



# FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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## Information Release

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IR-087

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## Watch the Moon Disappear at Observatory Park

Countless people on planet Earth will turn their head skyward to view a celestial event of epic proportions and you can join them. Watch the moon do a disappearing act in the dark skies over Observatory Park at a public viewing of the lunar eclipse on Sunday evening, September 27, 2015.

The park, located at the Fairfax County Park Authority's Turner Farm in Great Falls, will be open to the public from 7:30 p.m. to 12:45 a.m. There will be telescopes available to get a closer look at the moon, planets, stars, star clusters, nebulae and galaxies.

Moon-gazers are invited to bring blankets and lawn chairs to watch the eclipse in comfort. Those who want to bring their own telescopes and set up on the field are welcome to do so but are advised to come early to avoid the crowds. People will be on hand to direct traffic and participants are asked to park in the parking lot or open areas and then walk into the park through the open pedestrian gates at the parking lot.

Times for the lunar eclipse are:

- 8:11 p.m. -- Start of the Penumbral eclipse (subtle darkening of the moon).
- 9:07 p.m. -- Partial Eclipse begins.
- 10:11 p.m. -- Full eclipse begins.
- 10:47 p.m. -- Mid-point of full eclipse
- 11:23 p.m. -- Full eclipse ends as edge of moon exits the Earth's shadow.
- 12:27 a.m. -- Partial eclipse ends.

The Park Authority is partnering with the Analemma Society to host this public moon-gazing event. It is weather-dependent and will be canceled in the event of solid cloud cover or rain. Please check the Analemma Society website at [www.analemma.org](http://www.analemma.org) if the weather is questionable. Turner Farm is located at 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls, VA.

For more information, contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.