



News Release

Partial Solar Eclipse – August 21st, 2017

On August 21st the Moon will partially cover the face of the Sun. From our location around Peterborough, the most the Sun to be covered will be about 67 percent, but this will be occurring in the early afternoon. A solar eclipse occurs periodically when the Moon gets between the Sun and the Earth. The next time North America will be able to see the Moon totally cover the Sun, causing a total solar eclipse, will be April 8th, 2024.

To observe at this coming event you will need clear skies and safe solar viewing equipment. **Never look at the Sun without using proper safety equipment**, like special “eclipse glasses” or better yet, come up to Armour Hill and view it through specialized equipment provided by members of the Peterborough Astronomical Association (PAA). Even partial solar eclipses are not like lunar eclipses that don’t require special viewing equipment to protect your eyes. The Sun can damage your eyes if viewed improperly even for a second. The Sun will not darken on its own, even when partly obscured (67%) by the Moon. The eclipse process will start at 1:12 p.m. (local time) on Monday, August 21st, with the Sun being midway through the eclipse and maximum coverage by 2:33 p.m. Then the Moon will reveal more of the Sun’s disk until the eclipse ends at 3:49 p.m. Come join the PAA on Armour Hill and enjoy this event.

So pray for clear skies and plan to safely watch a unique solar event with the PAA. You are also invited to check the PAA website: <http://www.peterboroughastronomy.com/> for other coming events.

(The images accompanying this release were taken from Peterborough, by Rick Stankiewicz, of a similar partial solar eclipse (59% coverage) on December 25th, 2000, using a safe solar filter.)

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