TO USE MAP:
Hold the map in front of you so that the direction you are facing is on the bottom. The stars on the lower half on the map will match up with the stars in the sky. The center of the map is directly overhead in the sky. Constellation and star pattern names are all capitalized. Names of stars have only the first letter capitalized. The map is valid within an hour of:
11:30pm Mid-May EDT
9:30pm Mid-June EDT

MAGNITUDE is a measure of a star’s brightness.
The lower the number, the brighter the star
- 1st or brighter magnitude star
- 2nd magnitude star
- 3rd magnitude star
- 4th or fainter magnitude star

ECLIPTIC:
The imaginary path of the Sun through the year. Constellations of the Zodiac surround the Ecliptic and the Moon and planets appear along it.
IN THE MAY/JUNE SKY

May 1
Moon near Regulus

May 4
Superior conjunction of Mercury
(See Celestial Highlights)
Eta Aquarid meteor shower
(morning)

May 5
Moon near Spica

May 7
Full Moon

May 12
Moon near Jupiter and Saturn (morning)

May 14
Last quarter Moon

May 15
Moon near Mars (morning)

May 21-22
Mercury near Venus
(See Celestial Highlights)

May 22
New Moon

May 23-24
Moon near Venus and Mercury

May 28
Moon near Regulus

May 29
First quarter Moon

June 1
Moon near Spica

June 3
Inferior conjunction of Venus
(See Celestial Highlights)

June 4
Mercury at greatest elongation
Moon near Antares

June 5
Full Moon

June 8
Moon near Jupiter (morning)

June 9
Moon near Saturn (morning)

June 12-13
Moon near Mars (morning)

June 13
Last quarter Moon

June 19
Moon near Venus (morning)

June 20
Summer Solstice
(See Celestial Highlights)

June 21
New Moon

June 28
First quarter Moon

June 30
Inferior conjunction of Mercury
(See Celestial Highlights)

CELESTIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Planet Conjunctions with Sun – The astronomical term conjunction means that two objects appear in the same place in the sky as seen from Earth. Mercury and Venus being closer to the Sun than the Earth have two different types of conjunctions, inferior and superior. Inferior is when they are between the Earth and Sun in their orbit and superior is when they are on the opposite side of the Sun. Mercury is in conjunction with the Sun on May 4 and June 30. Venus is in inferior conjunction on June 3, moving into the morning sky. Planets in conjunction with the sun are not visible. Thus, Mercury is not visible in early May and late June and Venus is not visible in early June.

Planet and Moon Pairings, Evening Sky – On the evening of May 21 at about 9 pm, Mercury will be below Venus. On the next evening Mercury will have moved to the upper left of Venus. Use the brilliant planet Venus to help you find Mercury. Then on May 23, the Moon will be below Venus and Mercury. The Moon will have moved above Venus and Mercury the next evening.

Planet and Moon Pairings, Morning Sky – On the morning of May 12, the Moon is below both Jupiter and Saturn. On the morning of May 15, the Moon passes below Mars. On June 8 before sunrise the Moon will be below Jupiter. On June 9, the Moon will have moved to the left of Saturn. By the mornings of June 12 and 13 the Moon will be moving below Mars. Finally, on June 19, the very thin crescent Moon will be below Venus, low in the East shortly before sunrise.

Summer Solstice, June 20 – marks the beginning of summer for the Northern Hemisphere with the longest hours of daylight and the shortest night as the North Pole is tilted towards the Sun.

The bi-monthly STARMAP is available on the web at https://www.mdsci.org/learn/resources/starmaps/

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INFO 410-545-2999
Free public observing nights are held Friday evenings from 7:00-10:30pm. Please call after 5:00pm on Friday for observing conditions.