



## 2016 Public Astronomy Programs on Mount Diablo

Presented by Mount Diablo State Park,  
Mount Diablo Astronomical Society (MDAS),  
Mount Diablo Observatory Association

DATE 2016	Program Starts	PROGRAM FEATURE
Mar 26	7:00 PM	<b>OUR PAST &amp; FUTURE WRITTEN IN THE STARS:</b> Where did we come from? Where are we going? Follow the story as you tour the telescopes.
Apr 9	7:00 PM	<b>SEARCH FOR ALIEN WORLDS:</b> Explore where extreme life exists on Earth. What does that tell us about where we might find life elsewhere in the galaxy? Which stars have planets? (We'll also get you ready for the Mercury Transit the morning of May 9)
May 14	7:30 PM	<b>MOON: EARTH'S LOST ROCK:</b> How would Earth be different without the Moon? How is our Earth like our Moon? Explore the Moon in telescopes.
Jun 11	8:00 PM	<b>WE ARE STARDUST:</b> Where does the iron in your blood come from? The calcium in the bones of the coyote? The gold in California mines? "We are stardust" is explained.
Jul 9	7:30 PM	<b>ARE YOU SOLAR POWERED?</b> Discover the REAL power of the Sun. Arrive at 7:30 to safely view the Sun through telescopes. View planets, moons and stars after the sun sets.
Aug 27	7:30 PM	<b>PLANETS OF OUR SOLAR SYSTEM:</b> Here's your chance to see Saturn, Mars, Jupiter, Venus AND our Moon through the telescopes. Make a Pocket Solar System and imagine what it would be like to live on other worlds.
Sep 24	6:30 PM	<b>OUR PLACE IN OUR GALAXY:</b> What is our Milky Way Galaxy – and where is our place in it? See the center of our galaxy. Tour our galaxy through the telescopes.
Oct 8	6:00 PM	<b>LIGHTS AND SHADOWS:</b> Moon shadows; Earth's shadow; What is day and night, really? Is that Saturn or is it a star? Shadows, reflections and starlight in space.
<b>2017</b> Mar 4	7:00 PM	<b>First astronomy program of 2017 – mark your calendar!</b>

**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. You may stay until 11:00 p.m.\*\* **Plan to enter the park entry gate at least 45 minutes before the program starts.**

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

**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 or red cloth.

**\*\*Leaving:** The Park gates will be locked and visitors will be able to leave the summit and **exit the park only by escorted caravans through the North Gate** a few times during the evening. Caravans will be announced at hourly intervals during the program (1st caravan: one hour after sunset) and for safety, visitors should only leave with these escorts.



**NOTE:** Astronomy Program is weather permitting (including "High Fire Danger"). Rain cancels. Go to: <http://www.mdas.net> and click on **Event Calendar** 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)