTER-SPRING SCHEDULE 2020



March 2020 (7:30PM-10PM)

4th Venus, Almach (double star), Pleiades (M45), Andromeda Galaxy (M31), Orion Nebula (M42), Beehive Cluster (M44), Double Cluster (NGC 869 & 884)
11th Venus, Almach (double star), Pleiades (M45), Andromeda Galaxy (M31), Orion Nebula (M42), Beehive Cluster (M44), Double Cluster (NGC 869 & 884)
18th Venus, Almach (double star), Pleiades (M45), Andromeda Galaxy (M31), Orion Nebula (M42), Beehive Cluster (M44), Double Cluster (NGC 869 & 884)
25th Venus, Almach (double star), Pleiades (M45), Andromeda Galaxy (M31), Orion Nebula (M42), Beehive Cluster (M44), Double Cluster (NGC 869 & 884)?, Sirius

April 2020 (7:30PM-10PM)

1st Moon, Venus, Sirius, Pleiades (M45)?, Orion Nebula (M42)?, Open Cluster (M35), Globular Cluster (M13)
8th Moon, Venus, Sirius, Pleiades (M45)?, Orion Nebula (M42)?, Open Cluster (M35), Globular Cluster (M13)
15th Venus, Sirius, Open Cluster (M35)?, Globular Cluster (M13), Ring Nebula (M57)
22nd, Venus, Sirius, Globular Cluster (M13), Ring Nebula (M57)
29th Moon, Venus, Sirius, Globular Cluster (M13), Ring Nebula (M57)

May 2020 (8PM-10:30PM)

6th Moon, Venus, Arcturus, Mizar & Alcor, Globular Cluster (M13), Ring Nebula (M57)
13th Venus, Arcturus, Mizar & Alcor, Globular Cluster (M13), Ring Nebula (M57)
20th Venus, Arcturus, Mizar & Alcor, Globular Cluster (M13), Ring Nebula (M57)
27th Moon, Arcturus, Mizar & Alcor, Globular Cluster (M13), Ring Nebula (M57)

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR KEY AND MORE INFORMATION.



PUBLIC OBSERVING NIGHTS



THE WILLIAM D. MCDOWELL OBSERVATORY

Key:

M31- The Andromeda Galaxy

M13- A globular cluster in Hercules

M57- Ring Nebula in Lyra

NGC457- An open cluster in Cassiopeia

NGC869 & NGC884 Double cluster in Cassiopeia

M45- The Pleiades is an open cluster in Taurus and the cluster most obvious to the naked eye.

Mizar & Alcor- Visual binary in Ursa Major. Mizar is a quadruple star system and Alcor is a binary (A sextuple system)

Arcturus- A Bright, orange star

Vega- A bright, blue-white star

Sirius- A bright white star, the brightest in the sky at a distance of 8 light years.

Almach- Quadruple star system including a bright, orange star and a dimmer, blue star (actually 3 stars)

M42- The Orion Nebula is one of the brightest nebulae and the closest region of massive star formation to Earth.

? A question mark after an object we have listed means that it is becoming very difficult to see because it is near the horizon and/or at the limit the telescope can resolve it (see it clearly.) The list of objects mentioned for each date can be modified due to viewing conditions.

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 Meadowslands Environment Center offices at least one week prior to visiting to request disability related accommodations.

PLEASE NOTE: Please check the sky as well as our website before your visit. In addition, the buildings are wheelchair accessible and visitors are to exit the park.

William D. McDowell Observatory
Three DeKorte Park Plaza
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071
Phone: 201-460-4619

For more information about this program, visit the
Observatory's website at:
<http://www.njsea.com> or call 201-460-4619

