



Erie County  
Department of  
Health



Public Health  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## Solar Eclipse - April 8, 2024

On April 8, 2024, Western New York and Erie County will experience a total solar eclipse. This occurs when the moon passes between the sun and earth, completely blocking the face of the sun. The sky will darken as if it were dawn or dusk.

### PLAN AHEAD

- Choose a safe location, away from traffic and other hazards; make sure your view is not obstructed by trees, buildings, or signs. Be aware of your surroundings, especially if you're in an unfamiliar area
- Consider carpooling and allow extra time to get to and from your destination.
- Stay informed about traffic patterns. Go to [511wny.org](https://www.511wny.org) to stay updated.
- Follow local guidance for eclipse viewing. Some areas may have specific rules to ensure public safety.
- Have a communication plan in case congestion causes poor cell reception.

### SCHOOLS AND BUSINESSES

Many local school districts have cancelled classes for the day. Businesses may have plans to close or to extend their hours.

### STAY HOME IF YOU CAN

Avoid any non-essential travel and try to schedule appointments for another day.

Be prepared for emergencies by having a basic first aid kit, emergency contacts, and any necessary medications on hand.

## VIEW SAFELY

- Use solar viewing glasses that meet ISO 12312-2 standards.
- Check for any damage or scratches on glasses before use, as any defects can compromise their effectiveness.
- **Regular sunglasses are not safe for viewing a solar eclipse.**
- Supervise children and stop them from looking directly at the sun without protection.
- Take breaks and give your eyes time to rest.
- Avoid homemade filters.

## CHECK THE WEATHER

- Check the forecast and have an alternate viewing site if your view could be obstructed by clouds. Dress for local conditions.

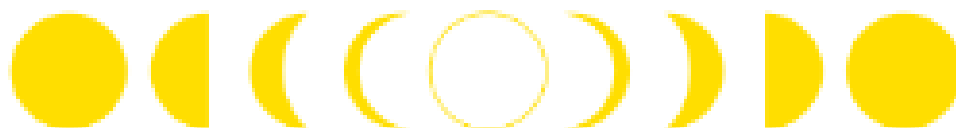
## ENJOY THE MOMENT

- Don't spend the entire eclipse snapping photos! Take time to experience the moment.

## WARNING

- Never look directly at the sun without proper eye protection. Looking directly at the sun can cause severe and permanent eye and vision damage. It's important to use ISO-certified eclipse glasses for direct solar observation.

More information at [buffaloeclipse.org](http://buffaloeclipse.org) and  
<https://www3.erie.gov/health/total-solar-eclipse>



**Total Eclipse: -3:18-3:22 p.m.**