

Local

Six ways to see this summer's eclipse

BY DINO MILANI

Popular Astronomy Club

On Aug. 21 we will have an eclipse of our sun.

Our moon will travel in front of the sun and block its light. As the moon's shadow travels across the Earth, if we are standing in the shadow, what we see is the eclipse of the sun. It should begin about noon with the most coverage at 1 p.m. and finish about 2 p.m.

Here in the Quad-Cities we won't see the full eclipse, but will have a partial eclipse with about 90 percent of the sun covered.

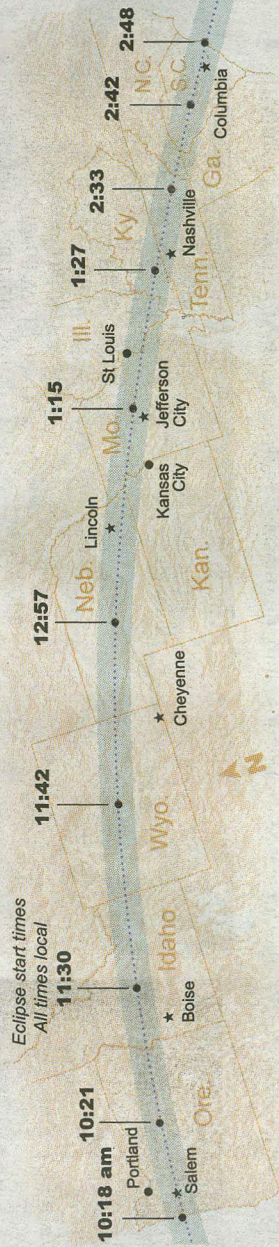
When it happens the wind will slow down, animals will quiet down and it will get darker — much like dusk, when the sun sets.

Those who can see the full eclipse will see the world turn dark — night time, no sunlight — and they will see stars appear and the planet Mars near the eclipsed sun.

How do you see he

First: Never look at the sun. Looking at the sun

Total solar eclipse Aug. 21 2017 Arc shows solar eclipse path and the best place to see it. As long as you stay within several miles of that central line you are almost certain to enjoy a view. Choose a cloud-free location.



SOURCES: Maps4News/HERE; NASA

AP

with more than 100,000 people expected to attend. Big screen TVs will show the sun's eclipse to the audience. NASA will have equipment and cameras in the south parking lot, and amateur astronomers will have telescopes set up. Costs include \$25 per person and \$35 for parking.

To see the full eclipse you need to be on its main path about 70 miles wide that also goes through Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia and North and South Carolina. The best viewing areas will be in Montana, Nebraska, Missouri and southern Illinois.

Dino Milani is a member of the Popular Astronomy Club which meets at 7 p.m. the second Monday each month in the John Deere Planetarium, Augustana College, Rock Island. The club also has night-time public observing sessions the third Saturday each month March through November at Niabi Zoo, Coal Valley.

on the other side of the box. Do not put your head in the box! Hold it away from you and look at the image through the open side. Tape a piece of paper inside — where the image shows — to improve how it looks.

Fourth: Use solar filters for telescopes and binoculars. They fit on the front side which points at the sun, the side with the large lens, and must completely cover the opening. Special care must be used with these items as you still may damage your eyes. Do not use anything that fits on the back side

let you see the sun and the eclipse. They can be bought online. Follow the directions; if a hole appears in the lens, discard. Do not use eclipse glasses with binoculars or telescopes in front of them. The lenses will magnify the sun light, burn through the eclipse glasses and fry your eyes!

Third: There is a simple way to view the eclipse. Find a cardboard box with an open side, such as a shoe box. Drill a small hole in one end and point the hole at the sun. A reversed image of the sun will appear inside

— the eye-piece end — as it still may damage your eyes. Consult with a professional, who has used the correct filters before buying or using solar filters.

Fifth: Join the Popular Astronomy Club viewing. We will have our Mobile Observatory, properly filtered solar telescopes, eclipse glasses and solar displays from 1 to 3 p.m. Aug. 21 at the Moline Public Library, 3210 41st St.

Sixth: Head to Carbondale. Southern Illinois University will host an eclipse event at Saluki Stadium