

LUNAR ECLIPSE INFORMATION FOR US RESIDENTS!

A total lunar eclipse will occur on Wednesday, October 8th, 2014. It will be visible from most of the world other than Africa, Middle East and Western Europe. It will occur early morning East Coast Time. The full eclipse(umbral phase) will start at 5:18 AM EST and end at 8:32 AM EST(UTC 9:18 AM to 12:18 PM). Please

visit: <http://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/lunar/2014-october-8> and check to see the exact time of the eclipse in your city and the sun rise and moon rise times. In the East Coast and Central Time Zone the moon will set before the eclipse ends(partial eclipse end time and not penumbral eclipse end time).

It is recommended that everyone perform snAnam(bath) at the start of the eclipse. It is normal for people to do japam, recite sahasranAmam etc. during the eclipse. Then take a bath again after the end of the eclipse or sunrise, whichever is earlier, for suddhi or purity.

For those doing tharpaNam, you need to take a bath after the start of the eclipse, do tharpaNam just before the eclipse ends(at the time of the release or just before sunrise) and then take a bath after the end of the full eclipse or sunrise, whichever is earlier. The tharpaNam procedure is the same as amAvAsya tharpaNam, with the following exceptions:

1. Sankalpam: Replace the words "amAvAsya puNya kAIE dharsha shrAddham thila tharpaNam rUpENa adhya karishyE" with "somoparAga puNya kaale somoparAga shrAdham thila tharpaNam roopeNa adhya karishyE"

2.. sAthvIga thyAgam(Beginning and Ending): Replace the words "dharsha shrAddha" with "somoparAga **shrAddha**"

This following applies only to individuals in the East Coast and Central Time Zone where the sun rises in the morning before the eclipse ends: Very strict individuals will not eat anything till they see the moon rise again in the evening and have a bath. However, we can treat this like an

Ekadasi day and prepare palahAram for perumAl and also partake this after performing thiruvArAdhanam. In the evening, at sunset, 7:13 PM EST, one should perform Sandhyavandhanam. At 7:30 PM EST the moon will rise. One should see the moon and then take a bath.