

Enjoy Good Sight for Life!



Vision Problems are Growing

Half of all blindness can be prevented, but the number of Ohioans who suffer vision loss continues to increase. Because of the growth in the aging population, there will be more than 2.5 million Ohioans affected by vision-robbing conditions by the year 2030. The primary causes are diabetic retinopathy, cataract, glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

Protect Your Sight

There are several steps you can take to make sure your vision remains healthy for as long as possible:

- Exercise
- Do not smoke
- Wear sunglasses
- Have an eye exam performed by an eye care professional on a regular basis
- Eat a healthy diet as recommended by your doctor

Many eye diseases, including those associated with diabetes, do not exhibit any initial symptoms before permanent vision loss can occur. An eye exam with pupil dilation is the best defense against undetected eye disease.

Professional Eye Care

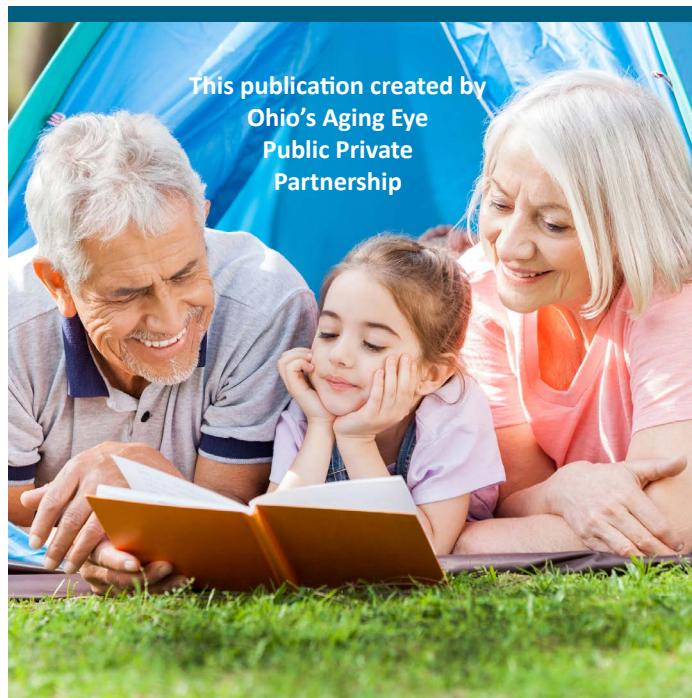
Contact the following organizations to find an eye care professional:

- **Ohio Ophthalmological Society**
614-527-6799 or www.ohioeye.org
- **Ohio Optometric Association**
614-781-0708 or 800-874-9111
www.ooa.org

Reduced Cost Eye Exams and Glasses

Contact the following organizations to see if you qualify for free or reduced cost eye exams, glasses or surgical care:

- **Prevent Blindness**
800-301-2020 or www.pbohio.org
- **EyeCare America**
877-887-6327 or www.eyecareamerica.org
- **Ohio Lions Club**
Lions Clubs may be able to provide you with free or reduced cost eye care, eyeglasses and/or low vision aids.
614-539-5060 or www.ohiolions.org



This publication created by
Ohio's Aging Eye
Public Private
Partnership

Ohio Vision Resources and Services Guide



Helping Ohioans Enjoy Good Sight



Ohio's Aging Eye Public Private Partnership (AEPPP)

The AEPPP is a statewide collaborative effort formed

to respond to the growth of aging eye challenges in Ohio. Supported by the Ohio Department of Aging, the AEPPP works to develop a strategic plan of action to address issues relating to vision care policy, vision care services, vision education and vision research that impact the quality of life for Ohio's seniors now and in the future.

Low Vision Assistance

The agencies below provide vision assistance related to employment, disability determination, and independent living:

- **Cincinnati Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired** 513-221-8558 or www.cincyblind.org
- **Clovernook**
513-522-3860 or www.clovernook.org
- **Cleveland Sight Center**
216-791-8118 or www.clevelandsightcenter.org
- **The Ohio State University Low Vision Clinic**
614-292-2020 or www.greatvision.osu.edu
- **The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio**
419-720-3937 or www.sightcentertoledo.org
- **Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities**
Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired
800-282-4536 or www.ood.ohio.gov
- **Veterans Administration**
Visual Impairment Service Team
216-791-3800 ext. 2108 (statewide) or www.visn10.va.gov

Prescription Drug Discounts - Contact the following organizations to see if you qualify for reduced cost or free prescriptions:

- **Ohio's Best Rx**
866-923-7879 or www.ohiobestrx.org
- **Medicine Assistance Tool.org**
www.MAT.org

Eye Care Education

- **National Eye Institute**
301-496-5248 or www.nei.nih.gov
- **Prevent Blindness** provides eye health and safety educational materials, curriculums, vision screenings and vision screening training.
800-301-2020 or www.pbOhio.org
www.WiseAboutEyes.org



Ohio Department of Aging helps older Ohioans live healthy, active lives. They offer Chronic Disease Management Workshops, the Golden Buckeye Card, Nutrition Services, Lifelong Learning and Volunteer Opportunities, and more.

The department also administers programs that support older adults' care needs in a range of settings. Programs include PASSPORT and Assisted Living Medicaid Waivers, Caregiver Support, and the Office of the State Long-term Care Ombudsman.

For information and resources, contact your area agency on aging: **1-866-243-5678**

www.aging.ohio.gov

- **Ohio Department of Health**
614-466-3543 or www.odh.ohio.gov
- **Ohio Ophthalmological Society**
614-527-6799 or www.ohioeye.org
- **Ohio Optometric Association**
800-874-9111 or www.ooa.org

Other Helpful Resources

- **American Council of the Blind**
614-221-261-3561 or 800-835-2226
www.acbOhio.org
- **Cleveland Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped** (statewide services)
800-362-1262 or www.olbpd.cpl.org
- **National Federation for the Blind (NFB-NEWSLINE)** - Telephone reading service for people who are visually impaired.
866-504-7300 or www.nfb.org
- **Ohio Department of Medicaid**
800-324-8680 or www.medicaid.ohio.gov
- **Ohio Department of Veterans Services**
888-387-6446 or www.dvs.ohio.gov
- **Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIP)**
800-686-1578 or www.insurance.ohio.gov
- **Ohio's Long Term Care Ombudsman**
800-266-4346 or www.ombudsman.ohio.gov
- **U. S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**
800-633-4227 or www.cms.gov
- **U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs**
800-827-1000 or www.va.gov
- **U. S. Social Security Administration**
800-772-1213 or www.ssa.gov
- **VOICEcorps Reading Service** (Central Ohio)
614-274-7650 or www.VOICEcorps.org