

Meteor Showers

By Geoff Gaherty

Starry Night Education

Major Meteor Showers visible during the night where the expected Zenith Hourly Rate (ZHR) will be 10 or more, or where the rate may be variable. Since more meteors are always seen after midnight, these dates are the best **mornings** to observe.

2012 Meteor Showers

Meteor Shower	Best Date	Constellation to look towards	ZHR	Originates From
Quadrantid	January 4	Bootes	120	not known
Lyrid	April 22	Lyra	20	Comet Thatcher
Pi-Puppis	April 23	Puppis	variable	not known
Eta-Aquarid	May 6	Aquarius	60	Halley's Comet
June Bootid	June 27	Bootes	variable	not known
S. Delta-Aquarid	July 29	Aquarius	20	not known
Perseid	August 12	Perseus	90	Comet Swift-Tuttle
Aurigid	September 1	Auriga	variable	not known
Draconid	October 8	Draco	variable	not known
Orionid	October 21	Orion	20	Halley's Comet
S. Taurid	November 5	Taurus	10	not known
N. Taurid	November 12	Taurus	15	not known
Leonid	November 17	Leo	20	Comet Temple-Tuttle
Alpha-Monocerotid	November 21	Monoceros	variable	not known
Dec Phoenicid	December 6	Phoenix	variable	not known
Puppis/Velid	December 6	Puppis	10	not known
Geminid	December 14	Gemini	120	Asteroid 3200 Phaethon
Ursid	December 22	Ursa Minor	10	not known

Sources: RASC Observer's Handbook 2012 and International Meteor Organization