

Monday~ April 8th 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Is Coming Soon!

The total solar eclipse affecting Ohio is under three months away. To recap, the eclipse occurring on Monday April 8, is traveling from the southwest entering around Greenville, Ohio at approximately 3:08 pm and exiting the northeast near Avon Lake, Ohio at approximately 3:20 pm. Ohio is encouraging people to “Arrive Early, Stay Late”. The buildup of travel into Ohio is expected to begin the weekend before on Saturday and Sunday. People may begin leaving immediately after the eclipse occurs.



The Division of State Fire Marshal (SFM) continues to encourage Ohio's fire service to prepare for this eclipse.

Ohio communities will be hosting Eclipse celebrations and viewing events between April 5th and April 8th. The Ohio EMA knows of over 60 eclipse related events being held in Ohio.

The current estimation for traffic has been modeled with weather and event sizes drawing crowds. It is currently estimated that:

- Traffic will surge towards urban areas
- Surge from Michigan into Toledo and Bowling Green Area
- Surge to Lake Erie region – both from residents and out of state
- Surge North from Hamilton/Cincinnati area to Dayton and other areas
- Surge to areas like Lima

Weather is predicted to impact this event; these are the best estimates we have now:

- Conditions for the weekend show an increase in cloud coverage in western and southern Ohio.
- This is the reason for the large shift in crowds from areas with more cloud cover to events in areas that show clear skies.

This is why planning and collaboration is a vitally important piece of preparing for the eclipse. The Ohio Fire Chief's Association (OFCA) is a partner of the SFM. The OFCA is expecting a need for the use of the Emergency Response System (ERS). If you do not already have a relationship with your ERS County Coordinator, contact them to make sure your agency's resource database in the ERS is up to date. If you do not know who your County Coordinator is, you can contact one of your Regional Coordinators. A current listing of the Regional Coordinators can be found on the [Ohio Fire Chief's Association website](#).

When you are uploading or creating your incidents in the Ohio Fire Incident Reporting Management System (OFIRMS), don't forget to update your stations and apparatus. This provides the State Fire Marshal's office with a statewide resource list in case of a statewide emergency. Should you need help in doing so, click [here](#) or contact your SFM Fire Prevention Educator for assistance.

Hopefully the communications we've sent out regarding the eclipse have helped you shape your fire departments pre-incident planning for responding to the eclipse. If you have any questions or would like copies of the previous correspondence regarding the eclipse, please email us at websfm@com.ohio.gov.