From:
 Bosma, Mark

 To:
 Bosma, Mark

Subject: [DPS.AllEMDirectors] Eclipse Information from VEM

Date: Friday, January 26, 2024 2:15:09 PM

Attachments: ATT00001.txt

A message from Vermont Emergency Management:

Northern Vermont will experience a total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. This unique event is expected to draw 50-200 thousand visitors to that area for the day.

A partial solar eclipse will begin at 2:14 p.m.; at 3:26 p.m., a total eclipse will darken Vermont's daytime sky, lasting about 3 minutes. The phenomenon will continue as a partial eclipse until 4:37 p.m. The area impacted by the eclipse will be an east-to-west line from St. Johnsbury, Barre, and Middlebury north to the Canadian border. A map of the area can be found at: https://vem.vermont.gov/document/eclipse-area-totality

Municipalities should plan for possible stress on their emergency services, injuries, increased traffic, and in some cases, extreme traffic issues. Other considerations could include where visitors park their vehicles (both legally and illegally), the impact on public lands during mud season, wildfire risks, and more. Many schools in the area plan to close early that day.

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns hosts a bi-weekly series of webinars to help communities prepare for the eclipse and share about community-level plans and what the State has planned. Your municipal contact with VLCT is or should be taking part in those meetings.

Should your city or town host a special eclipse event, you are asked to notify the state for our planning purposes at https://plan.vermontvacation.com/users/sign_up. The state is not hosting any events.

State agencies are preparing for the spike in visits and potential challenges that many extra people present. A working group comprising personnel from tourism, marketing, public safety, natural resources, transportation, education, and others has been working on addressing impacts.

Mark Bosma
Public Information Officer
Vermont Emergency Management
www.vtalert.gov