



Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management



2024 Solar Eclipse Planning Bulletin Issued: April 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.

Timing, traffic and events

Most locations in Delaware County will experience totality beginning at 3:11 p.m. The Ohio Department of Transportation released an [interactive forecasting tool](#) that shows when and where potential highway congestion is likely to occur based on varying numbers of visitors.

If possible, avoid hitting the road right after totality. Several events throughout the county offer incentive to come early and stay late. Destination Delaware County has a [list of events](#) on their website. They also have identified [places to stay](#), [things to do](#), and [stuff to eat](#).

Communication congestion and 9-1-1 text option

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.

Resources for farmland owners

With people flocking to rural areas looking for a place to view the eclipse, farmers and farmland owners will have unique safety and legal concerns. Ohio State's Agricultural & Resource Law Program and Ag Safety Team offer [these five steps](#) farmers and farmland owners can take.

Eclipse 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 (AAS) will get you up to speed on certification standards.

Recently, the AAS warned of an uptick in fake eclipse glasses in the marketplace, highlighting the importance of purchasing from a vetted vendor and not relying solely on printed certification claims. The organization offers [these steps for a few quick at-home tests](#) that will ensure your glasses are safe.

If you are still looking for a pair of eclipse glasses, Delaware EMS will have a booth set up at First Friday in Delaware on April 5. Those who stop by and learn to perform CPR will receive a pair of eclipse glasses thanks to the Delaware County Board of Commissioners and the Delaware Public Health District.

Weather

Whether the weather will cooperate has been an unknown in our planning for several months. The National Weather Service in Wilmington [has this to say](#) about what cloud cover typically looks like on April 8.