



The Springfield Solar System

This scale model of the Solar System is constructed on a scale of approximately 1.5 billion to one. On this scale, the 865,000-mile diameter of the Sun is reduced to 3 feet, and the planets range in size from 3.5 inches for Jupiter down to 1.6 millimeters for Pluto. The 93 million-mile distance from the Sun to the Earth (called one Astronomical Unit) is reduced to 322 feet, so the terrestrial planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars) all fit inside The Steemer or within the Football Stadium.

To get to the outer planets of our Solar System, you'll have to travel a bit farther. As shown on this map, you can find Jupiter at Weaver Observatory on Wittenberg campus, Saturn at the Springfield Museum of Art, Uranus at the Clark County Main Library, and Neptune (as well as the dwarf planet Pluto) at the Westcott House. In round numbers, the walking distance from the Sun is about 500 feet for the inner solar system, 1700 feet to Jupiter, half a mile to Saturn, a bit over one mile to Uranus, and two miles to Neptune and Pluto.

