

# LUNAR ECLIPSE EMAIL WARNING

Staffordshire Community Services are warning Internet users to be wary of an email currently in circulation claiming offer images of a recent lunar eclipse.

Malware writers have distributed spam emails offering 'footage' of the event that attempt to dupe users into downloading a video of the solar eclipse. The download is actually a Trojan program that could allow a hacker full control of the user's PC.

Sample subject lines include:

'Lunar Eclipse Video, Your guide to the total lunar eclipse'  
'Shocking video with Total moon eclipse'  
'Total Moon Eclipse Video on NASA TV'  
'Moon Eclipse is visible today'

Using topical news stories to trick unwitting users into opening emails and downloading malicious code is a common ploy by hackers. Officers advise users to delete such emails immediately, and on no account should they open any attachments.

Officers advise Internet users to ensure that their PCs are running up-to-date antivirus, antispyware and firewall software, all of which is available free of charge for personal use. They also advise turning off any 'auto-preview' modes in their email software, and encourage all email users to observe their tips for avoiding email spam ([Avoiding Spam](#)).

All our alerts are available in a range of formats and languages, including large print. Please contact Cath Wohlers if this would be helpful to you, or to someone you know.

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