

# Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

A publication of the Mars Program Office and the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

June 2021

## Mars Science News

### MEPAG Virtual Meeting #12 (VM12) June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

MEPAG Virtual Meeting #12 (VM12) will take place on Monday June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm PDT. The agenda includes updates about recent MEPAG, Mars Exploration Program (MEP), and Mars Sample Return (MSR) activities. There will also be extended discussion of the Mars Ice Mapper activity and reports from recent Mars mission on their status and plans, including from *Perseverance*, *Ingenuity*, *InSight* and *Curiosity*. We know it is a busy time, but this is a chance to catch up on the many changes in Mars exploration planning. The 2nd Information Circular with full meeting agenda are available on the MEPAG [website](#).

### Near-term Due Dates (next three months)

Due	Conference
June 18	<a href="#">PLATO Mission Conference 2021</a> – Abstract Deadline
June 23	<a href="#">5<sup>th</sup> Planetary Data Workshop</a> – Registration Deadline
July 1	<a href="#">Planetary Science: The Young Solar System</a> – Abstract Deadline
July 20	<a href="#">Geological Society of America</a> – Abstract Deadline
July 22	<a href="#">Planetary Science: The Young Solar System</a> – Early Registration Deadline

### Upcoming Conferences

- Note that for civil servants and those under contract with NASA, foreign and NASA-sponsored conferences generally need to be forecasted via NCTS. Forecasting to NCTS is usually due 60 days in advance for domestic meetings. If you are unsure whether an event is a conference or not, or when the deadline may be, please consult with your NASA Center conference forecasting/travel unit.
- **The situation for COVID-19, while improving for many parts of the world, continues to evolve, so that there are conferences with both in-person and virtual formats. It is advisable to check with the websites of the conference and confirm with the organization of any changes.**

## 2021

<b>NEW</b>	June 21, 2021 VIRTUAL	<b>MEPAG Virtual Meeting #12</b> <a href="https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meetings.cfm?expand=vm12">https://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meetings.cfm?expand=vm12</a>
<b>NEW</b>	June 24, 2021 Virtual	<b>ExoPAG</b> <a href="https://exoplanets.nasa.gov/exep/events/347/exopag-24-virtual-meeting/">https://exoplanets.nasa.gov/exep/events/347/exopag-24-virtual-meeting/</a>
	June 28-July 2, 2021 Flagstaff, AZ, USA	<b>5th Planetary Data Workshop</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/planetdata2021/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/planetdata2021/</a>

## 2021

<b>NEW</b>	August 11-13, 2021 VIRTUAL	<b>12th Planetary Crater Consortium (PCC) Meeting</b> <a href="https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/crater2021/">https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/crater2021/</a>
	August 14-21, 2021 Chicago, IL, USA	<b>84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> <a href="https://www.metsoc2021-chicago.com">https://www.metsoc2021-chicago.com</a>
	September 6-12, 2021 Quy Nhon, Vietnam	<b>Planetary Science: The Young Solar System</b> <a href="https://www.icisequynhon.com/conferences/2020/planetary_science/">https://www.icisequynhon.com/conferences/2020/planetary_science/</a>
	September 13-24, 2021 VIRTUAL	<b>Europlanet Science Congress 2021</b> <a href="https://www.epsc2021.eu/">https://www.epsc2021.eu/</a>
	September 14-17, 2021 VIRTUAL	<b>NASA Astrobiology Graduate ConfereN/Ce (AbGradCon)</b> <a href="https://www.abgradcon.org/">https://www.abgradcon.org/</a>
<b>UPDATE</b>	October 3-8, 2021 VIRTUAL	<b>53rd Meeting of the AAS Division for Planetary Sciences (DPS)</b> <a href="https://dps.aas.org/meetings/future">https://dps.aas.org/meetings/future</a>
	October 6-8, 2021 Long Beach, CA, USA	<b>Space Tech Expo USA</b> <a href="https://www.spacetecheexpo.com">https://www.spacetecheexpo.com</a>
<b>NEW</b>	October 10-13 Portland, OR, USA	<b>Geological Society of America (GSA)</b> <a href="https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2021/registration">https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2021/registration</a>
	October 11-15, 2021 VIRTUAL	<b>PLATO Mission Conference 2021</b> <a href="http://platomissionconference2021.iaa.es/">http://platomissionconference2021.iaa.es/</a>
	December 13-17, 2021 Hybrid / New Orleans, LA, USA	<b>AGU 2021 Fall Meeting</b> <a href="https://www.agu.org/Fall-Meeting">https://www.agu.org/Fall-Meeting</a>

## Seasons on Mars

	MY36	MY37	MY38
Start of Northern Spring / L <sub>s</sub> 0	02/07/2021	12/26/2022	11/12/24
Start of Northern Summer / L <sub>s</sub> 90	08/25/2021	07/13/2023	05/29/25
Start of Northern Autumn / L <sub>s</sub> 180	02/24/2022	01/12/2024	11/29/25
Start of Northern Winter / L <sub>s</sub> 270	07/21/2022	06/07/2024	04/25/26

## U.S. Federal holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/meetings



Federal Holidays	
New Year's Day	January 1
Martin Luther King, Jr.	January 18
Washington's Birthday	February 15
Memorial Day	May 31
Independence Day	July 5
Labor Day	September 6
Columbus Day	October 11
Veterans Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	November 25
Christmas Day	December 24

### Editors

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Please send Mars Community Announcements and calendar items for inclusion in next month's newsletter to:

Barbara Saltzberg at [Barbara.a.Saltzberg@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Barbara.a.Saltzberg@jpl.nasa.gov)

This newsletter (and all previous months') is also posted on the MEPAG website: <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov>

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