

# Exploring the Sky 2024

National Capital Astronomers & National Park Service

6 Apr	8:00 pm	Jupiter, Uranus, M45, Orion
6 May	9:00 pm	M44, Leo, Arcturus, M13
1 Jun	9:00 pm	Leo, Bootes, Hercules, M13
13 Jul	9:00 pm	Venus, Mercury, Moon, Hercules, M13, Summer Triangle
10 Aug	8:30 pm	Venus, Moon, Hercules, M13, Summer Triangle, M57
7 Sep	8:00 pm	Venus, Moon, Summer Triangle, Great Square of Pegasus
5 Oct	7:30 pm	Summer Triangle, Great Square of Pegasus, M31, Saturn
2 Nov	7:00 pm	Venus, Summer Triangle, Pegasus, M31, Saturn

Now in its 76th year, **Exploring the Sky** remains a cherished collaboration between the **National Capital Astronomers (NCA)** and the **National Park Service Rock Creek Park Nature Center**, delighting sky enthusiasts since 1948 at its scenic location on the corner of Glover and Military Roads in the District. Convenient parking is available nearby, and all with an interest in stargazing are warmly welcomed.

While not offering the darkest skies, our location still provides enchanting views of planets in our solar system, occasional asteroids and comets, plenty of stars, as well as open and globular clusters, some fuzzy nebulae, and even a distant galaxy or two.

We're also excited to continue an opportunity started last year: Arrive an hour early to enjoy a planetarium program at the **Nature Center** before transitioning to the field for live observing with volunteers from **NCA**. Even in the event of cloudy skies or rain, fear not! The planetarium program will continue at the earlier time, ensuring **Exploring the Sky** remains an enjoyable experience.



For more information about **Rock Creek Park**, please visit . To learn about their planetarium programs and scheduling, please visit <https://www.nps.gov/rocr/planyourvisit/calendar.htm>. You can also explore keywords like "astronomy" or "dark skies," or simply reach out to the Nature Center directly at 202.895.6070.

For more information about the **National Capital Astronomers**, please visit <https://capitalastronomers.org/>.



Join us for an evening of celestial wonder!