



# Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management



## 2024 Solar Eclipse Planning Bulletin

Issued: Jan. 5, 2024

Given the potential traffic implications during the eclipse, the Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DCOHSEM) will activate the county's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on April 8 to monitor events, facilitate resource deployment, and coordinate the dissemination of public information. Those staffing the EOC will hold a tabletop exercise in March to ensure that Delaware County is prepared to respond to a variety of situations that may occur.

Whether you plan to view the eclipse from Delaware County, provide services to spectators, or maintain everyday operations, our local group of planners offers the following information to guide your preparations.

### What can you do now? (January 2024)

- **Lock in your lodging**

Make reservations for overnight accommodations as soon as possible. Hotels in areas closer to the path of totality are completely booked on days surrounding the eclipse. Delaware County has already seen an influx of bookings for lodging accommodations. If you are still searching, Destination Delaware County has compiled [a list of places to stay](#).

Delaware State Park and Alum Creek State Park recently reported that they are at 60% occupancy. No day-use shelter reservations will be available on April 8, and camping reservations cannot have an arrival or departure date of April 8. Check [this ODNR website](#) for details.

- **Speaking of (temporary) campgrounds...**

If visitors will be permitted to park recreational vehicles or set up portable camping units on your property during the eclipse, you'll want to consult [this guide](#) from the Delaware Public Health District (DPHD) to determine if a permit is needed. Contact DPHD at 740-368-1700.

- **Apply for temporary food service permits and check food truck licenses**

If your plans involve serving food for a charge or required donation, a temporary food service permit may be required. Consult [this guide](#) from the DPHD and contact them at 740-368-1700 to start the process.

Just like lodging, food trucks will be in demand during the eclipse. The DPHD guide also contains information on how to verify a vendor's mobile license.

### What's next?

Start planning ahead by considering the following questions this month:

- Does your schedule on April 8, 2024, allow for the potential increase in local travel times?
- Will you have the amenities or stock you need before the event? Can you order supplies ahead or have them delivered on a different day?
- How will you and your guests/customers view the eclipse safely? Check out [these safety tips](#) from Perkins Observatory.
- If you have already purchased or plan to obtain eclipse glasses, how will you verify they offer adequate protection? The American Astronomical Society offers [this advice](#).