

APRIL 8, 2024 SOLAR ECLIPSE



The April 2024 solar eclipse is will be a large event for many in southern Illinois. With a wide viewing area, it is expected that thousands will partake in the events leading to the solar eclipse. Aside from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security (IEMA-OHS), many public safety partners are involved in planning including local, county and state agencies.

It is estimated that 43 million people live in the path of totality for the 2024 total solar eclipse, not counting those who will travel to experience the event.

- ✓ The only safe way to look directly at the sun during an eclipse is through special-purpose solar filters (eclipse glasses or handheld solar viewers)
- ✓ Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, are not safe for looking at the sun
- ✓ Make sure you update/refresh your vehicle emergency preparedness kit
- ✓ Do not stop in random locations along the interstate or shoulder lanes
- ✓ Exit the highway to view or photograph the event
- ✓ Do not take pictures while driving
- ✓ Turn on your headlights
- ✓ Keep a full gas tank before traveling
- ✓ Watch out for pedestrians
- ✓ Expect heavy traffic congestion the day before, the day of, and the day after the eclipse



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2200 S. Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, Illinois 62703
IEMA Main Office (217) 782-2700
24-hour Response (217) 782-7860