ECLIPSE GLASSES GIVEAWAYS TODAY & SATURDAY FOR PITTSFORD RESIDENTS

Total Solar Eclipse is Monday!

Are you ready for the solar eclipse this Monday, April 8? Pittsford sits squarely in the path of totality! If you’re planning to view this remarkable event, please use certified eclipse glasses and follow safe practices.

The Town will offer eclipse viewing glasses free to Pittsford residents today, Friday, April 5 from 8:00am – 4:00pm in the Supervisor’s office at Town Hall and again during the Supervisor’s Open House this Saturday, April 6 from 8:00am – 10:00am at the Pittsford Community Library. The Town will provide eclipse safety tips as well.

"The eclipse is a once-in-a-lifetime event. We want everyone to enjoy it safely" said Pittsford Town Supervisor Smith. "Don’t look at the sun without certified eclipse glasses. To provide for safe viewing we’re distributing some ISO-certified eclipse glasses and sharing some safety tips."

The Town has 1,500 eclipse glasses for Pittsford residents free of charge; there is a limit of two pairs per household. Glasses will be distributed as follows:

On Friday, April 5, from 8:00am-4:00pm in the Supervisor’s office at Town Hall, first floor, 11 South Main Street.

On Saturday, April 6, from 8:00-10:00am during an extended Supervisor’s Open House held in the Pittsford Community Library’s Fisher Meeting Room, 24 State Street.

Both The Town and Supervisor Smith will post updates on their respective Facebook
If you want to purchase solar eclipse glasses, the Rochester Museum and Science Center has a list of Rochester-area retailers selling them. Always ask the retailer whether the glasses are ISO 12312-2-certified and who manufactured them to make sure the glasses are safe for viewing the sun.

**TOWN FACILITIES WILL CLOSE AT NOON THIS MONDAY, 4/8**

Town of Pittsford government offices, facilities and services – including Town Hall, Town Court, the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center, the Pittsford Community Library, and all department offices – will close at noon this Monday, April 8, for the Total Solar Eclipse. We wish for all a fun, inspiring and safe experience during the eclipse. For a map and details about Eclipse 2024 viewing sites in Pittsford and other eclipse information, visit [www.townofpittsford.org/eclipse-2024](http://www.townofpittsford.org/eclipse-2024).

**WHERE TO VIEW THE ECLIPSE IN PITTSFORD**

*Use our Eclipse Viewing Sites Map and Info Sheet*

Where will you be watching the total solar eclipse this Monday, April 8? For the past several months we’ve been celebrating the science, fun and creativity inspired by the coming total solar eclipse – and this once-in-a-lifetime event is almost here!

"For Pittsford residents, the best and easiest location to view the eclipse may be from home," said Supervisor Smith. "But for visitors and those looking for other viewing options, our Town parks and some other areas will be open. In collaboration with Pittsford Village and the Pittsford School District, we’ve put a map and information sheet together to make it easy to find a viewing location."

Use these links to find our [Pittsford Eclipse Viewing Map](#) and our [Viewing Sites Information Sheet](#) online.

In Pittsford, the total solar eclipse will begin at 2:07pm. **Totality – when the moon covers all of the sun and the sky will darken to twilight – begins just after 3:20pm and will last about 3 minutes and 32 seconds in our area.** The remaining partial eclipse will end at 4:33pm.

**Some viewing sites reminders:**

- On April 8, all Town departments and facilities and Village Hall will close at noon. Pittsford schools will be closed for spring break.
- Our Town parks and other viewing sites will be open!
- Great Embankment Park, Hopkins Parks, Farm View Park, King’s Bend Park, Thornell Farm Park the Spiegel Community Center and the Pittsford Community Library will have open restroom facilities.
- Park all vehicles in legal parking spots only; please don’t park vehicles on grass, open fields or park pathways.
- Keep our parks and viewing sites clean by disposing of trash in proper trash
For more information about the eclipse and our eclipse programs and activities, visit www.townofpittsford.org/eclipse-2024.

STAY SAFE DURING THE SOLAR ECLIPSE

Check out our Eclipse Safety Tips Sheet

The April 8 Total Solar Eclipse will soon be here. We want everyone to enjoy it safely! Please see below some brief tips for eye safety, traffic safety, and crime prevention during the eclipse.

EYE SAFETY:
- Never stare directly at the sun without wearing Eclipse glasses.
- Use only ISO 12312-2-certified Eclipse glasses when viewing the eclipse.
- Inspect your solar glasses. Do not use if there are any scratches, holes, or tears.
- Help and closely monitor children to ensure they’re wearing solar eclipse glasses correctly.
- DO NOT look through telescopes, binoculars, and cameras (even while wearing solar eclipse glasses!) without a filter made specially for those devices.
- Consider making a pinhole projector – an easy eclipse-viewing device made with common household items. It provides an entirely safe way to view the eclipse. See how to below!

TRAFFIC SAFETY:
- On April 8, plan and give yourself extra time during your morning and evening commutes.
- Fill your gas tank before April 8.
- Limit driving on the day of the eclipse.
- Be alert for distracted drivers and pedestrians during the eclipse.
- Do NOT pull over to the side of the road to view the eclipse.

CRIME PREVENTION:
- While you’re watching the sky, there are others who will be watching you, your car or your house for criminal opportunity.
- Stay aware of your surroundings.
- Travel and remain in a group.
- Keep your belongings secure.
- Lock your car and secure your home before leaving.
- Stay informed about local safety advisories and recommendations from local authorities.
- The number of visitors is expected to overwhelm cell phone systems. Expect interruption of service. Please refrain from uploading footage of the eclipse to social media or livestreaming during the event. Interrupted coverage endangers those in need of urgent services.
- Even when the system is jammed, 911 calls get priority. In an emergency, call 911.

For more detailed information, see our Eclipse Safety Tips sheet online.

SHARE YOUR ECLIPSE PHOTOS!
The Total Solar Eclipse promises to be an amazing opportunity for photos! If you share your Pittsford Eclipse photos online, be sure to tag them so we can
FUN AND SAFE VIEWING WITH A PINHOLE ECLIPSE VIEWER - MAKE YOUR OWN!
Sometimes it takes a dramatic once-in-a-lifetime celestial event to remind us that science is fun! There are numerous educational opportunities that incorporate learning about the eclipse, but making a DIY pinhole projector will provide you with a handy way to safely view the moon as it slowly comes in between the earth and the sun, seemingly turning day into night.

It's easy to make an eclipse viewer with basic household materials. We found simple step-by-step instructions from National Geographic Kids that walk you through the process – see them here: www.kids.nationalgeographic.com/space/article/solar-eclipse-viewer. This is a terrific project for families, teachers and amateur astronomers alike. All that you need to make an eclipse viewer is a cardboard box, a sheet of blank, white paper, scissors, a pencil, aluminum foil, tape and a push pin. Assemble and be amazed by how a few simple items can turn a natural phenomenon into a mesmerizing experience!

Photo courtesy National Geographic Kids.

ECLIPSE PROGRAM REMINDERS:

Eclipse Story Stroll: Join us for a special eclipse-themed story in the field located at the Pittsford Community Center. Walk around and read Total Solar Eclipse: A Stellar Friendship Story at your leisure! Once you have finished the story, come to the front desk to receive your fun craft bag! The Eclipse Story Stroll is under way through this Tuesday, April 9 at the Spiegel Pittsford Community Center field. The Community Center is located at 35 Lincoln Avenue.

Midnight at Midday: The Tales of a Musical Eclipse: Calkins Road Middle Schools is reprising its original musical, “Midnight at Midday: The Tales of a Musical Eclipse,” this Saturday and Sunday, April 6 and 7! Performed by grade 7 and 8 students, showtimes are April 6 at 7:00pm and April 7 at 2:07pm (the precise time of the total solar eclipse on April 8). Tickets are $15; purchase tickets online here or at the door, if seats are still available. Calkins Road Middle Schools is located at 1899 Calkins Road.
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