



**Mount Diablo State Park,  
Mount Diablo Astronomical Society (MDAS),  
and the Mount Diablo Observatory Association present  
2011 Public Astronomy Programs on Mount Diablo**

DATE 2011	Program Starts	SPECIAL EVENT AND TOPIC
Mar 5	5:30 PM	<b>WHERE DO STARS COME FROM?</b> Baby stars, teenage stars, old stars, black holes! Take a tour through the telescopes and discover the lives of stars.
Apr 30	7:00 PM	<b>ARE WE ALONE?</b> What will the first alien life we discover likely look like? How will we find it? Where are we looking? Are they looking back at us?
May 7	7:30 PM	<b>RINGS OF SATURN:</b> Here's your chance to see Saturn and the Moon through telescopes. Make a Pocket Solar System and explore the rest of the universe through the telescopes.
Jun 4	8:00 PM	<b>ROCKS FROM SPACE:</b> The Earth is hit all the time with small space rocks. Hold real meteorites in your hand. Why does the Moon have so many craters and Earth so few?
Jul 9	8:00 PM	<b>GO INSIDE A TELESCOPE:</b> How do telescopes work? Take an inside look and learn about 400-year-old technology still in use today! Then view the universe through a variety of telescopes.
Aug 20	7:30 PM	<b>SEARCH FOR ANOTHER EARTH:</b> Why does Earth have abundant life, but nowhere else in our Solar System? How many planets like Earth might be out there in our Galaxy? Take home a star map of other stars with planets.
Sep 3	7:00 PM	<b>A UNIVERSE OF EXPLODING STARS: SUPERNOVA!</b> Why do some stars explode? What would a universe without supernovae be like? Take home a star map that shows which stars will explode as supernovae.
Oct 22	6:00 PM	<b>EXPLORE OUR GALAXY:</b> Build a model of our Galaxy! Solar System, Galaxy, Universe: what's the difference? How big is our Galaxy compared to our Solar System? Take home a model of our galaxy.

**Program:** Participate in hands-on astronomy activities, followed by supervised observing through the many different telescopes of MDAS members to view the Moon, planets, stars, galaxies and more.

**Time:** Evening, beginning about an hour before sunset and lasting up to several hours. Plan to enter the park gate at least 45 minutes before the program starts.

**Where:** Lower Summit parking lot of Mt. Diablo State Park, Walnut Creek.

**Cost:** The astronomy program is free; there is a park entry fee.

**Bring:** Kids, binoculars, warm clothes (temperature can drop significantly), snacks, water. If you bring a flashlight, please cover it with red cellophane, red cloth, or a red balloon.

**Leaving:** The Park gates will be locked and visitors will only be able to leave the summit and exit the park by escorted caravans through the North Gate several times during the evening. Caravans will be announced at various intervals following the program discussion and visitors should only leave with these escorts.

**NOTE:** Astronomy Program is weather permitting (including "High Fire Danger"). Check our Program Calendar: [www.mdas.net/event\\_calendar.htm](http://www.mdas.net/event_calendar.htm) or call Mt. Diablo State Park – 925-837-2525.



**Mount Diablo Astronomical Society:** [www.mdas.net](http://www.mdas.net)  
**A proud member of the NASA Night Sky Network:** <http://nightskynetwork.net>  
**Email:** [outreachinfo@mdas.net](mailto:outreachinfo@mdas.net)