

HANCOCK PUBLIC HEALTH



Be Prepared for the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse

Issue 18 February 1, 2024

What is a total solar eclipse?

On Monday, April 8, 2024 Hancock County will experience a total solar eclipse. A solar eclipse occurs when the moon cast its shadow on the Earth as it passes between the Earth and the Sun. A **total solar eclipse** occurs when the moon appears to totally obscure the Sun. The partial eclipse will begin at 1:55pm and reach it's maximum peak of total darkness at 3:10pm.

The last total solar eclipse visible in Ohio was in 1806 and the next one will occur in 2099.

Preparedness information has been collected from previous solar eclipse events and lessons learned from those events. See the reverse side of this newsletter for how this single event may possibly impact your establishment and how best to be prepared.



Total Solar Eclipse Path through Ohio April 8, 2024



When do I need a TEMPORARY FOOD LICENSE?

A temporary food operation license must be obtained for any event where foods are being prepared or served for a charge or required donation. Even if the vendor has a brick and mortar Ohio Food Service Operation or Retail Food Establishment, a temporary license is required if they plan to sell food outside their facility walls (at an event, in a tent on their property, etc.). To obtain a temporary food operation license, an application must be completed and submitted with the current fee to Hancock Public Health at least 15 days prior to the planned event. You can access the required application by scanning this QR code, visiting our website or visiting the health department in person. The deadline to submit an application for a temporary food license will be end of business day March 25, 2024.

Things to Consider:

Plan accordingly for an increase in our population. The low estimate of visitors to Ohio is 139,000. The high estimate of visitors is 556,000. People in Ohio living inside the path is 7,275,000. People nearby are more likely to drive to the path of total solar eclipse than peo-

ple far away. Because of this increase in population and traffic, you will want to consider how this will impact your food orders and deliveries.

Scheduling of staff. Because of the influx of visitors to our area and the anticipated increase in traffic, the ability of your employees to get to and from work might be effected. Many of the area schools are also already scheduled to be closed on that day. This would mean that any staff members who have children in school may find that **childcare** will become an issue for them and therefore would not be available to work.



Supplies. Again, because of the increased traffic on the roads, the ability for food and beverage supplies to get to your establishment may be effected. Visitor traffic into your establishment may increase. They may choose to come into our area not only on the day of the eclipse but possibly for the entire weekend prior. Be certain to order enough food and supplies with enough advance notice as to cause the least impact to your facility.

Other things that may be impacted by the eclipse....trash pick up, towels/linen deliveries, security, parking, etc. You know your facility better than anyone else, spend time planning so that you are prepared for the 2024 total solar eclipse!!

Helpful Links Health Department Staff As of this time the following sanitarians that you may be working with are: Tatiana Burkett, E.H.S.I.T. Ryan Burks, Sanitarian Technician Craig Krajeski, R.E.H.S. Heidi Phillips, R.E.H.S. Hancock Public Health Findlay Chamber of Commerce Kurt Schroeder, R.E.H.S. Lindsay Summit, R.E.H.S. If you should have any questions or concerns you may contact any of us at 419-424-7870 or email us at EH@hancockph.com **Hancock Public Health** Ohio EMA **Great American Eclipse** 2225 Keith Parkway Findlay, OH 45840