



Milwaukee Composite Squadron 5

Civil Air Patrol - Auxiliary of the US Air Force

Serving southern Milwaukee County

MEDIA ALERT

Who: Fifteen Cadets and five adults from Milwaukee 5 Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol. (Cadets are ages 12-19 years old).

What: Participate in NASA data collection mission for the solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. During the last eclipse in October 2023, the Civil Air Patrol made history with the largest data collection effort in our nation.

This April's eclipse data collection mission will be even larger with 322 teams of cadets, adult members, students, and teachers around the country. The 33,000 participants will be using NASA's Citizen Science application called the Globe Observer to record data such as temperature, cloud cover, wind direction, wind speed, and test our VHF radios to observe the eclipse's effects on radio communications.

The Milwaukee 5 Composite Squadron will be stationed at Lake Vista Park in Oak Creek to collect and report data in real time for our area. Data collection will begin two hours before the maximum eclipse which should be 91% in our region. The maximum will occur at 2:08 p.m. The squadron will collect data until 4:00 p.m. following NASA's protocols.

The next total solar eclipse visible in North America will be 20 years from now in 2044 visible in the Montana region. These cadets will be in their mid-30's at that time.

Where: Lake Vista Park, 4000 E Lake Park Vista Parkway, Oak Creek, WI

Time and Date: Monday, April 8, 2024, Data collection from 11:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. Solar eclipse maximum is at 2:08 p.m. which is the best time to visit and see us in action.

Units Participating: The Milwaukee 5 Composite Squadron is 50 cadets and 21 adult members that train at the Oak Creek Army National Guard Armory every Thursday night from 6:30 to 8:30. Visitors are welcome to attend.

About: The Civil Air Patrol is a volunteer organization that focuses on three missions: Emergency Services, Aerospace Education, and Cadet Leadership Programs.

Highlight: Cadets in camouflage duty uniforms, wearing orange vests performing real science data collection for NASA. Cadets will be using instruments to take measurements, record the data, and then report the data in the Globe Observer app. We will have an afternoon meal and conduct other emergency services training between measurements. The City of Oak Creek's Mayor may make a visit too.

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<https://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/programs/aerospace-education/curriculum/2024-solar-eclipse>

<https://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/about/civil-air-patrols-three-primary-missions>

<https://www.milwaukee5cap.org/>



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Did you know that Wisconsin had a partial solar eclipse on Saturday, October 14th? Civil Air Patrol partnered with NASA to collect solar eclipse data. Our MKE 5 cadets and senior members were out in the rain and wind at Lake Vista Park on Lake Michigan's shoreline taking light and wind measurements. They even tested the effects of VHF transmission with their radios! Get ready! Wisconsin will see a nearly complete eclipse again on April 8th, 2024 and our members will be out there again rain or shine!

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Picture of Milwaukee 5 Civil Air Patrol Squadron from October 2023 eclipse. We ventured out in the rain and winds to collect the data at Lake Vista Park.