



# Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management



## 2024 Solar Eclipse Planning Bulletin

Issued: Feb. 5, 2024

The Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is working with a variety of governmental and private-sector stakeholders to ensure that plans are in place for the total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024.

Our preparedness efforts so far have included:

- Briefing government entities, schools and local organizations on potential operational impacts
- Gathering information for use by state officials in their Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- Finalizing an operational plan with coordination among state, county and local officials
- Convening monthly situational-awareness meetings with community partners
- Launching a website to distribute eclipse information specific to Delaware County
- Issuing monthly planning bulletins (like this one) to guide the public's preparedness efforts
- Organizing a tabletop exercise (to be held in March) of our planned EOC configuration

We are confident that these efforts will position us well to respond to a variety of situations that may occur during this rare event while mitigating the impacts of traffic to public safety operations.

Whether you plan to view the eclipse from Delaware County, provide services to spectators, or maintain everyday operations, we hope this information will help guide your preparations.

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

- **Consider taking in the spectacle at an event in Delaware County**

Several organizations in the area are planning large events on April 8 that are sure to enhance the eclipse-viewing experience. Check out [this list of events](#) from Destination Delaware County. While you're there, you can peruse these lists of [places to stay](#), [things to do](#), and [stuff to eat](#).

- **Get your glasses**

It is never safe to look directly at the sun's rays, even if the sun is partially obscured. The [Ohio EMA](#) and [Perkins Observatory](#) have guides on how to safely view the eclipse. When it comes to glasses, [this advice](#) from the American Astronomical Society will get you up to speed on certification standards.

- **Apply for temporary campground or food service permits**

If your plans involve serving food for a charge or required donation, a temporary food-service permit may be required. If visitors will be permitted to park recreational vehicles or set up portable camping units on your property during the eclipse, you may need a campground permit. Consult [this guide](#) from the Delaware Public Health District and contact them at 740-368-1700 **this month** to start the process.

### What's next?

Start planning ahead by considering the following questions this month:

- If you plan on traveling, have you made reservations for where you are staying?
- Have you shared our website with your local community organizations to spread the word about this unique event and to help your friends and family prepare?