

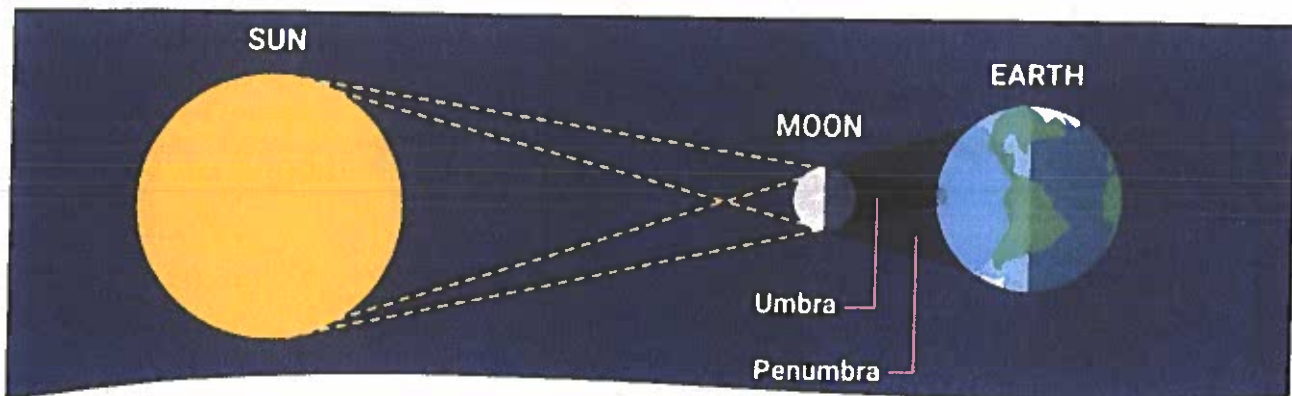
# 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Planning



The rare eclipse was memorable. The ride home was something they want to forget.

April 8, 2024

Single-largest mass travel event in the USA!



## Total Solar Eclipse Basics

Total Solar Eclipse to be visible from US on April 8, 2024.

Moon is directly in line with the sun casting a shadow on Earth, creating darkness.

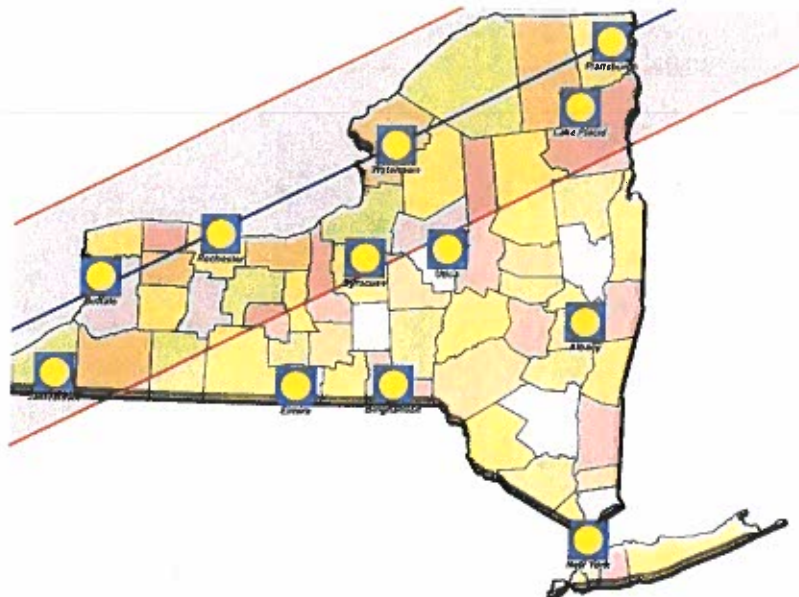
Partial eclipse begins 2:07 p.m.

**Totality: 3:21 – 3:34 p.m. (3 minutes, 30 seconds +/- 15 seconds depending upon where you are in the county)**

Partial eclipse ends 4:33 p.m.

## Eclipse Mania! – It's Gonna be a Big Thing!

- This will be a five day event. April 5 – 9, 2024.
- VisitRochester estimates 350 – 500 thousand visitors to the Finger Lakes Region, coming from up to 400 miles away.
- Wayne County is planning for an influx of 50,000 visitors
- Visitors will trickle in over several days prior to the event
- Lodging (hotels, bread & breakfast, RV parks) is already selling out.



## Traffic Congestion

"A major, immediate, post-eclipse exodus on Monday created traffic congestion on roadways leading away from the path of totality all across the United States."

"In the hours immediately following totality, almost every Interstate route passing through the path of totality showed **RED** on Google Traffic maps."

"In 2024, stronger efforts to urge viewers to stay put and stay late can help deter the extreme post-eclipse peaking that occurred in 2017."

"...it is reasonable to conclude that at least **5 million people nationwide traveled** to view totality."



## Crowds and Traffic

- Expect huge crowds coming from the east and south
  - People from Boston, NYC, Albany, Syracuse, Binghamton, etc.
  - People will arrive over 1-4 days pre-eclipse
- If 2017 is a guide, most people will want to depart in the 2 hours post-totality,
  - Majority leave right after the first 15 minutes post totality
  - THIS is the biggest issue!
- Traffic jams should be expected on all roads leading out of the county.



Wyoming 2017, Denver Post

## County Planning Considerations

- Wayne County planning efforts are well underway:
  - Wayne County schools will be closed the day of the eclipse.
  - Heavy to gridlocked traffic conditions before and after the eclipse causing:
    - Stranded Motorists
    - Disrupted RTS/WATS Service
    - Disrupted Shift Changes
    - Viewers stopped on roadways (fuel, heat, water, food, bathroom challenges) impacts emergency services response
  - Cell Tower overload
    - Have reached out to fire and ems to have stations manned afternoon of eclipse
    - Have reached out to 280 amateur radio operators in the county to be eyes and ears



## Involved agencies

### Wayne County Agencies:

- 911 - \*
- Aging and Youth - \*
- ALS Services - \*
- Coroner (funeral home liaison) - \*
- Emergency Management - \*
- Emergency Medical Services - \*
- Fire Coordinator - \*
- GIS - \*
- Highway - \*

\* Participants

### Wayne County agencies cont'd:

- Meals on Wheels - \*
- Industrial Development (Planning) - \*
- Mental Health - \*
- Public Health - \*
- Public Works - \*
- Purchasing - \*
- Sheriff's Office - \*
- Tourism - \*
- Weights and Measures - \*

### Other agencies:

- Air Medical
- American Red Cross
- Civil Air Patrol
- Coast Guard - \*
- Constellation Energy (Ginna)
- Day Care Centers
- Dialysis Centers
- FBI - \*
- Home Healthcare Agencies
- Local EMS Agencies
- Local Fire Departments
- Local Police Departments - \*

### Other agencies, cont'd:

- Mercy Flight
- Montezuma Audubon Center
- National Weather Service
- Newark Wayne Community Hospital
- NYS Chiropractic
- NYSDEC
- NYS DHSES - Rochester Office - \*
- NYS DOT - Newark
- NYS DOH - Geneva Office - \*
- NYS Forest Rangers
- NYS Parks Police
- NYS Troop E Emergency Management Sergeant - \*
- RACES / Drumlins
- RTS/WATS

### Other agencies, cont'd:

- Times of Wayne County and other media
- Town Supervisors - \*
- Town Highway
- Urgent Care Centers
- USDA - Farm Bureau
- Veterinary Clinics / Hospitals
- Village Mayors - \*
- Village DPW
- Wayne County Local Emergency Planning Committee
- Williamson-Sodus Airport
- Wireless Carriers: AT&T, T-Mobile, Verizon

## What should residents do?

- Plan on picking up gasoline, groceries, prescriptions, etc. the week prior to the eclipse. Visitors will begin coming in on Friday April 5, 2024.
- Minimize travel on the day of the eclipse (Monday, April 8, 2024). Don't schedule doctor appointments, etc. on this day if possible.
- Plan on extended travel times if you do go out. You could be stuck in traffic for hours.
- Stay off cell phones as much as possible.

**Luck is for the  
leprechauns.  
Plan ahead to be  
ready for a disaster.**



## What should businesses do?



- This may be a very lucrative four day income opportunity for retail.
- Restaurants that are usually closed on Mondays should consider being open – possibly with extended hours.
- Make sure everything is restocked and there is extra stock on-hand Friday April 5, 2024.
- Hospitality industry (hotels, bars, etc.) should plan some type of eclipse related event to try to draw people in and keep them there well after the eclipse ends.
- Keep them there for the NCAA Div 1 basketball finals that occur the night of the eclipse.
- Capitalize on the opportunity. It is huge.
- Email details of your event to [tourism@co.wayne.ny.us](mailto:tourism@co.wayne.ny.us)