

WILLIAM D. MCDOWELL OBSERVATORY FREE PUBLIC VIEWING SCHEDULE - FALL 2017



The William D. McDowell Observatory is located in DeKorte Park at One DeKorte Park Plaza in Lyndhurst, NJ.

View planets, constellations and other celestial objects through our research-grade telescope during our free public viewing nights. Each session focuses on major objects in the night sky.

The telescope has a 20-inch mirror and is housed beneath a six-meter retractable dome. The powerful, precision instrument can capture objects millions of light years away.

All ages are welcome and children must be accompanied by an adult. Twenty-five people may occupy the Observatory at any one time. Entry is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Check-in at the Science Center adjacent to the Observatory.

Note: *In order to access the telescope, visitors must be able to climb 25 steps in a spiral formation. The stairs have railings on either side, approximately 2 feet apart.*

Wednesday Fall Schedule

PLEASE NOTE: *the buildings are closed by security at 10:30 pm and visitors are to exit the park. Please do not come to the observatory if the sky is overcast. Viewing sessions will be cancelled if there is inclement weather or cloud cover. Please check for updates at the contacts below.*

SEPTEMBER • 8:00-10:30 PM

- 6 - Moon, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, M31, M13, M57, Mizar & Alcor
- 13 - Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, M31, M13, M57, Mizar & Alcor
- 20 - Uranus, Neptune, M31, M13, NGC457, M57, Mizar & Alcor
- 27 - Moon, Uranus, Neptune, M31, M13, NGC457, M57, Mizar & Alcor

OCTOBER • 8:00-10:30 PM

- 4 - Moon, Uranus, Neptune, Almach, M31, M13, NGC457, M57, M45
- 11 - Mars, Uranus, Neptune, Almach, M31, M13, NGC457, M57, M45
- 18 - Uranus, Neptune, Almach, M31, M13, NGC457, M57, M45
- 25 - Moon, Uranus, Neptune, Almach, M31, M13, NGC457, M57, M45

NOVEMBER • 8:00-10:30 PM

- 1 - Moon, Uranus, Neptune, Orion Nebula, M31, M13, NGC457, M57, M45
- 8 - Uranus, Neptune, Orion Nebula, M31, M13, NGC457, M57, M45
- 15 - Uranus, Neptune, Orion Nebula, M31, M13, NGC457, M57, M45
- 22 - Moon, Uranus, Neptune, Orion Nebula, M31, M13, NGC457, M57, M45
- 29 - Moon, Uranus, Neptune, Orion Nebula, M31, M13, NGC457, M57, M45

The list of objects mentioned above for each date can be modified due to viewing conditions. Please check the sky as well as our website before your visit.

KEY:

- M31** = The Andromeda Galaxy
- M13** = A globular cluster in Hercules
- M57** = Ring Nebula
- NGC457** = An open 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

Visit the Emil Buehler Observatory at Bergen Community College every Friday from 8-10:30 PM at 400 Paramus Rd, Paramus, NJ.



The Observatory is an NJSEA facility operated by Bergen Community College