



# St. Charles County Government

Department of Parks and Recreation  
Bettie Yahn-Kramer, Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## Last Transit of Venus Viewing of 21<sup>st</sup> Century at Broemmelsiek Park

*St. Charles County, Missouri* – On Tuesday, June 5, the St. Charles County Parks Department is teaming up with the Astronomical Society of Eastern Missouri (ASEM) to host a public viewing of the Transit of Venus across the sun. The event will take place at the Astronomy Viewing Area of Broemmelsiek Park, 1615 Schwede Rd., off Highway DD (Winghaven Blvd.), south of O’Fallon. This will be the last transit of Venus that will be visible from Earth for over 100 years!

A transit of Venus is, in effect, a tiny sort of eclipse of the Sun. It occurs when the planet passes directly between Earth and the Sun. From Earth, it appears as if Venus is a small dot moving slowly across the surface of the Sun. This rare occurrence last happened in 2004, and won’t happen again until 2117.

- The transit will begin at 5:04 p.m.
- The transit is in full view at 5:22 p.m.
- The transit will end at sunset, 8:25 p.m.

Members of the ASEM will bring telescopes with proper solar filters for public viewing. Special glasses will also be handed out on a first come, first served basis. Eye protection is important, because looking at the transit without proper solar filters can cause severe damage to the eye. If anyone desires to photograph the event, please consult ASEM’s Digital SIG group in advance for tips.

Weather permitting, anyone interested in attending the rare transit of Venus viewing is welcome; no reservations are required. For directions, please visit [www.stccparks.org](http://www.stccparks.org), or contact the St. Charles County Parks Department at 636.949.7535.

For more information on the transit of Venus, visit [www.asemonline.org](http://www.asemonline.org).

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