



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 1, 2024

SCPH Media Contact Phone Number: 330-812-3700

**Summit County Public Health would like to remind
Summit County residents to take precautions during the Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024**

AKRON, OHIO, On April 8, 2024 much of Northeast Ohio will be in the totality path of the total solar eclipse. A solar eclipse, is a rare cosmic event where the moon passes between the Sun and Earth, casting a shadow on our planet. Summit County Public Health (SCPH) would like to take this opportunity to remind Summit County residents to take precautions to stay safe and protect your health during the solar eclipse and the time directly afterwards.

Tips for staying safe healthy during and right after the eclipse is important. The common-sense practices listed below should be followed to stay safe and healthy:

- Make sure to **ONLY** view the sun during the eclipse with appropriate eyewear purchased from a legitimate source. Only look directly at the sun if you have solar eclipse glasses that meet the ISO-12312-2 international standards. Be sure to put the glasses on before looking up to view the eclipse and look down before you remove your glasses. Regular sunglasses are not approved for eclipse viewing and ocular damage can occur while wearing them to view the solar eclipse. If you still need to purchase glasses please visit <https://www.scph.org/eclipse-2024> for additional information.
- There is expected to be heavy traffic in the immediate hours after the eclipse. Please count on travel delays even if you are local to the area.
- Fill your gas tank the night before if you plan on traveling, even locally.
- Consider carpooling by coordinating with family, friends, co-workers or neighbors to significantly reduce the number of vehicles on the road.
- Pack snacks and drinks to take with you while traveling in the event of long delays.
- If you host a watch party please remember to follow food safety guidelines.
- If you are planning on letting people park on your lawn and you have a septic or well please be careful not to let anyone park on or near your system components (tanks, leach area, well head etc.).
- Consider staying home, riding a bike or walking to view the eclipse to avoid additional vehicles on the road.

The eclipse will enter Ohio at around 3:00 p.m., captivating spectators for 2-4 minutes, leaving around 3:10 p.m. Due to Summit County's location, our area expects a visitor surge. Historically, eclipse events have led to significant population increases, doubling or even tripling the populations of communities. Ohio's location - within a day's drive for 70% of the country's population - makes it a desirable spot for those wanting to view the eclipse to the fullest extent possible in the path of totality.

For more information regarding the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse please visit <https://www.scph.org/eclipse-2024> or <https://co.summitoh.net/pages/2024-Solar-Eclipse.html>.

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