# Summer 2025 Buhl Planetarium & Observatory

**ASTRONOMICAL CALENDAR & STAR CHART** 



# Night sky from Pittsburgh, PA 10 p.m. EST mid-July

#### SKYWATCH

Buy tickets to upcoming SkyWatch events at CarnegieScienceCenter.org/SkyWatch.





#### TOP TEN SKYGAZING PICKS

June 2 – Hercules Globular Cluster, M13, overhead at midnight. Binocular viewing.

June 26 – Mercury highest altitude in evening sky.

June 27 – June Bootid Meteor shower

July 16 – close approach Moon, Saturn, Neptune.

July 20 – close approach Moon and M45.

July 21 – Conjunction of Moon and Venus pre-dawn.

Aug. 1 – Venus at highest altitude in morning sky.

**Aug. 12** – Conjunction Venus and Jupiter. Conjunction of Moon and Saturn. Peak of Perseid meteor shower.

Aug. 21 – Mercury highest altitude in morning sky.

## SPRING PLANET VISIBILITIES



*Mercury:* Evening — June and early July. West after sunset. Morning — August.



Venus: Morning – June, July, and August.



*Mars:* Evening — June and July.



Jupiter: Morning - late July and August.

New Moon 🛑 First Quarter 🌓 Full Moon 🔿 Third Quarter 🕕

2: 11: 18: 25:

2: 10: 17: 24:

1: • 9: • 16: • 23: • 31: •



**MOON PHASES KEY** 

**MOON PHASES** 

June

July

August

*Saturn:* Morning – June, July, and August.

### **WHAT'S UP?** Annual Perseid Meteor Shower

The peak of the meteor shower is August 12. Although the waning gibbous Moon will bring brightness to the evening, dimming some of the famous streaks of light, there will be more treasures to observe. Brilliant Venus and Jupiter will be in conjunction in the constellation Gemini. Saturn and the Moon will be in conjunction near Pisces. Added treat, a small telescope will bring nearby Neptune into view.



Image credit: NASA, Bill Ingalls

#### **SPACE NEWS:**

At NASA's Kennedy Space Center, rockets routinely lift off from famous launch pads. As space missions aim to explore cosmic mysteries, NASA's surrounding wildlife preserve aims to protect over 1,500 types of plants and animals, one of which once lived among dinosaurs. The American Horseshoe Crab still roams seashores today. Strong indicators of a balanced ecosystem, NASA's preserve researchers study the horseshoe crab for its contribution to wildlife survival. These resilient creatures even benefit humans. Their blue, copper-based blood was found useful in detecting types of bacterial contamination.



Image credit: Shubham Chatterjee

#### **STAR CHART FAQ**



#### How do I use the star chart?

Hold it out in front of you with the direction you're facing at the bottom of the chart. It works even better if you hold it above your head and look up at it.

#### Why are east and west switched?

They are only switched because you're used to looking at maps of the ground. Hold it above your head, and you'll see the directions line up just right.