

## 024 SOLAR

On April 8, 2024, a solar eclipse will cross North America, passing over Mexico, United States, and Canada. An eclipse is a celestial event that drastically changes the appearance of the sun and moon. People can experience solar eclipses when Earth, the moon, and the sun line up. Safety is the number one priority when viewing a solar eclipse.

- Never look directly at the sun without proper eye protection.
- Use safe solar viewing glasses (eclipse glasses).
- Eclipse glasses are NOT the same as regular sunglasses, which are not safe for viewing the sun.
- Your regular sunglasses are not safe for viewing the sun.
- Only view for a short time when the moon completely obscures the sun (period of totality).
- If you don't have eclipse glasses, you can use an indirect viewing method, such as a pinhole projector, which projects an image of the sun onto a nearby surface. Do NOT look at the sun through the pinhole!
- Viewing any part of the sun through a camera lens, binoculars, or a telescope without a special-purpose solar filter will instantly cause severe eye injury.
- Safe solar viewers are thousands of times darker and ought to comply with the ISO 12312-2 international standard. IEMA-OHS does not approve any particular brand of solar viewers.
- Inspect your eclipse glasses or handheld viewer before use; if torn, scratched, or otherwise damaged, discard the device.
- Always supervise children using solar viewers or eclipse glasses.

The next total solar eclipse visible in the United States won't be until 2044.

## Ready.Illinois.gov



State of Illinois

Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security









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