

THE WILLIAM D. MCDOWELL OBSERVATORY

FREE PUBLIC OBSERVING NIGHTS WINTER SCHEDULE 2019-2020



December 2019 (7PM-10PM)

4th Moon, Venus, Uranus, Neptune, Almach (double star), M45, M31, M42, M44, NGC 869 & 884
11th Moon, Venus, Uranus, Neptune, Almach (double star), M45, M31, M42, M44, NGC 869 & 884
18th Venus, Uranus, Neptune, Almach (double star), M45, M31, M42, M44, NGC 869 & 884

January 2020 (7 PM-10PM)

8th Moon, Venus, Uranus, Neptune, Sirius, Almach (double star), M45, M42?, M35
15th Moon, Venus, Uranus, Neptune, Sirius, Almach (double star), M45, M42?, M35
22nd Moon, Venus, Uranus, Neptune, Sirius, Almach (double star), M45, M31, M42, M44, NGC 869 & 884
29th Moon, Venus, Uranus, Neptune, Sirius, Almach (double star), M45, M31, M42, M44, NGC 869 & 884

February 2020 (7 PM-10PM)

5th Moon, Venus, Uranus, Neptune, Sirius, Almach (double star), M45, M31, M42, M44, NGC 869 & 884
12th Venus, Uranus, Neptune, Sirius, Almach (double star), M45, M31, M42, M44, NGC 869 & 884
19th Venus, Uranus, Neptune, Sirius, Almach (double star), M45, M31, M42, M44, NGC 869 & 884
26th Moon, Venus, Uranus, Neptune, Sirius, Almach (double star), M45, M31, M42, M44, NGC 869 & 884

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR KEY AND MORE INFORMATION.



PUBLIC OBSERVING NIGHTS



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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.

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

