



THE MINISTRY OF  
**ENERGY**  
**+ TRANSPORT**



For Immediate release:

### Solar Eclipse

***The Ministry of Energy and Transport, in association with Bahamas Department of Meteorology, wishes to advise the public that a solar eclipse will take place tomorrow – Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024.***

A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the earth and the sun. This casts a shadow over parts of the Earth and either completely, or partially, obscures the face of the Sun for observers in certain locations. This eclipse will cross North America, from southwestern Texas and move northeastwards into the New England States.

As a result, ***The Bahamas will experience a partial eclipse.***

***The eclipse will start at 1:55 pm local time and will end at 4:15 pm, with maximum coverage occurring at 3:06 pm.***

**Spectators in the Northwest Bahamas will be able to view between 35-45% of the eclipse...** these islands include New Providence, Grand Bahama, Abaco, Bimini, Eleuthera, Andros and Eleuthera.

**Spectators in the Central Bahamas will be able to view between 28-35% of the eclipse....** These islands include The Exuma Cays, Great Exuma, Cat Island, Rum Cay, San Salvador and Long Island.

**Spectators in the Southeast Bahamas will be able to view between 20-28% of the eclipse...** These islands include Ragged Island, Crooked Island, Acklins, Mayaguana and Inagua.

The Department of Meteorology wishes to emphasize that safety is the most important thing to consider during any solar eclipse. Looking directly into the sun is unsafe, as it poses the risk of permanent damage to the eyes resulting in diminished vision, and can bring about other optical health complications, such as cataracts and certain eye cancers.

The only safe way to look directly at the sun during an eclipse is through special purpose solar filters, such as “eclipse glasses” or hand held solar viewers.

Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even polarized dark shades, are not safe for looking at the sun.

As we observe this highly anticipated event, the Ministry, as well as the Department of Meteorology admonishes all Bahamians and visitors to adhere to the guidance provided to protect your eyes.

**7<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Bahamas Department of Meteorology  
Commonwealth of the Bahamas**