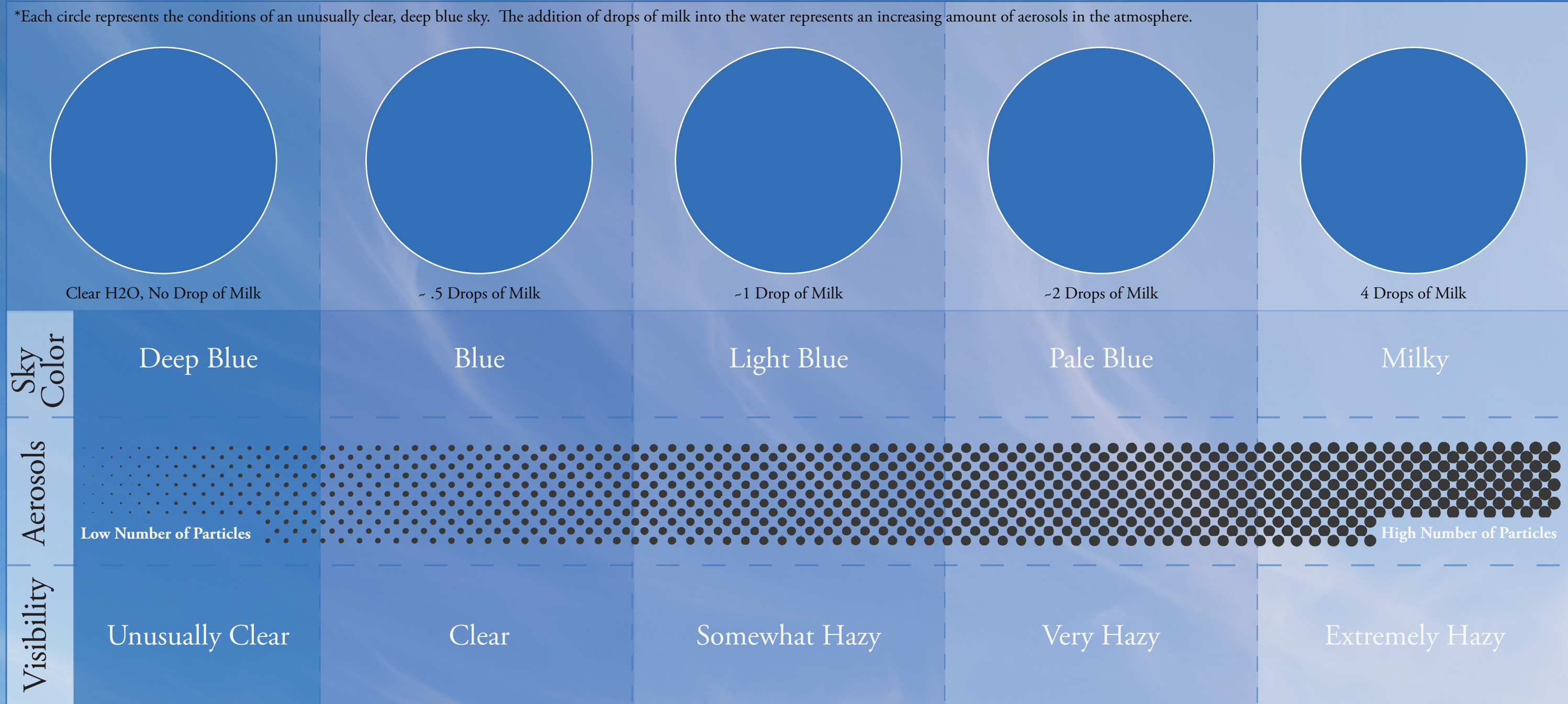


# SKY CONDITIONS

The amount of aerosols in the atmosphere affects our sky conditions. Most aerosols are too small to see but we can observe their impacts by observing and categorizing sky color and visibility. Observing these parameters helps us to understand how aerosols reflect, refract, and absorb energy entering and leaving the Earth's atmosphere.

\*Each circle represents the conditions of an unusually clear, deep blue sky. The addition of drops of milk into the water represents an increasing amount of aerosols in the atmosphere.



### Helpful tips for observing sky conditions:

- When observing sky condition, look for something out of the ordinary. Different locations can have different common observations (commonly clear or commonly hazy).
- To get a good starting point for sky condition observations in your area, wait for a cold front or a storm to pass through. A cold front or a storm tend to “wash” the aerosols out of the atmosphere which will provide the clearest sky conditions for your area. It also helps to take a picture, as this will be a good comparison for later sky condition observations.

