

What's in the Sky



November 2023

November 3: Jupiter reaches opposition and will appear its largest and brightest of the year.

November 5: Daylight Savings Time ends. Turn your clocks back 1 hour.

November 5: The Southern Taurids meteor shower is expected to peak at 5 - 10 visible meteors.

November 9: 5:00 - 6:00 AM, the Crescent Moon will be below Venus in a stunning conjunction.

November 10: Comet C/2023 H2 (Lemmon) is heading for its closest approach to Earth. It should be visible with binoculars or a telescope in the evening sky moving across the constellations of Hercules, Aquila, Capricornus, and Piscis Austrinus.

November 11-12: The Northern Taurids meteor shower is expected to peak at 5 - 10 meteors per hour. Both Taurids meteor showers produce only a few meteors per hour but can be seen earlier in the evening as the radiant rises near Taurus the Bull in the late evening instead of pre-dawn like most meteor showers. The Taurid meteors are usually brighter and slower moving than other meteors. If you're outside one of these evenings you might catch a few of them.

November 13: New Moon - New moons generally cannot be seen. Because they rise, cross the sky, and set with the sun during the day. The only time a new moon is visible during the day is during a solar eclipse that occurs during a new moon phase.

November 17 - 19: The Leonids meteor shower is expected to peak at 10 - 18 meteors per hour after midnight. There could be a second peak on November 21. During this second peak the number of meteors per hour could double and be brighter than usual. If you're looking for shooting stars, look toward the Northeastern sky.

November 24-25: Jupiter will be in a close conjunction with the Moon around 6:00 PM.

November 27: Full Moon - At 5:00 PM, the full Beaver Moon will rise before sunset and be visible above the horizon at 6:00 PM. It is called the Beaver Moon because this time of year is when Beavers begin to hibernate in their lodges.

Planets: **Mercury** is a daytime planet now, rising around 8:30 AM. **Venus** rises in pre-dawn hours, rising at 4:00 AM at the beginning of November. **Mars** is a daytime planet now rising about 20 minutes before Mercury. **Jupiter** begins this month rising at 6:45 PM and in the sky all night. **Saturn** is now rising in the afternoon around 3:30 PM and setting at 2:30 AM. **Uranus** rises approximately at 7:15 PM and is in the sky all night. **Neptune** rises in the afternoon around 4:30 PM and is in the night sky until 4:20 AM but is extremely difficult to see.