



Vermont League
of Cities & Towns

Eclipse Planning Check-In

January 25, 2024

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Today

- Eclipse Event Overview
- State Planning Efforts
- Resources
- Q&A

Event Overview: April 8, 2024

How many people will go see the Great American Eclipse in Vermont?

A total solar eclipse crosses North America on April 8, 2024. This is easily the most beautiful sight you will see in the sky! Try to arrive early and stay late to beat heavy traffic.



Total Solar Eclipse
April 8, 2024



GreatAmericanEclipse.com

We've applied an analytic method to estimate how many people will come on eclipse day. The estimate is based on these assumptions:

- People nearby are more likely to drive to the path of total solar eclipse than people far away.
- People will take the shortest drive to the closest destination in the path of totality.

Learn about the details of our model at greatamericaneclipse.com/statistics

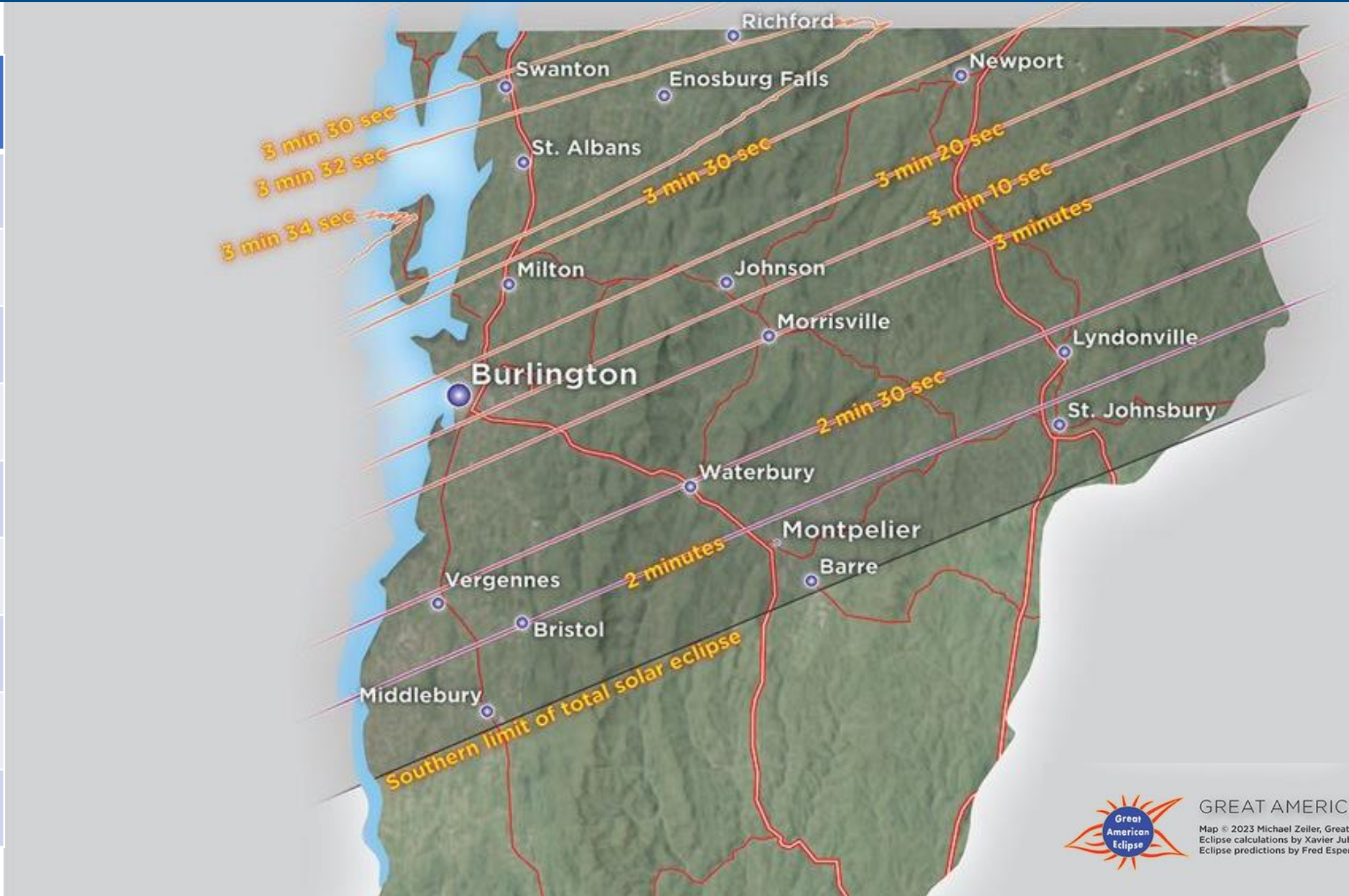
Low estimate of eclipse visitors to Vermont: 52,000
High estimate of eclipse visitors to Vermont: 208,000
People in Vermont living inside the path: 399,000

- On April 8, 2024 at 2:14 p.m., a *partial solar eclipse* will begin
- At 3:26 p.m., a **total eclipse** will darken Vermont's daytime sky, lasting about **3 minutes**. The phenomenon will continue as a *partial eclipse* until 4:37 p.m.
- The path of totality is 40 miles wide, 20 miles of which are in northern Vermont

Event Overview: April 8, 2024

IMPACTED COUNTIES:

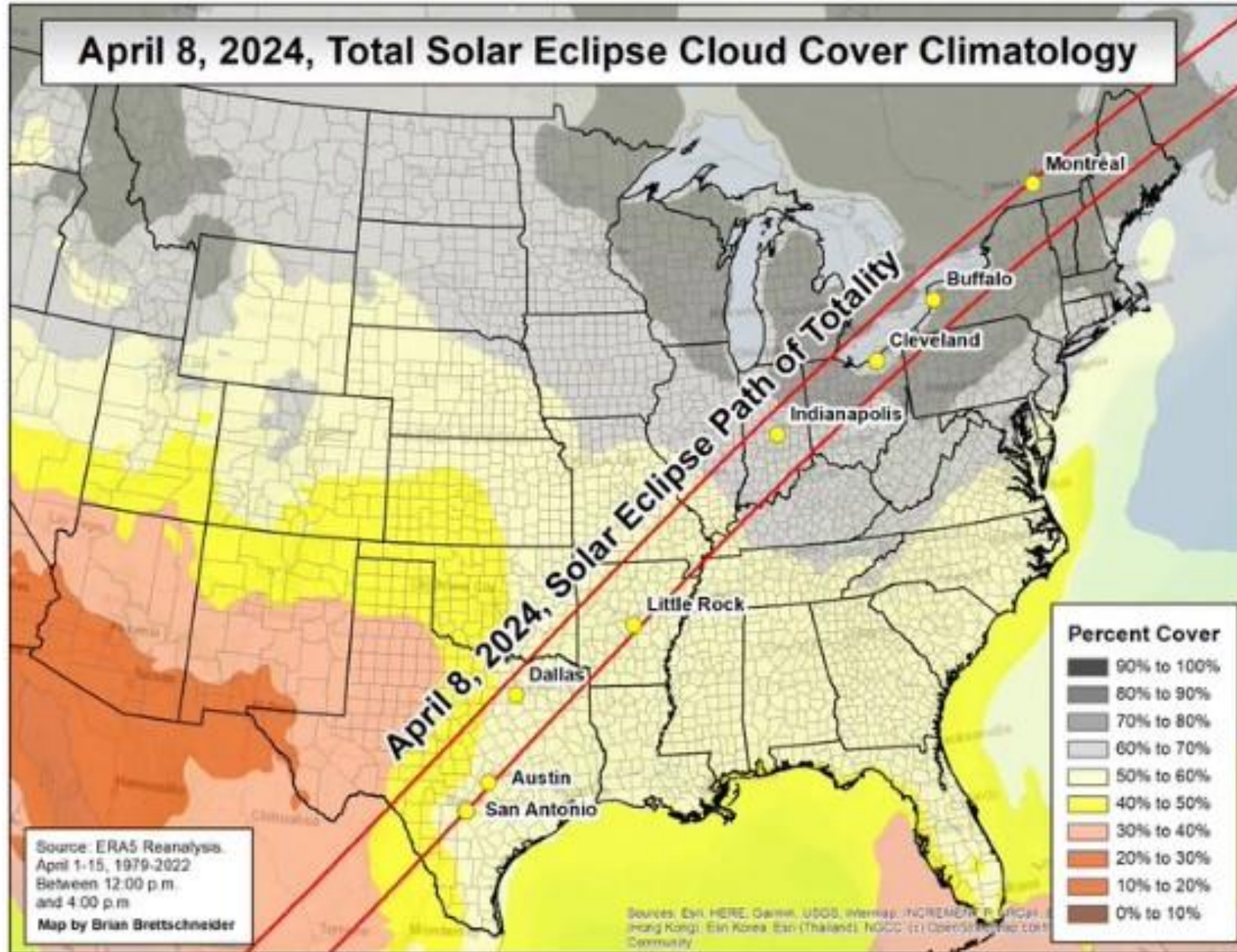
- Addison
- Caledonia
- Chittenden
- Essex
- Franklin
- Grand Isle
- Lamoille
- Orleans
- Washington



GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE.COM

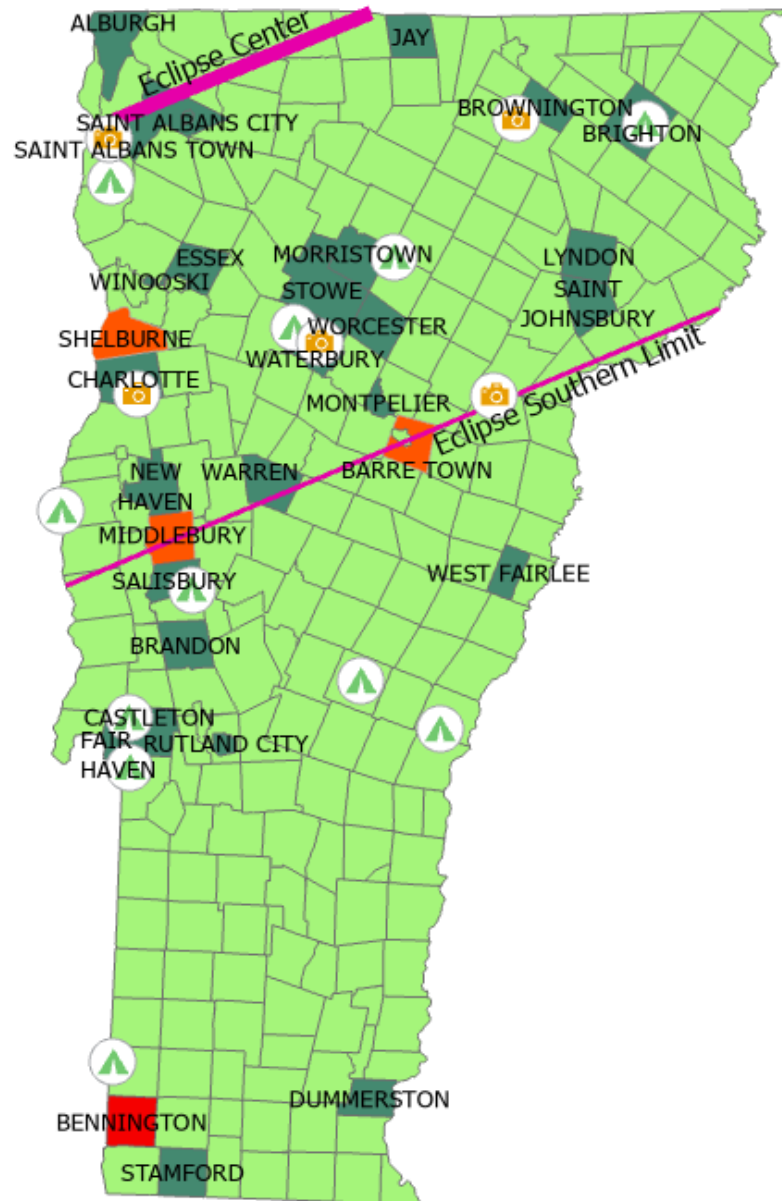
Map © 2023 Michael Zeiler, GreatAmericanEclipse.com
Eclipse calculations by Xavier Jubier, xjubier.free.fr
Eclipse predictions by Fred Espenak, eclipsewise.com

Event Overview: April 8, 2024











State Planning - Vermont Status Map

as of January 8th



LEGEND

-  Centerline for Path of Totality
-  Southern Edge of Path of Totality
-  0 Reported Events
-  1 Reported Event
-  2 Reported Events
-  3 Reported Events
-  State Park Recommended for Camping
-  State Park Recommended for Viewing

State Planning - Agency/Dept. Participation

- **AAFAM** - Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets
- **ACCD** - Agency of Commerce and Community Development
- **ADS** - Agency of Digital Services
- **AHS** - Agency of Human Services
- **ANR** - Agency of Natural Resources
- **AOE** - Agency of Education
- **AOT** - Agency of Transportation
- **BGS** - Building and General Services
- **CBP** – Customs and Border Protection
- **DEC** - Department of Environmental Conservation
- **DFR** - Department of Financial Regulation
- **DFS** - Division of Fire Safety
- **DHR** - Department of Human Resources
- **DOL** - Department of Labor
- **DPS** - Department of Public Safety
- **FPR** - Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation
- **NWS** - National Weather Service
- **PSD** - Public Service Department
- **RTS** - Radio Technology Services
- **VDH** - Vermont Department of Health
- **VEM** - Vermont Emergency Management
- **VIC** – Vermont Intelligence Center
- **VSP** - Vermont State Police
- **VTNG** - Vermont National Guard

Others added as needed...

- Vermont Emergency Management hosts bi-weekly planning calls with involved State agency/department staff points of contact
- Fridays following VLCT's Check-Ins
- Agencies/departments are organized into work groups: Safety & Security, Mass Care, Economy, Public Messaging, Communications, Education
- Each work group lead reports out during bi-weekly planning calls:
 - Updates to running estimates (concerns, questions, facts, assumptions)
 - Strategies to mitigate identified concerns
 - Resource or information needs/gaps

State Planning - Eclipse Facts and Assumptions

FACTS

- Total Solar Eclipse is occurring on Monday, April 8th, 2024
- Maximum duration of totality in VT is **3 min 36 seconds**
- 109 miles of Vermont is in the path of totality
- ACCD has 108k glasses
- Two path crosses two interstates: I89 & I91
- 399k Vermonters live within the path of totality (VT pop. ~647k)
- People WILL come to Vermont to view the eclipse
- Majority of schools are doing half day
- Some parks will be open early to accommodate visitors
- VAST trails are open until April 15th

ASSUMPTIONS

- 50-200k people will come to VT to view
- Traffic will be heavy
- Majority of visitors will arrive over the weekend and leave shortly after the eclipse
- Weather will likely be cloudy, temps in 40s. Ranging from low 30s to high 50s
- Fire risk for this time of year
- Events are led locally; the State is not the lead for any events
- Variable conditions, ice, weather, etc.
- Eclipse visitors are likely to relocate last minute based on weather and cloud coverage
- Private jets will be less likely to surge to VT due to climatology
- Border will see some increased traffic, but many will view event from their side of the border

State Planning – Identified Concerns

- **Public messaging, coordination, and consistency**
- **Inclement weather**
- **Knowing where there are gathering locations / events**
- **Traffic Management**
 - Congestion in rural Vermont in mud season – People stuck on roads or fields
 - Hospital access
 - EMS Coordination / transportation support
 - Border crossing impact
 - Impact to Milk and Maple
- **Schools (all-levels)**
 - Closures
 - Activities
- **Cell coverage, telecommunication**
- **Health care surge**
- **Lack of sanitary facilities**
- **Environmental Impact**
- **Resource availability: Fuel, Food, Sanitation**
- **Glasses availability**

State Planning - Assets For Eclipse

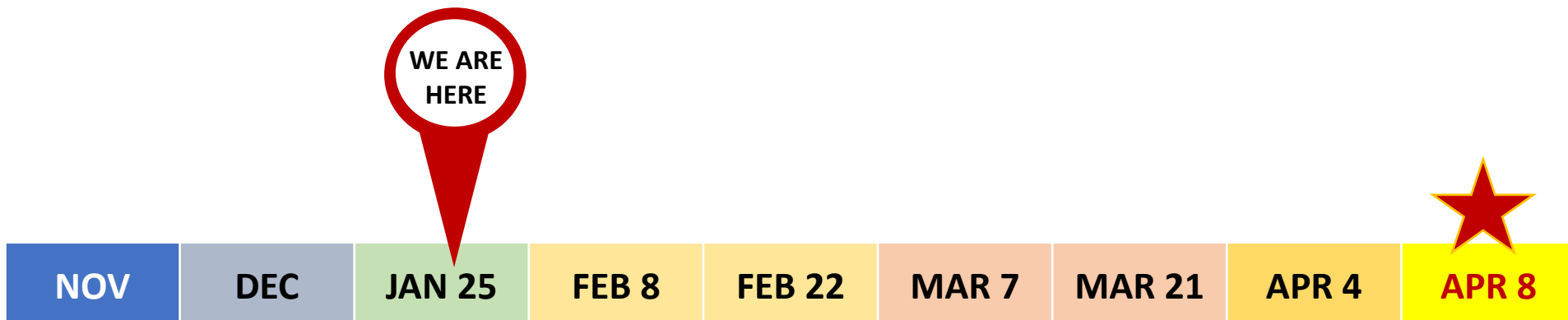
- ACCD: Vermont Vacation Eclipse Site with Event Calendar with filter for Eclipse specific events:
<https://vermontvacation.com/plan-your-visit/events/2024-total-solar-eclipse-in-vermont>
- VEM: Obtained the “community Engagement” feature for VT Alert - will allow users to text a keyword and anonymously be signed up to receive information from the State.
- RTS: five mobile cell systems

What is Next

Next Eclipse Planning Check-In: February 8th, 10:00 AM

What you can expect:

- VLCT will share information learned from the *State bi-weekly planning call* (next one is January 26th)
- Municipalities:
 - Share local information that the State should be aware of
 - Identify needs and resources
- Visit (and bookmark): <https://www.vlct.org/resource/eclipse-planning-check-recordings-and-resources> for any updates or new info learned in between check-ins
- If questions arise in between calls, contact Katie or Bonnie through [MAP](https://www.vlct.org/login) (<https://www.vlct.org/login>)



VLCT Eclipse Planning Check-In Recordings and Resources:

<https://www.vlct.org/resource/eclipse-planning-check-recordings-and-resources>

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