



For Immediate Release
Office of the City Manager:

BONHAM, Tx – March 27, 2024 — The City of Bonham (City) is gearing up for an “out of this world” experience on Monday, April 8, 2024. For the first time in 146 years, Bonham will be in the Path of Totality during the “Great American Eclipse”. The last solar eclipse that Bonham, TX experienced totality was on July 29, 1878, and there will not be another until 2044.

Bonham can expect a little more than 3 minutes of totality, which makes our City a great viewing option. These are the steps that we have taken to prepare for an influx of visitors and the safety of our citizens:

1. City Hall will be open to assist Bonham PD, Bonham FD, & Fannin County Department of Emergency Management.
2. City employees will be assisting the Parks and Recreation Department in an effort to manage all City Parks, The Ball Fields, & Lake Bonham.
3. A unified command center will be set up to ensure that there is clear, concise, & consistent communication to our citizens throughout the day via the City of Bonham FaceBook page and website - www.cityofbonham.org. This communication will include traffic alerts, roadblocks & weather alerts.

We want everyone to enjoy the eclipse. Please see below for general eclipse viewing safety tips:

1. Please DO NOT stop along any highway or roadway to view the eclipse. Please find a safe location or designated viewing area.
2. Plan to get where you are going to view the eclipse well in advance as traffic volumes may be significantly heavier than normal. Traffic volumes are unknown and lots of variables like weather changes may come into play on April 8, 2024. Once the eclipse is over, (between 3:00 pm and 4:00 pm CST) prepare for higher-than-normal traffic volumes.
3. Please make sure to yield to emergency response law enforcement vehicles as they respond to any emergencies or traffic problems. Also, be aware of pedestrians on smaller local roads.
4. Please wear safety eclipse glasses when viewing the eclipse.

Please take special note that Bonham State Park is completely booked. If you did not reserve a camping spot or a day pass in advance you will not be able to enter Bonham State Park. Please avoid this area, especially the intersection of HWY 78 @ 271.