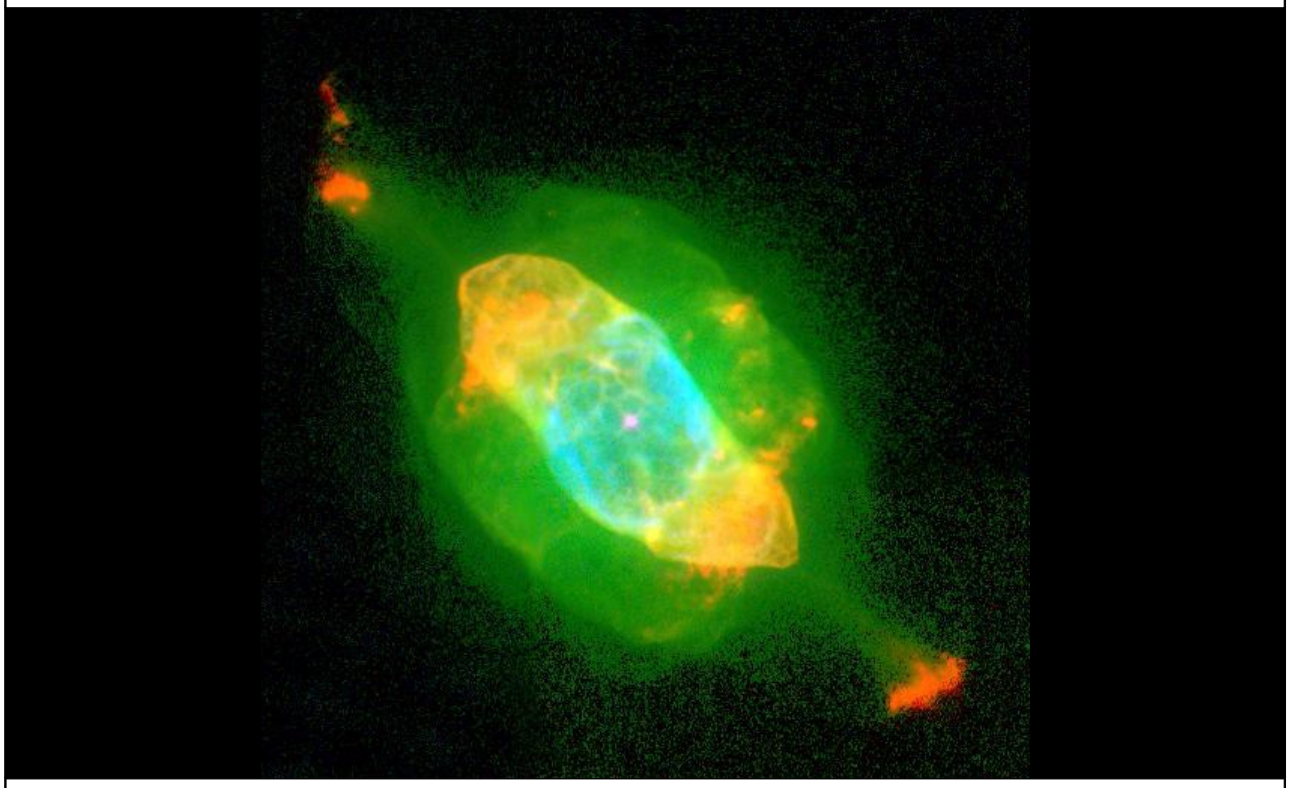
Saturn Nebula



Quick Facts:

Distance: 3900 Light-years. Size: 0.5 Light-years.

Constellation: Aquarius.

A planetary nebula that has rays on each side visible in an 11-inch telescope. NGC 7009.

Find it: Find the bright pair of stars Delta and Gamma in Capricornus defining the constellation's eastern point. Now go west, finding two more slightly fainter stars spaced about five degrees apart, Iota and Theta Cap. Sweep 6 degrees north of Theta Cap and there will be a faint naked-eye star, Nu Aqr. Find the Saturn Nebula 1-1/2 degrees due west of Nu. GOTO: NAMED OBJECTS, NGC.

Image: NASA. Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.