

USE OF HOLIDAY CALENDAR

This calendar has been prepared to assist teachers and school administrators in scheduling activities such as exams, tests, assemblies, field trips, graduation and other school related programs. Government agencies and organizational planners will also find this calendar helpful. If you have any questions or need information, please contact the Milwaukee Jewish Council for Community Relations, 1360 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202-3091, (414) 390-5777.

OTHER JEWISH HOLIDAYS

SHABBAT



The Jewish Sabbath is observed weekly on Saturday. Like other Jewish holidays, it begins at sunset of the prior day – in this case Friday evening – and ends at sunset on Saturday. Since it reflects God's rest on the seventh day of the week following the events of the creation, Shabbat is considered to be a day different from the work week, dedicated to prayer, reflection and rest.

Depending on the degree of observance, abstention from regular work-day

activities might include a ban on driving, taking an SAT exam or participating in an athletic tournament.

The Milwaukee Jewish Council for Community Relations strongly urges planners, when scheduling weekend events, to understand that observant Jews (such as those belonging to orthodox and conservative synagogues) would be unable to participate in secular events occurring between sunset on Friday and sunset on Saturday.

HANUKKAH



Festival of Lights. This eight-day holiday celebrates the Jewish military victory over the Syrians in 165 B.C.E. and the restoration of their religious and political freedom. Candles are lit each evening to celebrate the miracle of the lamp in the Holy Temple in Jerusalem burning for eight days even though it only had a supply of purified oil for one day.

Hanukkah is not the "Jewish

Christmas." Actually, it is a minor holiday and is not mentioned in the Hebrew Testament. There are no work restrictions for observant Jews.

Customs associated with the holiday vary but often include exchanging gifts, eating latkes (potato pancakes), and playing the game "dreidle."

Monday, December 26, 2005 -
Monday, January 2, 2006

PURIM



Feast of Lots. This is the annual observance of the events recounted in the Book of Esther in the Hebrew Testament.

The Jewish community of Persia was rescued from destruction due to the efforts of the Jewish Queen, Esther, and her uncle, Mordecai.

Children often wear costumes – especially of the characters mentioned in the Purim story – when they attend the read-

ing of the Book of Esther in their synagogue.

According to the Bible, the celebration of Purim consists of four good deeds (mitzvot): feasting, joyfulness, delivering meals to one's friends and giving gifts to the poor. Purim is a minor holiday and there are no work restrictions.

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

5 YEAR CALENDAR OF MAJOR JEWISH HOLIDAYS

2005-2010

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MAJOR JEWISH HOLIDAYS

During observance of these major holidays, work is traditionally prohibited. As a result, Jewish individuals may be absent from work and school. **Jewish holidays begin at sunset on the evening preceding the holiday**; please keep this in mind when scheduling events.

	<u>Holiday</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>	<u>2006-2007</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ROSH HASHANAH Jewish New Year. 	Oct. 4 & 5 Tues. & Wed. (starts sunset Oct. 3)	Sept. 23 & 24 Sat. & Sun. (starts sunset Sept. 22)	Sept. 13 & 14 Thur. & Fri. (starts sunset Sept. 12)	Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 Tues. & Wed. (starts sunset Sept. 29)	Sept. 19 & Sept. 20 Sat. & Sun. (starts sunset Sept. 18)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YOM KIPPUR Day of Atonement. The most holy of Jewish holidays. Devoted to prayer, fasting and repentance. 	Oct. 13 Thursday (starts sunset Oct. 12)	Oct. 2 Monday (starts sunset Oct. 1)	Sept. 22 Saturday (starts sunset Sept. 21)	Oct. 9 Thursday (starts sunset Oct. 8)	Sept. 28 Monday (starts sunset Sept. 27)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUKKOT First two days of eight day harvest festival. Commemorates the dwelling of the ancient Israelites in booths in the wilderness. 	Oct. 18 & 19 Tues. & Wed. (starts sunset Oct. 17)	Oct 7 & 8 Sat. & Sun. (starts sunset Oct. 6)	Sept. 27 & 28 Thur. & Fri. (starts sunset Sept. 26)	Oct. 14 & 15 Tues. & Wed. (starts sunset Oct. 13)	Oct. 3 & 4 Sat. & Sun. (starts sunset Oct. 2)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHEMINI ATZERET Eighth, and final day of Sukkot. 	Oct. 25 Tuesday (starts sunset Oct. 24)	Oct. 14 Saturday (starts sunset Oct. 13)	Oct. 4 Thursday (starts sunset Oct. 3)	Oct. 21 Tuesday (starts sunset Oct. 20)	Oct. 10 Saturday (starts sunset Oct. 9)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIMCHAT TORAH Reading of the law (Torah) is completed and begun anew in synagogues. 	Oct. 26 Wednesday (starts sunset Oct. 25)	Oct. 15 Sunday (starts sunset Oct. 14)	Oct. 5 Friday (starts sunset Oct. 4)	Oct. 22 Wednesday (starts sunset Oct. 21)	Oct. 11 Sunday (starts sunset Oct. 10)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PASSOVER (PESACH) 8 day Jewish festival marking deliverance from slavery in Egypt. Foods with leavening are prohibited. 	April 13 - 20 Thurs. - Thurs. (starts sunset April 12)	April 3 - 10 Tues. - Tues. (starts sunset April 2)	April 20 - 27 Sun. - Sun. (starts sunset April 19)	April 9 - 16 Thurs.-Thurs. (starts sunset April 8)	March 30 - April 6 Tues.-Tues. (starts sunset March 29)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHAVOUT Feast of Weeks. Marks giving of the law (Torah) on Mount Sinai & spring harvest festival. 	June 2 & 3 Fri. & Sat. (starts sunset June 1)	May 23 & 24 Wed. & Thurs. (starts sunset May 22)	June 9 & 10 Mon. & Tues. (starts sunset June 8)	May 29 & 30 Fri. & Sat. (starts sunset May 28)	May 19 & 20 Wed. & Thurs. (starts sunset May 18)