



Looking south-southwest

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,000
Music.

2
00:00:03,000 --> 00:00:05,000
Jane Houston Jones: What's up for October.

3
00:00:05,000 --> 00:00:07,000
A total lunar eclipse.

4
00:00:07,000 --> 00:00:09,000
A partial solar eclipse.

5
00:00:09,000 --> 00:00:11,000
And Mars meets a comet.

6
00:00:11,000 --> 00:00:17,000
Hello and welcome. I'm Jane Houston Jones from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

7
00:00:17,000 --> 00:00:22,000
Mars and Comet Siding Spring are moving closer to each other this month.

8
00:00:22,000 --> 00:00:28,000
On October 19, the comet and the planet pass within 81,000 miles of one another.

9
00:00:28,000 --> 00:00:33,000
You may be able to spot the comet leading up to--and after--the 19th.

10
00:00:33,000 --> 00:00:39,000
But from the U.S., you'll need an unobstructed view of the south-southwestern horizon just after sunset.

11
00:00:39,000 --> 00:00:44,000
Try spotting Mars first. It's to the upper left of the orange star Antares,

12
00:00:44,000 --> 00:00:48,000
near the horizon at about 7:30 p.m. local time.

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00:00:48,000 --> 00:00:51,000

Then, use your binoculars to scan for the comet.

14

00:00:51,000 --> 00:00:57,000

Even through amateur telescopes, Comet Siding Spring may be just too faint to see.

15

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

Even if it's not visible at your location,

16

00:01:00,000 --> 00:01:04,000

the comet will be visible to our missions currently at Mars. And we hope to get back images.

17

00:01:04,000 --> 00:01:06,000

Sound: Whoosh.

18

00:01:06,000 --> 00:01:11,000

Jones: Set your alarm clock for an after-midnight wakeup on the morning of October 8.

19

00:01:11,000 --> 00:01:15,000

The moon enters Earth's deep shadow for the second lunar eclipse of the year

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00:01:15,000 --> 00:01:21,000

at 2:15 a.m. on the west coast of North America. That's 5:15 on the east coast.

21

00:01:21,000 --> 00:01:26,000

The total phase will begin at 3:15 a.m. on the west coast, or 6:15 on the east coast.

22

00:01:26,000 --> 00:01:29,000

Sound: Whoosh.

23

00:01:29,000 --> 00:01:35,000

Jones: Two weeks later, from North America, a partial solar eclipse will be visible in the late afternoon.

24

00:01:35,000 --> 00:01:39,000

On the east coast, the sun sets before the eclipse reaches its maximum,

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00:01:39,000 --> 00:01:42,000

but observers will see a dramatic partial eclipse.

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00:01:42,000 --> 00:01:48,000

The deepest eclipse, where the moon's silhouette extends nearly all the way across the sun,

27

00:01:48,000 --> 00:01:51,000

will be visible far to the north in the Canadian Arctic.

28

00:01:51,000 --> 00:01:57,000

On the west coast, the dark silhouette will cover about half the sun in the late afternoon.

29

00:01:57,000 --> 00:02:02,000

The eclipse is not visible in Maine, Massachusetts or Rhode Island.

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00:02:02,000 --> 00:02:07,000

Remember: Never look directly at the sun during an eclipse--or any time.

31

00:02:07,000 --> 00:02:13,000

You can learn more about solar and lunar eclipses at [eclipse dot g s f c dot nasa dot gov](http://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov)

32

00:02:13,000 --> 00:02:17,000

And you can learn all about Comet Siding Spring's encounter with Mars at

33

00:02:17,000 --> 00:02:23,000

[mars dot nasa dot gov slash comets slash sidingspring](http://mars.nasa.gov/comets/sidingspring)