

The Changing Ice Cap of Mars

ESP_056563_0960





A story of changes at the South Pole of Mars is told by its icy deposits. Remnants of a formerly more extensive deposit composed of dry ice form what is known as the south polar residual cap. Scientists call it "residual" because it remains after the much larger seasonal cap disappears each summer. (NASA/JPL/University of Arizona. Alt: 245 km.)