

# Authentically Connecting the Dots Between Weather, Climate and the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse

Jackie Bellefontaine School Programs Coordinator AMS 2025 - New Orleans The Mount Washington Observatory is a private, nonprofit research and educational institution working to advance understanding of Earth's weather and climate.





#### **WEATHER OPERATIONS**

• Weather observations since 1932

#### SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

• In-house & university collaborations, product testing

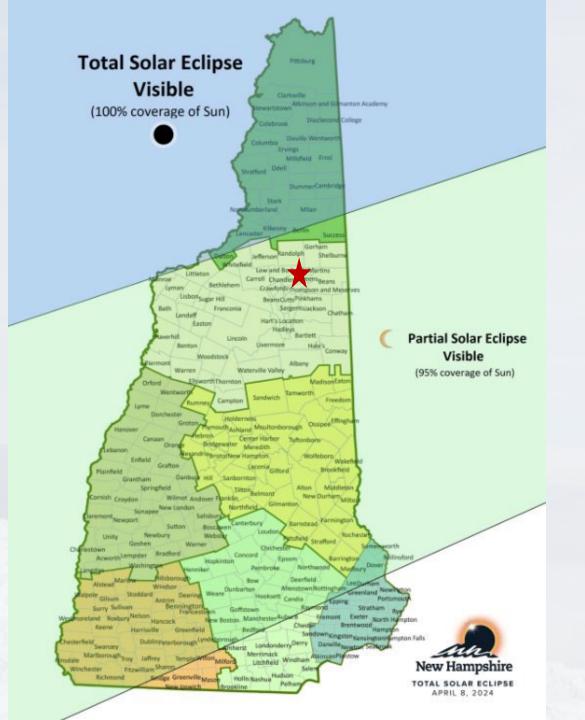
#### **RECREATION AND SAFETY**

Higher Summits Forecast

#### **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

• K-12 and adult audiences



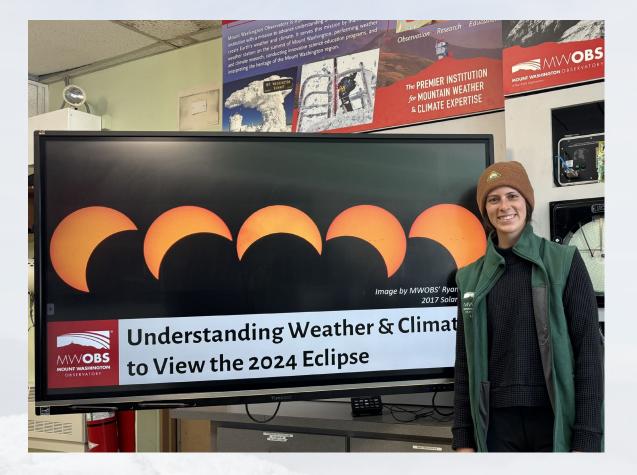


Mission-aligned programs focused on weather, climate & community science:

- Majority of programs serving rural K-12 students and communities in Coos County, NH
- Held in variety of spaces

   School day, in-person and virtual
  - New Hampshire State Parks
  - Hotels and resorts





Understanding Weather & Climate to View the 2024 Eclipse:

- Offered in-person or virtually by MWOBS educators
- Program content:
  - o Weather vs. Climate
  - How weather might impact viewing
  - Accessing and interpreting weather and climate resources for their area
  - $\circ~$  Science and history of eclipses





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#### K-12 Reach:

- 12 virtual programs, 6 in-person programs
- 918 K-12 students engaged in MWOBS eclipse programs
- Primarily 5th-8th grade
- Expanded MWOBS geographic reach:
  - New Hampshire
  - New York
  - o Ohio
  - o **Texas**



# CILC PINNACLE AWARD

# 2023-2024

### 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Approach: Pre-Eclipse

#### K-12 Reach:

- Center for Interactive Learning & Collaboration
- Survey highlights Strongly Agreed
  - Increased students' interest
  - Meet educational standards
  - Educators gained new skills and resources
  - Provided a valuable and authentic experience





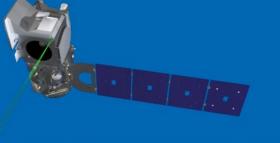


Make Cloud Observations & Collect Temperat



Become a Citizen Scientist & Download NASA's GLOBE Observer App





# **ICESAT-2**

The Ice, Cloud, and Iand Elevation Satellite-2 will be passing through the Moon's shadow during the Eclipse. You can help the mission by taking temperature measurements before, during, and after the Eclipse. The solar arrays will experience a slight drop in power. Your measurements will help scientists better understand the performance of the solar arrays in space.

SCAN QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW ICESAT-2 MEASURES EARTH'S HEIGHTS



### 2024 Total Solar Eclipse: Citizen Science

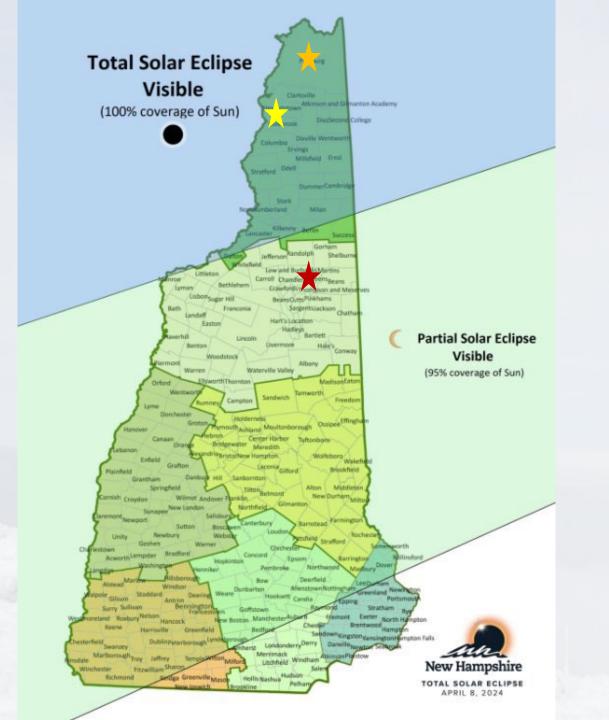
**Community Science Initiatives:** 

- NASA GLOBE Eclipse Initiative
- Citizen Continental-America Telescopic Eclipse (Citizen CATE 2024)









#### **Community Science Initiatives:**

- NASA GLOBE Eclipse Initiative, Stewartstown NH
- Citizen Continental-America Telescopic Eclipse (Citizen CATE 2024), Pittsburg NH





#### Coleman State Park, Stewartstown NH:

- NASA GLOBE Eclipse Initiative
- Monitoring temperature and cloud coverage
- ICESat-2
- Connected with over 200 people, primarily families
- Media outreach

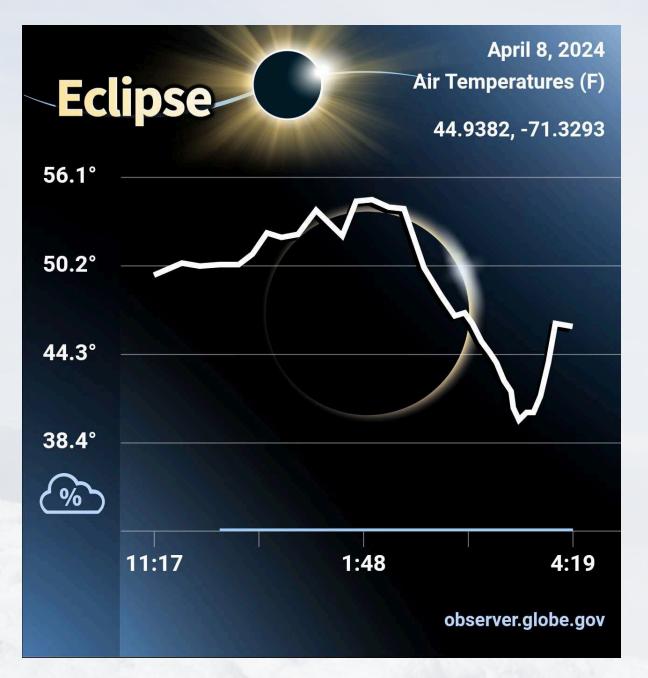




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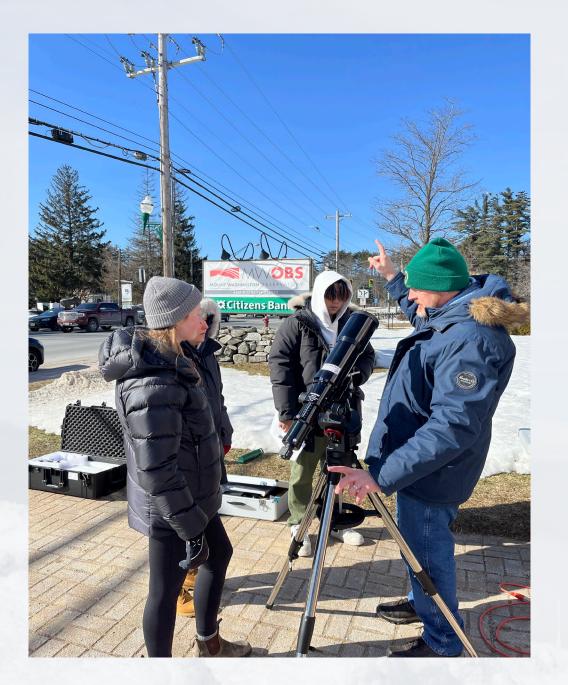




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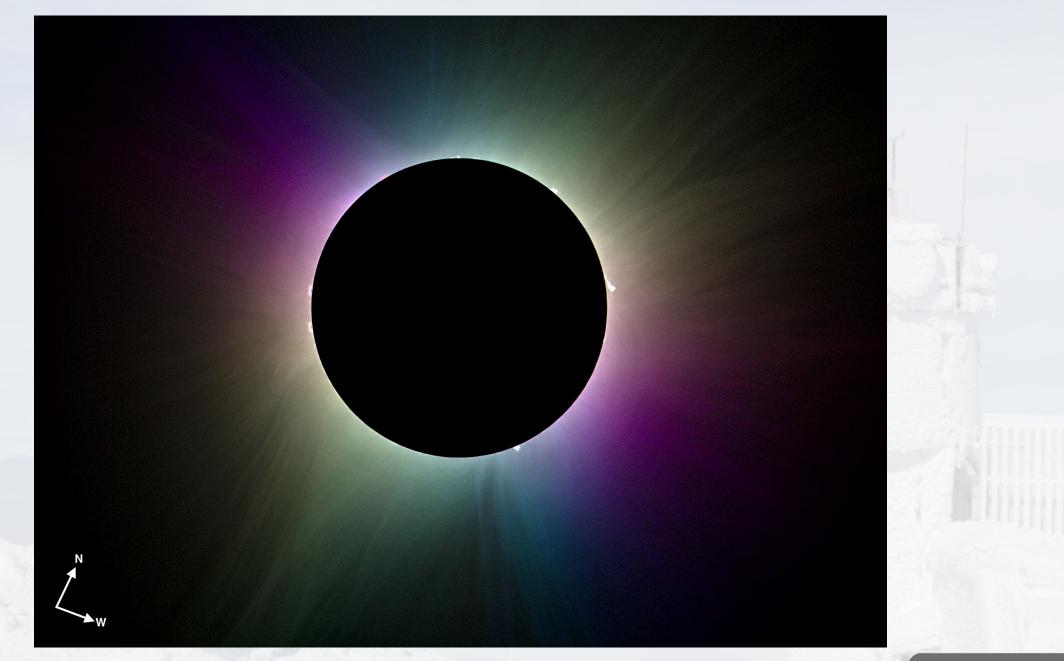




#### Pittsburg Library, Pittsburg NH:

- CATE 2024, NH State Level Coordinator
- 35 identical telescopes teamed by groups of citizen scientists
- Collect polarized imagery of corona during totality
- Team placed in Pittsburg, NH





Courtesy of SwRI / Citizen CATE 2024 / Ritesh Patel / Dan Seaton



# **2024 Total Solar Eclipse: Outreach Success!**

S.





# **Thank You!**

Learn more: www.mountwashington.org Contact me!:jbellefontaine@mountwashington.org