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Are Your Eyes Prepared for the Solar Eclipse on August 21? Experts at the Salus University Pennsylvania College of Optometry Offer Advice/Information

Monday, August 21, 2017, marks the first time a total solar eclipse will be visible only in the US. People from all over the world will be traveling to get a glimpse of the historic celestial event, but many may not realize how damaging it can be for their eyes.

What is a solar eclipse?
A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the sun and the Earth, blocking all or part of the sun. During the brief period of a total eclipse, the moon fully covers the sun only exposing its outer atmosphere, resembling a halo around the moon in front of it. While an eclipse will be visible throughout the US for about two to three hours, only a portion of the country – states stretching from Oregon through South Carolina – will experience a total solar eclipse.

How an Eclipse Damages Vision
Looking directly at an eclipse or at the sun even for a short period of time can cause severe vision damage. Viewing an eclipse without protection can destroy the light-sensitive rods and cones in the eye, and unfortunately can cause retinal burns or even blindness. The only safe way to view an eclipse is using specialized glasses or tools.

Protecting your Eyes during a Solar Eclipse
The only possibly safer way to directly view the sun is through filters specifically designed for this purpose. The Eye Institute, the clinical optometric facility of Salus University, is providing free solar eclipse glasses to encourage safe viewing.
Stop by any of our four satellite locations – Oak Lane, East Falls, Chestnut Hill and Norristown – to pick up your complimentary pair today. Limited time offer and while supplies last.

(View our locations) http://www.salusuhealth.com/Eye-Institute/Contact-Us.aspx

About Salus University
Salus University, founded as the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in 1919, today is a diversified, globally recognized professional academic center of learning that offers a wide range of degree programs in the professions of Optometry, Audiology, Physician Assistant, Public Health, Blindness and Low Vision Studies, Biomedicine, Occupational Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology. Salus operates four clinical facilities in the Philadelphia area that provide highly specialized vision, hearing and balance, and speech-language pathology services. The University has more than 1,200 students, including PhD candidates, and more than 11,300 alumni worldwide. For more information, please visit www.salus.edu.