

Foothills Park Star Party Schedule for 2009

by William Phelps, Peninsula Astronomical Society

The following are the dates for this year's Palo Alto Foothills Park public star parties. As in past years, anyone bringing a "telescope" is allowed access to the park – normally you must be a Palo Alto resident to get in.

April 25 – 8:00 PM to 10:30 – sunset 7:54 PM, 1% waxing crescent Moon sets 9:08 PM

May 30 – 8:30 PM to 11 – sunset 8:23 PM, 50% 1st Quarter Moon sets 1:34 AM Sunday

June 27 – 8:30 PM to 11 – sunset 8:34 PM, 36% waxing crescent Moon sets 12:04 AM Sunday

July 25 – 8:30 PM to 11 – sunset 8:23 PM, 22% waxing crescent Moon sets 10:32 PM

August 15 – 8:30 PM to 11 – sunset 8:01 PM, 24% waning crescent Moon sets 5:21 PM

September 19 – 7:30 PM to 10:00 – sunset 7:10 PM, 3% waxing crescent Moon sets 7:26 PM

October 17 – 7:30 PM to 10:00 – sunset 6:26 PM, 0% New Moon sets 5:55 PM

Events will be cancelled if it's cloudy!!!

New for 2009: The Park entrance will be closed at the start time given above! Be sure to get there before they close the gate or you won't get in!

These are all Saturday evenings. Start time is around sunset; come early, bring a picnic supper, and enjoy the view. Star party ends at time given above for the public; astronomers may stay longer if a PAS member can be present to let people out. Setup is on Vista Hill, with parking for astronomers on the inner/upper loop, which will (hopefully) be blocked off to the public. Note that a telescope is required to gain access to the park if you are not a Palo Alto resident.