Total (almost) Eclipse of the Village

On Monday April 8th there will be a once in a lifetime eclipse going over this area. This is a total eclipse (or 99.7% here - you have to go a bit south to be at 100%). The last total eclipse in the lower peninsula was in 1806 and the next total solar eclipse in the lower peninsula is in 2099.
The eclipse you probably remember from 2017 was an annular eclipse, where the moon's shadow didn't fully cover the sun, this total eclipse is more rare, and only a small swath of the world can see it.

There are three main types of solar eclipses:

Total solar eclipse: A total solar eclipse is visible from a small area on Earth. The sky becomes very dark, as if it were night. For a total eclipse to occur, the Sun, Moon and Earth must be in a direct line.

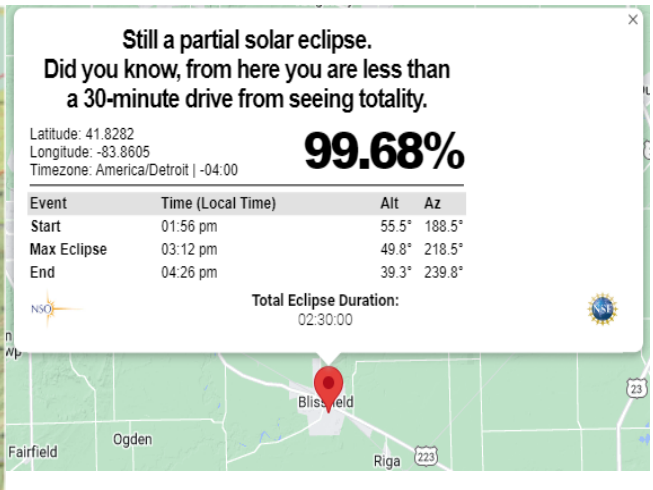
- **Partial solar eclipse**: This happens when the Sun, Moon and Earth are not exactly aligned. The Sun appears to have a dark shadow on a small part of its surface.
- **Annular solar eclipse**: An annular eclipse happens when the Moon is farthest from Earth. Because the Moon is farther away, it seems smaller and it does not block the entire view of the Sun, creating a ring around the Moon.

The sun in Blissfield will begin to be covered by the shadow of the moon at 1:56 and the maximum eclipse in our area is at 3:12, then the sun will begin to be uncovered by the shadow of the moon and be fully uncovered at 4:26.

1:56pm 3:12pm 4:26pm

Blissfield Community Schools is planning some events for that day. These will be clearer as the date approaches, some are weather dependent, but we will be celebrating this exciting celestial event. The district has purchased quality eclipse glasses for each student and we will be explaining the importance of wearing them. If you are planning on watching the eclipse you will want to get a quality pair of eclipse glasses. Make sure that they are ISO certified. Look for this:

The American Astronomical Society has a list of vendors whom they have verified sell quality and safe eclipse glasses, that information is here: https://eclipse.aas.org/eye-safety/viewers-filters
Remember, there are no regular sunglasses that are safe to watch an eclipse through, no matter how dark they are.



https://nso.edu/for-public/eclipse-map-2024/

The path of the eclipse will pass directly south of us. If you click the link above, it is an interactive map of where the totality of the eclipse will be.

Stay tuned, more information will be coming about the events we have planned!

Here are some links that have good eclipse information:

NASA's eclipse information - good animations and information:
https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/

Brittanica's information about eclipses - solar and lunar, history, and more
https://www.britannica.com/science/eclipse/Eclipse-research-activities

Scholastic's 7 Activities for kids during an eclipse
https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/learning-toolkit-blog/7-activities-to-get-kids-excited-solar-eclipse.html

Ohio Department of Education's eclipse information
https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/Science/Resources-for-Science/2024-Solar-Eclipse