

# Total Solar Eclipse

# 2024

Monday, April 8  
3:28 pm EDT



## Explore With Caution

### EARLY SEASON HIKING

- Conditions will vary significantly across the state and at different elevations. Trails are likely to still be covered in snow, ice and mud.
- Tell someone who is not hiking with you where you are going and when you plan to return.
- Be prepared to spend a night in the woods should anything happen. Always pack water, high-protein snacks, and a fire starter.
- Hiking during muddy conditions can have lasting negative impacts on trails – some trails do not open until later in the season because of this. Always respect closed trail signs and know before you go.
- Dress for the weather and in layers. Stick to wicking base layers that dry fast (no cotton) and top them with warmer layers such as fleece and a wind and rain resistant outer shell. It is best to avoid icy conditions altogether, but just in case, pack a pair of crampons or ice creepers.

**Have a plan**

**Stay on  
paved  
roads**

**Respect  
private  
landowners**

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## Safety Information and Advisories



### ✓ **SPRING TRAVEL IN REMOTE MAINE**

- Dirt roads are typically extremely muddy in the spring or covered in ice and snow and are generally impassable. Stay on paved roads at all times.
- Many areas in the path of totality are very remote, with no cell service in any direction, making it extremely dangerous should you breakdown, become stuck or need EMS services.
- Be prepared for no cell phone service. Know your route without the help of your cell phone and do not rely on GPS.
- High volumes of traffic is expected! Be prepared for delays and have an emergency kit in your vehicle.
- Lodging and other amenities are very limited in early April. Be sure to have reservations in advance and plan for unpredictable weather.

### ✓ **STAY OFF THE ICE and BOAT SAFELY**

- Ice conditions in Maine are rapidly deteriorating and most waterways will not be safe to step onto during the eclipse.
- Always check the ice conditions for yourself. Use an auger, chisel, or axe to determine that there are at least 4-6 inches of ice.
- Conditions can vary day to day. Remember “thick and blue, tried and true. Thin and crispy, way too risky.”
- Light gray to dark black, white to opaque, mottled and slushy or “rotten” ice are not safe.
- If you’re boating, remember that water temperatures in early April are dangerously cold! It is critically important to wear a properly fitted lifejacket at all times. Even experienced swimmers will experience cold-water shock within one minute in frigid water and lose muscle control within 10 minutes.

### ✓ **RESPECT PRIVATE LANDOWNERS**

- All outdoor recreational users rely heavily on the generosity of Maine's private landowners who allow access to their property. As you venture out to enjoy the eclipse in Maine, it is imperative that you respect landowners!
- Always ask for permission, pick up your trash, and follow any signage you come across.
- Know the boundaries of the land you have permission to use and stay within them. There is no excuse for trespassing.

### ✓ **AVOID CONFLICTS WITH BEARS**

- Early spring means bear may be waking up and looking for food.
- Bear attacks in Maine are uncommon, but it’s still best to leave them alone.



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