



Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management



2024 Solar Eclipse Planning Bulletin Issued: March 5, 2024

On April 8, 2024, the totality of a solar eclipse will be visible in Delaware County and other areas within a 124-mile-wide swath of Ohio. As the event nears, make sure you’ve bookmarked our [eclipse-specific website](#), which contains the answers to many frequently asked questions and links to eclipse information from a variety of organizations throughout the county. This one-stop-shop holds a trove of information on topics including lodging options, safe-viewing practices, and health department permits.

Timing

The most common questions we receive about this rare event are focused on the timing. The following table offers a breakdown of the timeline for locations in Delaware County.

SOLAR ECLIPSE TIMETABLE			
Location	Partial Eclipse Start	Totality Start	Totality Duration
Ashley	13:56:13	15:11:43	2m 49.7s
Delaware	13:55:54	15:11:36	2m 35.5s
Galena	13:56:06	15:12:24	1m 24.1s
Ostrander	13:55:39	15:11:17	2m 45.7s
Powell	13:55:44	15:11:54	1m 45.3s
Shawnee Hills	13:55:38	15:11:42	1m 58.5s
Sunbury	13:56:10	15:12:22	1m 34.6s

Expect delays: come early, stay late

Similar events in other parts of the country have demonstrated the potential for travel impacts due to roadway congestion following the end of totality. That’s why those who plan to view the eclipse from Delaware County are encouraged to come early and stay late. Destination Delaware County has compiled a list of events in the county. They also have identified [places to stay](#), [things to do](#), and [stuff to eat](#).

While many of the traffic-related variables remain unknown, the Ohio Department of Transportation generated models of the anticipated congestion hotspots throughout the state. While models suggest greater potential for bottlenecks in the Toledo area, congestion is expected on I-71, particularly north of Delaware and near the I-270 interchange.

Communication congestion

With an influx of people comes the potential for strain on communication infrastructure, including cellular service. In the event cellular service is diminished, please remember that the Delaware County 9-1-1 dispatch center can also be contacted by text message. While calling 9-1-1 during an emergency is preferred, dispatchers are able to respond to messages received via text.

Atypical animal behavior

While many variables will impact our experience on April 8, one thing is a near certainty – the sudden change in animal behavior. During eclipses across the globe, people have observed nocturnal animals emerging while those that are typically active during the day suddenly retreat to their nighttime abodes.