



1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,000

Music.

2
00:00:02,000 --> 00:00:05,000

Jane Houston Jones: What's Up for July. The Milky Way rises in the East

3
00:00:05,000 --> 00:00:08,000

and Mars and Saturn sink lower in the West.

4
00:00:08,000 --> 00:00:15,000

Hello and welcome. I'm Jane Houston Jones at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

5
00:00:15,000 --> 00:00:20,000

If you haven't been under a dark sky for a while, July's a great month to make a getaway.

6
00:00:20,000 --> 00:00:26,000

Many parks have astronomy programs at night and dark conditions to show off the summer skies.

7
00:00:26,000 --> 00:00:31,000

In the southern sky you'll see the constellations Sagittarius and Scorpius

8
00:00:31,000 --> 00:00:34,000

separated by the core of our Milky Way galaxy.

9
00:00:34,000 --> 00:00:39,000

Even with a pair of binoculars, you'll find star clusters and knots of nebulae.

10
00:00:39,000 --> 00:00:42,000

Just aim at the brighter, clumpy areas.

11
00:00:42,000 --> 00:00:46,000

On the other side of the sky, watch a planetary pairing unfold.

12
00:00:46,000 --> 00:00:52,000

Mars moves closer to Saturn this month, preparing for their planetary meetup in August.

13
00:00:52,000 --> 00:00:57,000

Saturn, with its rings wide open, is larger and brighter than Mars.

14

00:00:57,000 --> 00:00:58,000

Sound: Whoosh of spacecraft.

15

00:00:58,000 --> 00:01:03,000

Jones: On August 5 they'll make a pretty pair, just in time for the landing of NASA's rover Curiosity

16

00:01:03,000 --> 00:01:12,000

on the red planet. That's at 10:31 p.m. Pacific Time on the 5th, or 1:31 a.m. Eastern Time on the 6th.

17

00:01:12,000 --> 00:01:17,000

Early risers will witness a vertical line dance all month long

18

00:01:17,000 --> 00:01:23,000

starring red Aldebaran, bright Venus, the Hyades star cluster, Jupiter and the Pleiades.

19

00:01:23,000 --> 00:01:28,000

The crescent moon joins the party July 14 through the 16th.

20

00:01:28,000 --> 00:01:33,000

Send yourself a reminder to step outside on the evenings of July 24th and 25th.

21

00:01:33,000 --> 00:01:40,000

That's when the waxing moon pairs up with Mars, Saturn and Virgo's great white star Spica.

22

00:01:40,000 --> 00:01:47,000

To find a summer sky viewing event held by an astronomy club near you, check out the Night Sky Network map

23

00:01:47,000 --> 00:01:52,000

You can learn about all of NASA's missions, including next month's landing of the Mars Science Laboratory

24

00:01:52,000 --> 00:01:57,000

rover Curiosity, at www.nasa.gov.