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Eclipse to block the sun, and traffic too
Miami Township PD cautions about high traffic volume April 8

Miami Township, along with other communities throughout the western portion of Ohio, will experience a total solar eclipse for nearly four minutes on Monday, April 8, 2024, at approximately 3:10 p.m. The last total solar eclipse visible in Ohio was in 1806, and the next total solar eclipse visible in North America will be in 2044. Historically, eclipse events have led to significant population increases, sometimes doubling or even tripling the size of communities.

For the past several months, members of the Miami Township Police Department have been attending meetings with other local first responders to plan for the day of the solar eclipse. Emergency officials anticipate a significant increase in traffic volume in the area. To minimize congestion, the department strongly recommends that people enjoy the eclipse from the comfort of their home or nearby open spaces whenever possible.

Careful planning is essential if you decide to venture to an alternate location. The department expects heavy traffic and extended waiting times on local roads. Your patience and courtesy on the streets are invaluable. Be considerate and understanding of fellow drivers. Ensure your vehicle has a full tank of gas or is fully charged if you plan to drive. There may be long waits at gas stations, so having sufficient fuel beforehand will save you time and frustration.

Additionally, when observing any eclipse, viewers must look through safe solar-viewing glasses, or "eclipse glasses," from a reputable vendor. Otherwise, it could damage one's eyes. Planning can contribute to a smoother traffic flow and a more enjoyable experience for everyone on the day of the eclipse. Let's work together to make this celestial event fun and memorable for everyone.

Helpful links:
- o Ohio EMA Total Solar Eclipse
- o ODNR 2024 Solar Eclipse