



Current Conditions

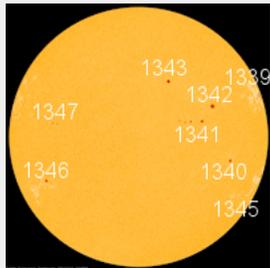
Solar wind

speed: **370.0** km/sec
density: **3.6** protons/cm³
[explanation](#) | [more data](#)
Updated: Today at 0906 UT

X-ray Solar Flares

6-hr max: **C5** 0930 UT Nov14
24-hr: **C5** 0930 UT Nov14
[explanation](#) | [more data](#)
Updated: Today at: 1200 UT

Daily Sun: 14 Nov 11



All of the sunspots on the Earthside of the sun are quiet and pose little threat for geoeffective flares. Credit: SDO/HMI

Sunspot number: 142

[What is the sunspot number?](#)
Updated 13 Nov 2011

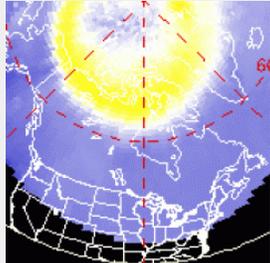
Spotless Days

Current Stretch: 0 days
2011 total: 2 days (<1%)
2010 total: 51 days (14%)
2009 total: 260 days (71%)
Since 2004: 821 days
Typical Solar Min: 486 days
Updated 13 Nov 2011

The Radio Sun

10.7 cm flux: **155** sfu
[explanation](#) | [more data](#)
Updated 13 Nov 2011

Current Auroral Oval:



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

Planetary K-index

Now: **Kp= 0** quiet
24-hr max: **Kp= 1** quiet
[explanation](#) | [more data](#)

Interplanetary Mag. Field

B_{total}: **5.9** nT
B_z: **1.0** nT north
[explanation](#) | [more data](#)

What's up in space

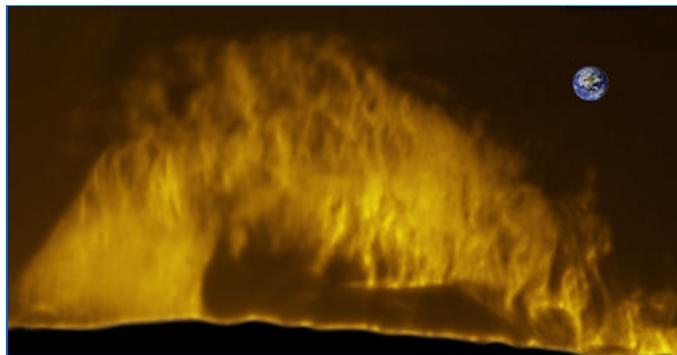
Monday, Nov. 14, 2011

They came from outer space--and you can have one! Genuine meteorites are now on sale in the Space Weather Store.



VENUS-DIRECTED CME: A coronal mass ejection (CME, [movie](#)) that swept past Mercury on Nov. 13th will likely hit Venus later today. Because Venus has no global magnetic field to protect it, the impact could erode material directly from the top of the planet's atmosphere. It's okay; Venus has atmosphere to spare. Analysts at the Goddard Space Weather Lab calculated [the path](#) of the CME, which left the sun on Nov. 12th.

REMARKABLE SOLAR ACTIVITY: There haven't been any strong solar flares in days. Nevertheless, some impressive activity is underway on the sun. For one thing, an enormous wall of plasma is towering over the sun's southeastern horizon. Stephen Ramsden of Atlanta, Georgia, took this picture on Nov. 11th:



"Solar forums all over the world are buzzing with Sun-stromers proclaiming this to be the biggest prominence that many of them had ever witnessed," he says.

Remarkably, though, this is not the biggest thing. A dark filament of magnetism is winding halfway around the entire sun: [SDO image](#). From end to end, it stretches more than a million km or about three times the distance between Earth and the Moon. If the filament becomes unstable, as solar filaments are prone to do, it could collapse and hit the stellar surface below, triggering a [Hyder flare](#). No one can say if the eruption of such a sprawling structure would be Earth directed.

"I cant help but wonder what could possibly come next since we are still over a year away from the forecasted Solar Maximum," adds Ramsden. "There's never been a better time to own a [solar telescope](#) than now!"

more images: [from Alan Friedman](#) of Buffalo, NY; [from Theo Ramakers](#) of Social Circle, GA; [from John Stetson](#) of Falmouth, Maine; [from Randy Shivak](#) of Elyria, OH; [from Steve Riegel](#) of Albuquerque, NM; [from Robert Arnold](#) of Ilse of Skye, Scotland

DISAPPEARING TRICK: If you're a spy satellite, the ability to disappear could come in handy. US spysat [Lacrosse 5](#) occasionally performs just such a trick. On Nov. 11th, satellite watcher Dr. Marco Langbroek of Leiden, the Netherlands, caught the orbiting radar suddenly fading to near invisibility:



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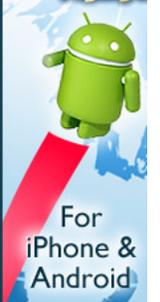
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Monster Prominence

[Stephen W Ramsden](#)

Image taken:

Nov. 12, 2011

Location:

Atlanta, GA

Details:

This gigantic prominence graced the Southeastern rim today in its relentless march towards the Earth facing side of the Sun. Solar forums all over the world were buzzing with Sun-stromomers proclaiming that it was the biggest prominence that many of them had ever witnessed. This shot was taken at the Georgia Regional Astronomers Meeting at Agnes Scott College in Atlanta GA with a Lunt LS100 and an Imaging Source DMK21. The Earth was added for scale.

