

## Transit of Mercury: November 11, 2019, 7 am - 1 pm

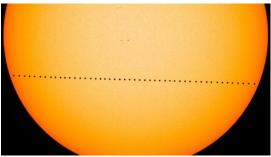


Illustration of the path of Mercury across the face of the sun. Credit: <u>Astronomers Without Borders</u>.

November 11, 2019 – Join us at New England Sci-Tech for this rare astronomical event!

Mercury will cross the edge of the Sun and into view at 7:36 am Eastern Standard Time (EST). Mercury will slowly cross the face of the sun, reaching the mid-point at approximately 10:20 pm EST, and finally leaving the Sun at 1:04 p.m. The entire path across the sun will be visible\* here in Natick and across the Eastern North America. Here's a map of the transit.

New England Sci-Tech will open at 7:00 am for a breakfast talk with the astronomy staff. We begin with a Keynote presentation about how the transit will happen and why it is such a rare event. All-age appropriate. Coffee, juice, cereal, muffins, bagels, etc. available for a small donation.

When the transit begins, you may look through a safe solar telescope\* to see the silhouette of Mercury slowly crossing in front of the sun. This event will last until 1:04 pm, so join us any time during the transit. There will be planetarium shows, maker activities, and amateur radio demonstrations.

\*CAUTION: Never look at the Sun directly or through a telescope without proper solar filters! It can cause serious and permanent vision damage. Mercury is very small compared to the Sun (only 1/158 of its apparent diameter), so it must be viewed with a solar telescope.

- www.nescitech.org/transit-of-mercury/ -