

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### ***Half Time in the Sky at Leasburg Dam State Park***

**Radium Springs, NM** – Spring is here! And so is your chance to experience the Vernal Equinox from 4 – 8:30 p.m. at Leasburg Dam State Park on March 22, 2014.

“Visitors will learn how Native Americans recognized and celebrated this special time of year long ago,” said Park Manager Evaristo Giron. “We have a fun evening planned that the whole family will enjoy.”

The word *equinox* is derived from the Latin translation meaning “equal night.” Days and nights are about equal everywhere. At the equinox, the tilt of the Earth relative to the Sun is zero, meaning the Earth’s axis does not point toward or away from the Sun.

At sunset, an astronomer will give a tour of the night sky with the opportunity to look through various types of telescopes, including a 16-inch research-quality telescope at the park’s observatory.

Leasburg Dam State Park is located 15 miles north of Las Cruces on I-25, exit 19 in Radium Springs.



Conditions are Right for Adventure at New Mexico State Parks!

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*The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.*

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