

Town  
of  
Amherst

April 8, 2024

Village  
of  
Williamsville

## SAFETY FIRST: TOWN OF AMHERST'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UPCOMING SOLAR ECLIPSE VIEWING

*Town Encourages Preparedness for 'Once-In-A-Lifetime Event'*

**(Town of Amherst, NY)** – As excitement grows for the upcoming solar eclipse, the Town of Amherst is issuing recommendations to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all residents and visitors. With the eclipse expected to bring a record number of tourists to the area, it is important to prioritize safety, adhere to park rules, plan ahead, and celebrate responsibly.

“With just a few short weeks before the April 8 total solar eclipse, I am reminding residents to please plan ahead. We are preparing for a large influx of visitors that will impact our roadways, retail centers and community spaces. While this is a very exciting moment, and one that should be celebrated, the Town is working diligently to ensure the safety of our residents, visitors and first responders. Please adhere to the Town’s safety tips to ensure you are prepared to enjoy the eclipse,” said Supervisor Brian Kulpa.

The following are recommendations have been issued by the Town of Amherst Department of Emergency Services and Safety:

**Safety Measures:** Do not view the eclipse without proper eye protection. To safeguard against eye damage, it is imperative to only look directly at the sun with certified safety glasses. Generally, along the path, communities will see partial eclipse begin at 2:04 p.m.; totality begins: 3:18 p.m.; maximum totality at 3:20 p.m.; totality ends: 3:22 p.m. and partial eclipse ends: 4:32 p.m. Anyone driving at that time is reminded to not stop on roadways, highways, etc. It may sound obvious, but towns located in the 2017 path of totality reported motorists stopped abruptly, causing unsafe roadway conditions. Additionally, those seeking the “best view” are asked to refrain from accessing unsafe elevated structures, roofs, trees, etc.

**Park Rules:** In adherence to [Town of Amherst park](#) regulations, overnight parking and camping in

any Town park, recreation area, or parking lot are strictly prohibited. Visitors are encouraged to park in designated spots to maintain order and facilitate traffic flow.

**Planning:** Residents are advised to plan ahead to alleviate potential congestion and ensure preparedness. In the days leading up to the eclipse, stock up on essentials, such as gas, medications, diapers, milk, and bread. Consider staying home on the event day to avoid traffic backups, as increased visitors to the area are expected to cause road congestion.

**Celebration and Enjoyment:** While prioritizing safety and planning ahead, residents are encouraged to enjoy the festivities leading up to the solar eclipse. Support local businesses and participate in events across Western New York. Take advantage of the diverse offerings and celebrate responsibly.

**Stay Informed:** The Town's website has additional information with helpful links and tips: [CLICK HERE](#). Additionally, monitor the [Town of Amherst Emergency Services on Facebook](#) for real-time updates, announcements, and any potential issues that may arise during the event. The Town of Amherst remains committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all residents and visitors.