



JACKSON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

County Manager: Don Adams

401 Grindstaff Cove Road, Suite A-207, Sylva, North Carolina 28779

Phone: 828-631-2295 • FAX: 828-631-2208

Email: donadams@jacksonnc.org

MEMO

To: Jackson County Employees
From: Don Adams, County Manager *DA*
Date: August 11, 2017
Re: 2017 Solar Eclipse

On Monday, August 21st, there will be a solar eclipse whose direct path includes Jackson County. The County wants to provide employees general information about the solar eclipse, safety tips for viewing the eclipse, a pair of solar eclipse glasses, and guidance for operation of County departments on this day.

Jackson County Operations

Jackson County Government will be open and conducting normal business on Monday, August 21st. Employees may schedule leave (bonus, vacation or comp time) with approval of his or her immediate supervisor in accordance with existing policies. Should employees desire to use his or her lunch hour or break to view the eclipse, it must be coordinated in a way that the Department is adequately staffed and able to assist the public during regular operating hours.

Safe Viewing Tips

An Eclipse Safety Information pamphlet is enclosed. This pamphlet includes the timelines for the eclipse and tips for safe viewing with proper use of solar eclipse glasses. *Any Jackson County employee who is required to work outdoors on this day **must** have a pair of eclipse glasses on his or her person at all times.* Failure to use eclipse glasses may result in temporary or permanent eye damage. Do not wear eclipse glasses while operating a motor vehicle or heavy equipment. For more information about eclipse viewing safety visit: <https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/safety>

This rare event will bring an influx of visitors to our area and may affect traffic resulting in congested areas and slow commutes. It is expected that there will be more than the usual number of patrons at local restaurants, hotels and retail establishments. Employees may want to bring his or her lunch to work as many area restaurants will have wait times due to increased visitors and/or closure on the day of the eclipse.

Inspect the enclosed eclipse glasses. Do not use and discard if damaged, torn, punctured or separated from the frame in any way. If your glasses are damaged and you need a new pair, please contact 631-2295.

General eclipse information is located on the reverse of this page.

Solar Eclipse Facts & Tips

Courtesy of Nick Breedlove, TDA Director

What is a total solar eclipse?

During a total solar eclipse, the Moon covers the entire disk of the Sun. Total solar eclipses happen approximately once every 18 months; much of the time, occurring over water or unoccupied land mass. The name of the eclipse is the Great American Eclipse because it can be seen from Oregon to South Carolina.

When was the last one in the USA?

In the continental US, it was 1979; Hawaii had one in 1991. This eclipse will cross the entirety of the United States. All of the US will see at least a partial eclipse.

When is the eclipse?

Monday, Aug. 21, 2017; totality (complete darkness) will occur at approximately 2:35 p.m. The sky will start turning darker around 1:06 p.m. when first contact takes place (when the moon moves across the sun). The total eclipse takes place in several phases (detailed in the graphic) with contact concluding around 4 p.m.

When was the last total solar eclipse visible in Jackson County?

1506; the next one will be in 2153. On average, it is 375 years between total solar eclipses in the U.S.

What happens during a solar eclipse?

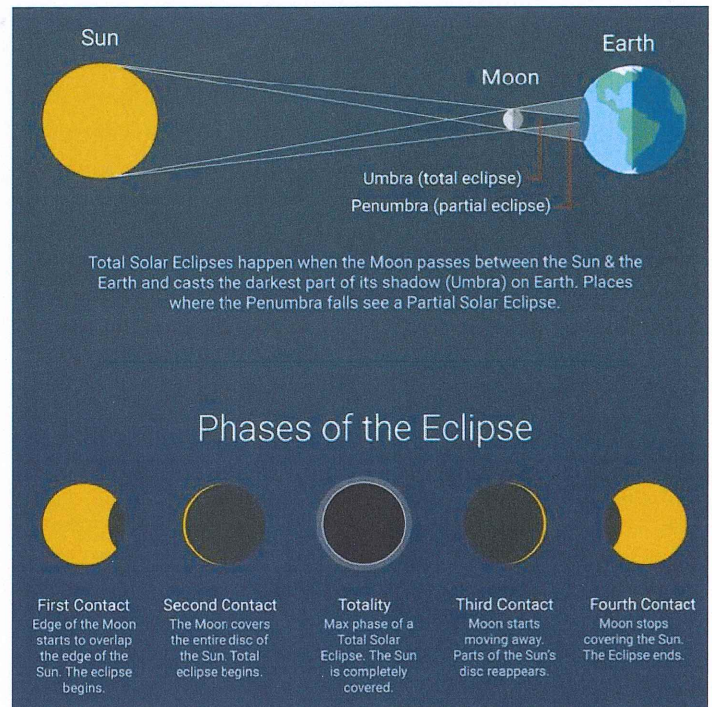
The total solar eclipse will last approximately three hours. It begins around 1 p.m. during what is termed first contact when the moon starts to pass in front of the sun. This continues until totality around 2:35 p.m. (in Jackson County). After totality, the moon will move away from the sun and play out in reverse until approximately 4 p.m. During totality when it is dark, the temperatures will drop (5 to 20 degrees) and some animals may think it's nighttime. Stars will be visible if it is not cloudy.

Most total solar eclipse totalities resemble what you would see at night during a full moon.

How can you safely view an eclipse?

You must have solar eclipse glasses to view an eclipse. People should never look directly at the sun without solar eclipse glasses. Sunglasses are not sufficient protection. Solar eclipse glasses should be ISO 12312-2 certified and be stamped with that certification.

Permanent damage to eyesight and/or permanent floaters in the eye can result from staring directly into the sun even after as little as a few seconds. Floaters are



dark spots that you see when even looking against a white background.

What if it is cloudy or it rains?

We pulled historical weather reports for Asheville Airport (closest NOAA reporting station) for the last 15 years. We had scattered clouds on Aug. 21 46-percent of the time. If it is cloudy, the skies will still go dark; however, you will not see the sun/moon. If it is rainy, the skies will also turn dark.

Cities and Duration of Total Solar Eclipse:

Sylva	1 minute, 45 seconds
Cullowhee	1 minute, 55 seconds
Dillsboro	1 minute, 50 seconds
Cashiers	2 minutes, 23 seconds

Additional Eclipse Information:

<https://eclipse.aas.org/resources/images-videos>

<https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/>

www.NCEclipse.com

@NCEclipse on Twitter for event and safety updates

Jackson Co. Tourism Development Authority

Nick Breedlove, Director

Phone: 828-848-8711

Email: director@DiscoverJacksonNC.com

Additional Eclipse Information:

<http://www.NCEclipse.com/>

<https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/>

@NCEclipse on Twitter for event and safety updates

Helpful Phone Numbers:

911 is emergency calls ONLY

Emergency Operation Center
828-631-HELP (4357)

Sheriff's Office
828-586-4355

Thank you for visiting Jackson County
www.jacksonnc.org



For more information about eye safety during the eclipse scan the QR code on your mobile device.



2017 Eclipse Safety Information



*A total solar eclipse is about as bright as the full Moon — and just as safe to look at.
But the Sun at any other time is dangerously bright; view it only through special-purpose safe solar filters.*

Safe Viewing Tips:

- ▶ You **must** use solar filters or eclipse glasses when looking at the unclipsed or partially eclipsed sun.
- ▶ Inspect eclipse glasses each time before use. Do not use and discard if damaged, torn, punctured or separated from the frame in any way.
- ▶ Put eclipse glasses on before looking up at the sun. After glancing at the sun, look away before taking off your eclipse glasses.
- ▶ Limit use of eclipse glass to 3 minutes of continuous use; use intermittently for several hours.

- When using eclipse glasses do not move around, drive a motor vehicle, or operate machinery.
- Never look at the sun through an unfiltered camera, telescope, binoculars, or other optical device, even while using eclipse glasses.
- Do not use a camera or smartphone to take photos unless you buy a special filter. You can damage the camera.
- Only when the moon completely covers the sun's face and it is suddenly very dark, you can take off your eclipse glasses temporarily.
- As soon as the bright sun reappears, put your eclipse glasses back on immediately.

	Sylva	Callowhee	Cashiers
Start of Partial Eclipse	1:06:54 pm	1:07:05 pm	1:07:25 pm
Start of Total Eclipse	2:35:49 pm	2:35:57 pm	2:36:09 pm
Maximum Eclipse	2:36:42 pm	2:36:55 pm	2:37:20 pm
End of Total Eclipse	2:37:34 pm	2:37:52 pm	2:38:32 pm
End of Partial Eclipse	4:00:48 pm	4:01:00 pm	4:01:27 pm