



## NOTES FOR LOCAL FOLKS

**If you attend events** – we hope you do! – please carpool (or walk, if you live near) if possible. Parking will be an issue, especially downtown on Saturday and Monday.

**Residents should consider treating eclipse weekend like a 72-hour 'weather event.'**

- Buy groceries, supplies, pet food and gas ahead of time.
- Make sure your prescriptions are filled.
- Schedule errands and appointments NOT on April 5-8, if possible.

**Expect heavy traffic and long lines for local services**, especially on Saturday and Monday. Some businesses and institutions will not be open on Monday. Please check ahead before making a trip.

**This is a very special astronomical event!** While there have been PARTIAL eclipses here (including in 2017) there has not been a TOTAL Solar Eclipse in West Plains since 1869. There won't be another until 2178.

**We suggest gathering with friends and family to watch the eclipse** from your own home or other special location. You need ISO-certified eclipse glasses to see the progression of the moon across the sun. It takes about three hours start to end.

**During totality (and ONLY during totality) you can remove your glasses** and look at the sun. It will be a black hole in the sky! Glasses are for sale at the West Plains Welcome Center, Country at Heart and West Plains optometrist offices.

**The exodus of vehicles on Monday is likely going to be epic.** There will be traffic jams. There's no way around it. It will happen EVERYWHERE in the path of totality.

**Please be patient. Be helpful. Be kind.** Remember, this is a one-time, once-in-a-lifetime event. We're all going to be doing the best we can, and we want our visitors to feel welcome. We want them to return for a visit another time.

*Thank you!*