



Tank testing begins today on Discovery

View DART launch Friday on NASA TV and Web

▲ **Shuttle Update:** Tank testing begins today on Space Shuttle **Discovery** at the pad. The launch confidence test validates tanking procedures and verifies External Tank hardware under simulated flight tanking conditions.

Atlantis, designated for mission STS-121, is undergoing RF (radio frequency) closed loop functional testing and an all-systems test in the Orbiter Processing Facility.

▲ **ELV Update:** NASA's Demonstration for Autonomous Rendezvous Technology (DART) mission launch is being covered on NASA TV at 1:25 p.m. EDT Friday. Launch is from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. Live coverage of the DART launch from an Orbital Sciences Pegasus XL vehicle begins at noon.

NASA Direct, NASA KSC's Web broadcast network, will feature mission launch day coverage of DART, including countdown milestones. Log on to http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/dart/launch/vlcc/html, beginning at noon.

DART will demonstrate key technologies required for spacecraft to rendezvous with other craft and satellites without human intervention. For more information about the DART Web events, contact Jeanne Ryba at 321-867-2468. For information about NASA TV

coverage, contact Amber Marek at 321-867-2468.

■ **N.E.W.S. Program Workshop — *Child and Adolescent Nutrition*** is the topic of the fourth workshop for the Nutrition Education for Workers at the Spaceport (N.E.W.S.) program. It is being held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. April 27 in the OSB, Room 6320. N.E.W.S. program workshops are held the fourth Wednesday of each month (except November and December) from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. with locations alternating between the O&C (KSC Industrial Area) and OSB (KSC Launch Area) buildings.

See the entire yearly schedule at the N.E.W.S. Web site: <http://sgs.ksc.nasa.gov/sgs/sites/other/chs/omehs/occmcd/home/index.cfm?page=NEWSProgram>. For more information, contact Kris Calderon, KSC/CCAFS health education administrator, by e-mail to Kristine.Calderon@jboss.ksc.nasa.gov or by calling 867-3414.



■ **Tours Held During Environmental & Energy Awareness Week** – Six tours are planned this year on April 20 and April 21. Back by popular demand are the Aquatics Boat Tour, Scrub Jay/Manatee Tour and Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge Visitor

Center. Two new ones this year are the Space Life Sciences Laboratory Plant Chambers (already fully booked) and the Remediation Site at Wilson Corners. You must have your supervisor's permission to attend these tours. They will run for approximately 45 minutes to one hour each. For information, please check out the Web site:

<http://eeaw.ksc.nasa.gov/>.

■ **Prometheus PEIS** — NASA's Exploration Systems Directorate is holding two scoping meetings on April 19 on the Development of Reactor Technology for Space Applications Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Prometheus PEIS). Meetings are at 1 and 6 p.m. at the Florida Solar Energy Center, 1679 Clearlake Road in Cocoa. Call 321-632-1111 for more information.

Informal discussions with technical staff will begin the meeting, followed by brief presentations and an opportunity for oral public comments. Written comments will be accepted anytime during the meeting.

■ **Did You Know?** The Moon's thin crescent will only be visible tonight for a short while after sunset, low in the west. The dark portion of the Moon will receive a good deal of light reflected from the Earth, and it may be possible to faintly see much of the detail normally only visible around the time of the full Moon.