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## Current Conditions

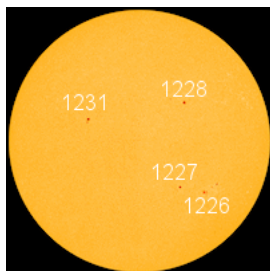
### Solar wind

speed: **411.1** km/sec  
density: **2.6** protons/cm<sup>3</sup>  
[explanation](#) | [more data](#)  
Updated: Today at 2305 UT

### X-ray Solar Flares

6-hr max: **B3** 2119 UT Jun06  
24-hr: **C1** 0135 UT Jun06  
[explanation](#) | [more data](#)  
Updated: Today at: 2300 UT

### Daily Sun: 06 Jun 11



None of the sunspots on the solar disk pose a threat for strong flares. Credit: SDO/HMI

### Sunspot number: 74

[What is the sunspot number?](#)  
Updated 05 Jun 2011

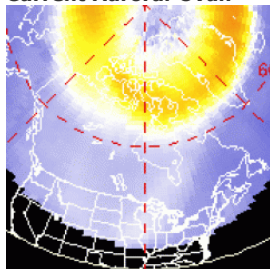
### Spotless Days

Current Stretch: 0 days  
2011 total: 1 day (<1%)  
2010 total: 51 days (14%)  
2009 total: 260 days (71%)  
Since 2004: 820 days  
Typical Solar Min: 486 days  
Updated 05 Jun 2011

### The Radio Sun

10.7 cm flux: **103** sfu  
[explanation](#) | [more data](#)  
Updated 05 Jun 2011

### Current Auroral Oval:



Switch to: [Europe](#), [USA](#), [New Zealand](#), [Antarctica](#)  
Credit: NOAA/POES

Planet: [K index](#)

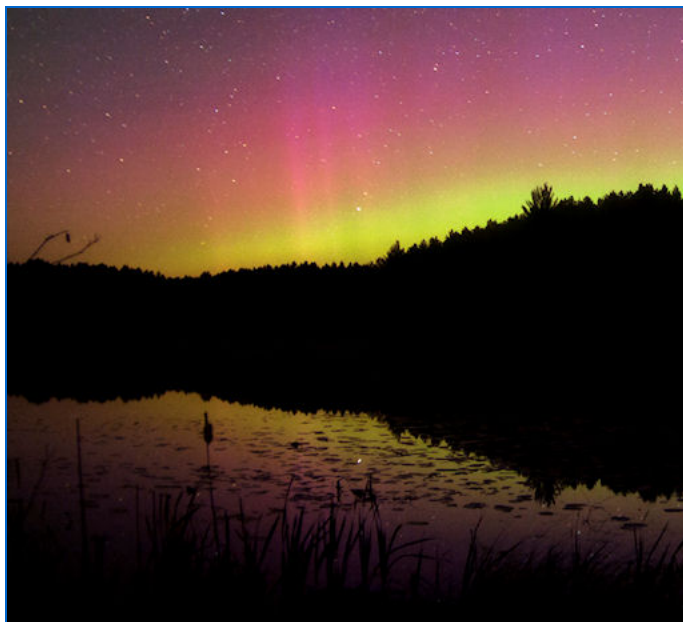
## What's up in space

Are we alone? Your iPhone has the answer. Download the all-new Drake Equation app to calculate the population of the Milky Way.



**HUNDREDS WITNESS SOLAR BLAST:** "On June 5th, while displaying the sun to 500+ kids and their families at the Virginia Highlands Summer Festival in Atlanta, GA, we witnessed [an incredible display](#) of solar activity," reports amateur astronomer Stephen W. Ramsden. "A magnetically supercharged chunk of hot plasma was ejected from the limb of the sun right before our eyes. It just hung there over the stellar surface almost 25 Earth-diameters high. The event was breathtaking to watch and really got the attendees interested in our nearest star." [\[must-see image\]](#)

**WEEKEND AURORAS:** A coronal mass ejection(CME) hit Earth's magnetic field on June 4th around 20:30 UT. The impact sparked a [G2-class](#) geomagnetic storm and Northern Lights in the United States as far south as Wisconsin, Maine, and Minnesota. Brian Larmay photographed the display from a lakeshore near Pembine, WI:



"It was a perfect night under the stars in the northwoods of Wisconsin as the northern lights danced above the pines," says Larmay. "An exposure of 60s was enough to reveal not only the lights in the sky but also their reflections in the lake. Beautiful!"

The storm is subsiding now, and geomagnetic activity is expected to be low for the next three days.

### [June 2011 Aurora Gallery](#)

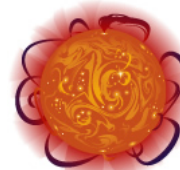
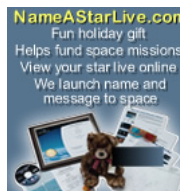
[Aurora alerts: [text](#), [voice](#)] [previous Junes: [2010](#), [2008](#), [2001](#)]

**NOCTILUCENT CLOUDS:** The 2011 season for [noctilucent clouds](#) (NLCs) is underway, and it is intensifying. Observers are now reporting electric-blue waves and filaments in the sunset skies of both Europe and North America. Last night, Bob Conzemius photographed a vivid display over Trout Lake, Minnesota, and--bonus--he caught some Northern Lights, too. Click on the image to set the scene in motion:

Monday, Jun. 6, 2011

### archives

June  
6  
2011  
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## Large Detached Solar Prominence

[Stephen W. Ramsden](#)

Image taken:

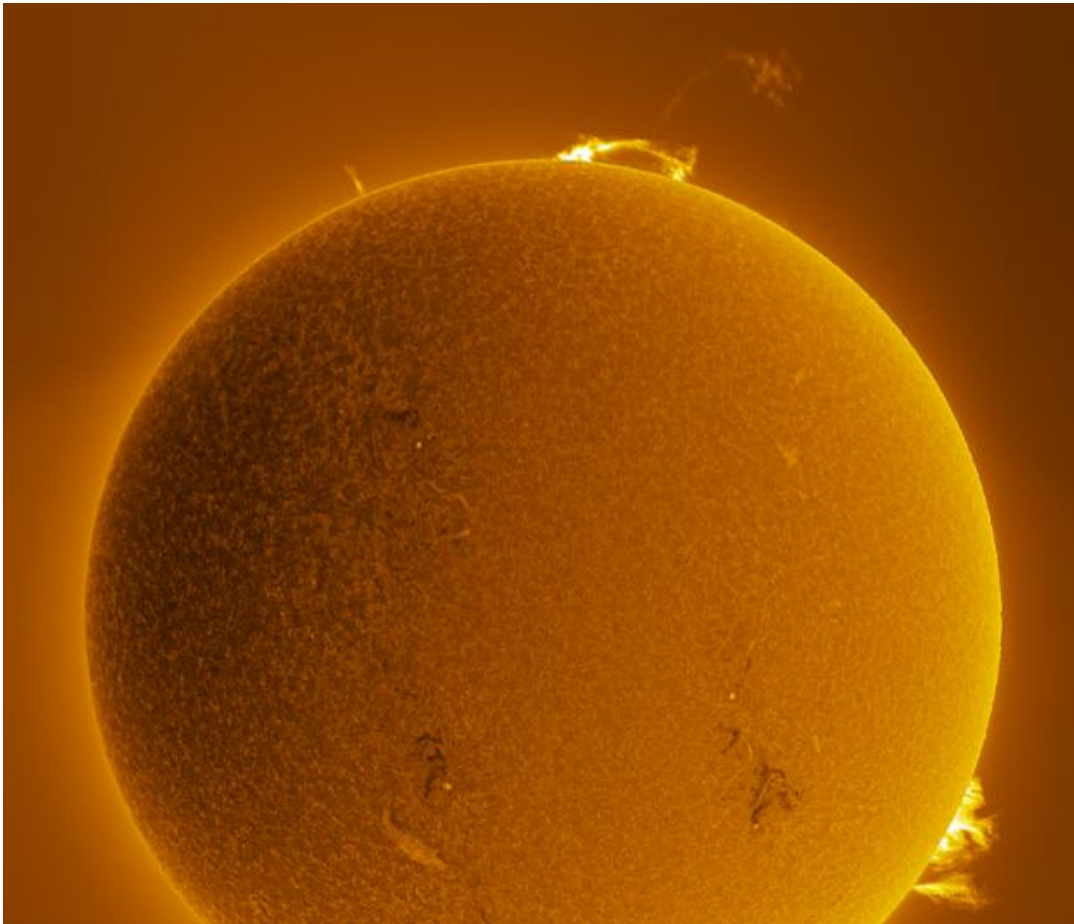
**Jun. 5, 2011**

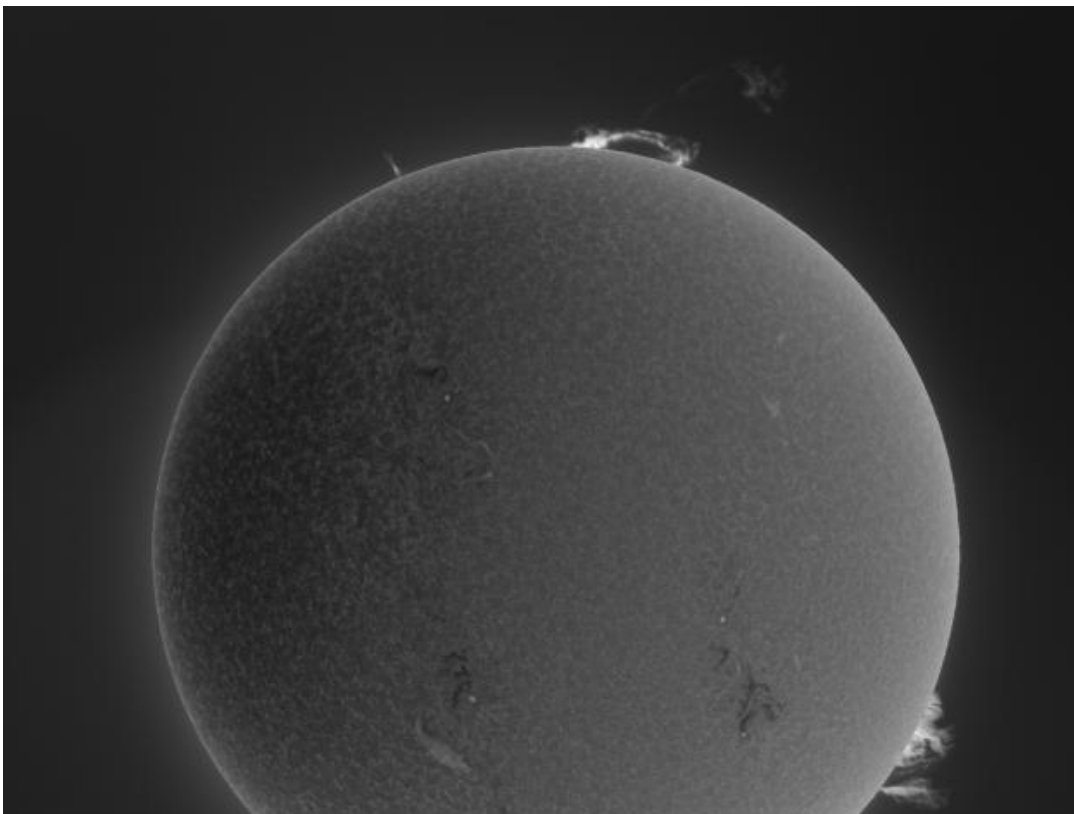
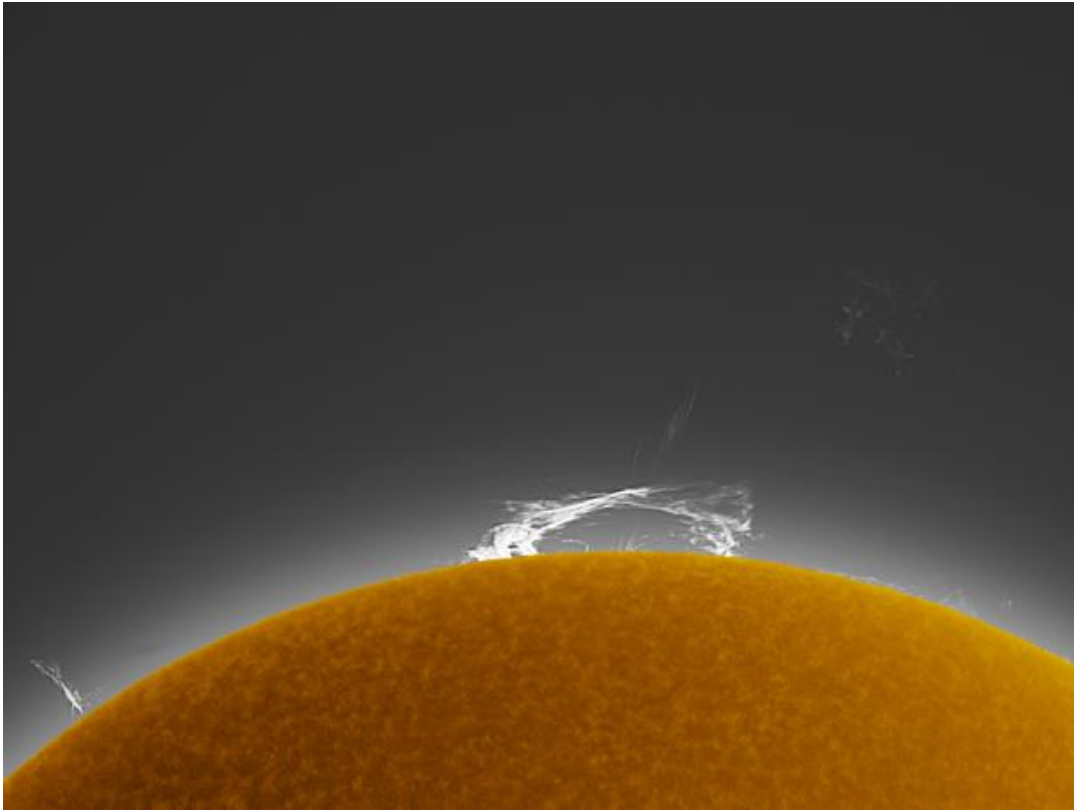
Location:

**Atlanta, GA**

Details:

**While displaying the Sun to 500+ kids and their families at the Virginia Highlands Summer Festival in Atlanta, GA, we were all witness to this incredible display of solar activity. Early in the morning a large magnetically supercharged chunk of Hydrogen Plasma was ejected from the limb of the Sun right before our eyes. It just hung there over the Sun almost 25 Earth Diameters high. It was breathtaking to watch and really got the attendees interested in our nearest star.**





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