



NEWS RELEASE
North Olympic Library System
2210 South Peabody Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 21, 2017
Contact: Paige Belfry, Customer Service Specialist
360.417.8500 x7730; pbelfry@nols.org
Re: The Great American Eclipse 2017
Attached: NASA's *projection.jpg*

As part of the North Olympic Library System's annual Summer Reading Program, NASA Solar System Ambassadors Nancy Cooper and Ron Hobbs will present hands-on activities and a discussion of the *Great American Eclipse* at the Port Angeles Branch of the North Olympic Library System (NOLS) on Monday, August 7. Nancy Cooper will lead a demonstration of how a solar eclipse works, with opportunities to get your hands dirty and model the eclipse yourself, at 4:30pm. NASA's Ron Hobbs will present *The Great American Eclipse* discussion at 6:30pm.

Standing in the shadow of the Moon while standing on Earth is one of life's great experiences. On August 21, Americans will have this rare opportunity. The total eclipse will be viewable on the path of totality, which will cross Northern Oregon. Western Washington will experience a partial eclipse, an undeniably beautiful demonstration of astronomy in action. To warm up for the main event, learn all about how eclipses work with NASA Solar System Ambassador Nancy Cooper. Cooper's models will allow you to touch, play, and understand the science of an eclipse in a fun hands-on environment. Following the hands-on exhibit, NASA's Ron Hobbs will present *The Great American Eclipse*, beginning at 6:30pm. Hobbs' presentation will briefly review the astronomy and history of solar eclipses, as well as how to safely view the Great American Eclipse no matter where you are.

Protective eyewear is a **MUST** for safe viewing of a partial eclipse. Viewing even a sliver of the sun can cause permanent damage to vision. Claim your free Solar Glasses and map of the path of the eclipse on the following dates:

Port Angeles Farmer's Market: Saturday, July 29, 10am-2pm. The Gateway Center

Solar Eclipse: Get Your Hands Dirty: Monday, August 7, 4:30pm. Port Angeles Main Library

The Great American Eclipse: Monday, August 7, 6:30pm. Port Angeles Main Library

SolarTaxi Documentary: Saturday, August 12, 2pm. Port Angeles Main Library

All NOLS branches: Visit the Customer Service Desk – August 8-21

About the Presenters:

Nancy Cooper has had a life-long love of science investigations, the stars, and the search for life beyond our planet. She got her start as a teen working at her local planetarium in upstate New York, where her enthusiasm led her to become director of her college planetarium. She has taught marine biology, environmental science and astronomy for all ages in the Puget Sound region for the past two decades. In the past decade Nancy has been a volunteer presenter for the University of Washington's Astronomy Department's Planetarium K-12 outreach education program and a volunteer in local schools connecting teachers and students with NASA's exciting missions to the stars.

Ron Hobbs is currently an Instructor for Bellevue College's TELOS education program for retirees, teaching a course on the history of space exploration. Since becoming a Solar System Ambassador, he has delivered more than 200 presentations to K-12 classrooms, retirement centers and professional associations. He has taught, spoken and written extensively on topics as diverse as herbal medicine, public health, astronomy and mountaineering. He is committed to sharing the wonders of nature from a scientific context.

More About the Summer Reading Program

The theme for the 2017 Summer Reading Program is *Build a Better World*. This summertime celebration, which encourages people of all ages to read throughout the summer, features a reading challenge and a multitude of events for adults. Stop by your local NOLS location to

sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge and learn how to have a chance at winning fabulous prizes!

The Summer Reading Program is generously supported by the Friends of the Library at all four NOLS libraries. For more information about events happening this summer, visit www.nols.org, call 360.417.8500, or email Discover@nols.org. The Port Angeles Main Library is located at 2210 S. Peabody Street.



NASA's projection of the path of the total solar eclipse on August 21, 2017. Graphic courtesy of NASA.

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