

OK, the eclipse was cool, but those glasses aren't. Now what?

April 10 2024, by Jack Dolan, Los Angeles Times



Credit: Pixabay/CC0 Public Domain

OK, you hopped on the eclipse bandwagon, did your research and

viewed the celestial miracle responsibly. But now what are you going to do with those odd-looking glasses?

Fact is, you won't need them again in most of the U.S. for a couple of decades, and some glasses are good only for about three years. (The next total solar eclipse that will be visible from the contiguous U.S. is in 2044, according to NASA.)

That's where a group called Astronomers Without Borders comes in. Instead of letting the goofy goggles pile up in [landfills](#), they're collecting them to send around the world so people in Africa, Asia and South and Central America will have a safe way to stare in awe as the moon blots out the sun over their homes.

Another group, Eclipse Glasses U.S., focuses on [kids](#) in developing countries who will have learned about an upcoming eclipse in school but might not have access to the glasses they'll need to safely take a long, hard look.

"It's not just about viewing an eclipse; it's about bridging gaps, connecting people through a shared experience and igniting a passion for the cosmos in young hearts," according to the Eclipse Glasses website.

If you can't spare the time to bridge gaps and connect the world with your used shades, at least take a second to separate the lenses from the paper frames before tossing them. The paper is recyclable; the lenses are not, so they should go in the trash.

2024 Los Angeles Times.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Citation: OK, the eclipse was cool, but those glasses aren't. Now what? (2024, April 10) retrieved 2 May 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2024-04-eclipse-cool-glasses.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.