

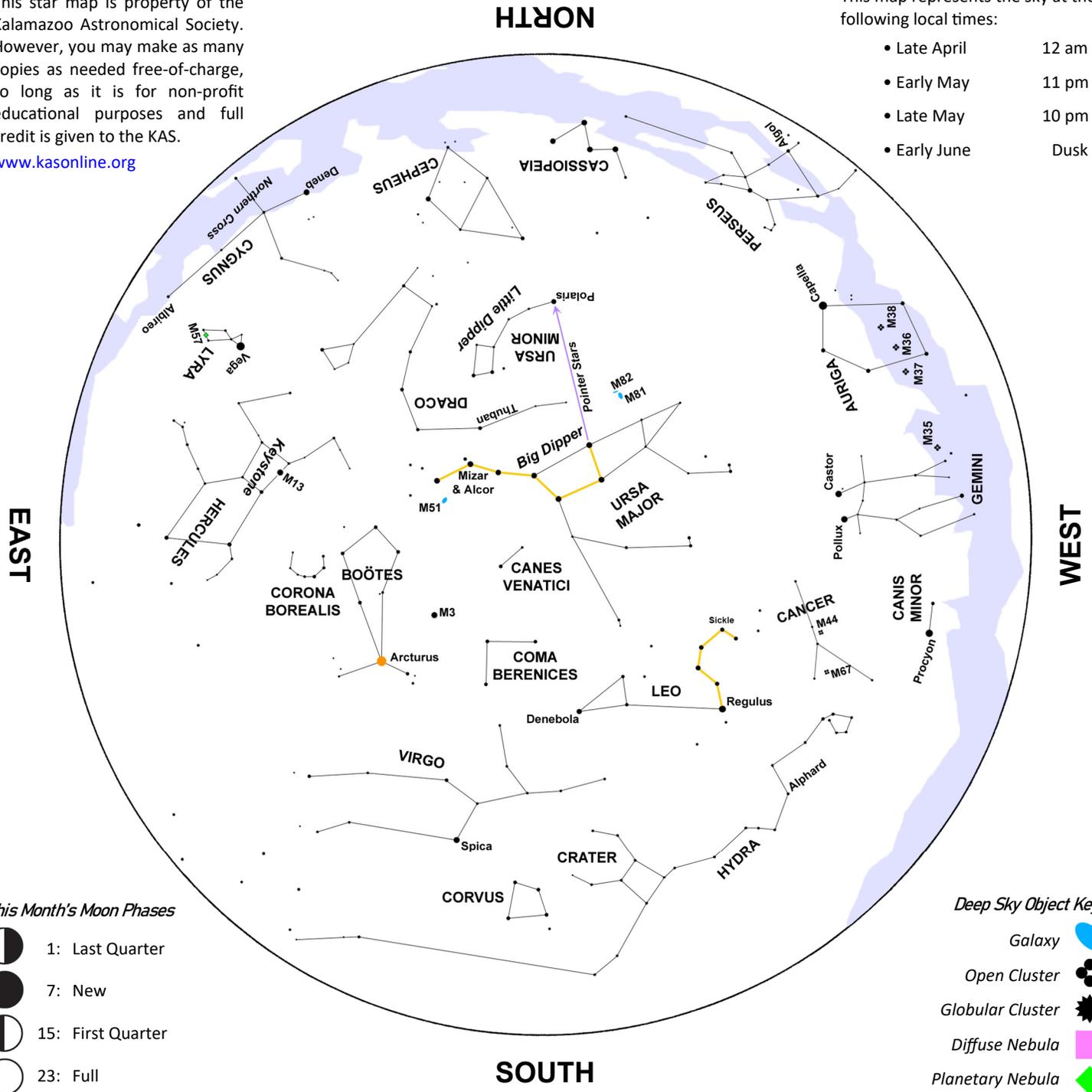
May Night Sky

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This map represents the sky at the following local times:

- Late April 12 am
- Early May 11 pm
- Late May 10 pm
- Early June Dusk



If you're up before dawn on May 3rd, look toward the east-southeast to see a waning crescent Moon, Saturn, and Mars in a line about 20° long.

The Eta Aquariid meteor shower, fragments of Halley's Comet itself, peak at 5am on May 5th. This shower favors the Southern Hemisphere, but those of us in the U.S. may catch a few stray Aquariids.

While you're out trying to spot some Aquariid meteors, look for a thin, waning crescent Moon shortly before dawn on May 5th. It trails Mars by about 5° when they rise together above the eastern horizon.

Face southwest on the evening of May 15th to see a first-quarter Moon 3° to the upper left of Leo's heart, Regulus. Use binoculars to get a clearer view.

A waxing gibbous Moon spends the night of May 19th-20th in the constellation Virgo. Watch as the gap between the Moon and Spica shrinks from about 4° to 2° as they arc above the southwestern horizon.

Look for the rising Moon on the evening of May 23rd. Antares, the heart of Scorpius, will be less than 1/2° above the lunar disk. Use binoculars to cut through the Moon's glare.