Americans are living longer than ever before. On average, life expectancy in the United States is nearly 79 years, compared to 49 years a century ago. Age-related eye diseases pose a real threat to self-sufficiency and independence.

Did you know...

- Half of all American will develop cataracts by age 80. About 20.5 million Americans age 40 and older have cataracts.
- Between 40 to 45 percent of Americans diagnosed with diabetes have some stage of diabetic retinopathy. Diabetics are more likely to develop glaucoma and cataracts than those without diabetes.
- More than 2 million Americans age 40 and older suffer from glaucoma. Nearly half do not realize that they have the disease.
- Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) may account for up to 30 percent of all bilateral blindness among Caucasian Americans. AMD is a leading cause of blindness in people age 50 and older.

(Statistics taken from Prevent Blindness America and the National Eye Institute)
Professional Eye Care
Contact one of these organizations to find an eye care professional close to you:

Wisconsin Academy of Ophthalmology
(847) 680-1666 | www.midwesteyemd.org

Wisconsin Optometric Association
(800) 678-5357 | www.woa-eyes.org

How to find an Eye Doctor:
- Ask your family doctor for the name of a qualified eye care specialist.
- Contact your local ophthalmologist or optometric association.
- Ask family and friends for information about their eye doctor.

Reduced-Cost Eye Glasses
Contact one of these organizations to see if you qualify for reduced or free eye glasses:

EyeDeal Eyewear
(866) 221-6790
www.eyedealeyewear.com

LensCrafters
(800) 522-LENS
www.lenscrafters.com

Wisconsin Lions Club
(715) 341-2277
www.wisconsinlions.org

Wal-mart Optical
(800) WAL-MART
www.walmart.com

Financial Assistance
Contact the following organizations to see if you qualify for reduced or free eye care:

Community Care for the Elderly
(866) 992-6600 | www.cco-ccce.org

Eye Care America
(Glaucoma, Diabetes, Seniors)
(800) 222-3937
www.eyecareamerica.org

Medical Assistance
(Medicaid, Title 19, and Badger Care)
(800) 362-3002
www.dhfs.state.wi.us/medicaid

Mission Cataract USA
(800) 343-7265
New Eyes for the Needy
(973) 376-4903
WisconCare
(608) 221-3815

Support & Services
The agencies listed below provide information and support for coping with eye problems:

American Council of the Blind
(800) 424-8666 | www.abc.org

Badger Association of the Blind and Visually Impaired
(877) 258-9200 | www.badgerassoc.org

National Federation of the Blind of WI
(608) 758-4800 | www.nfb.org

Wisconsin Council of the Blind
(800) 783-5213 | www.wcblind.org

WI Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
(800) 442-3477
www.dwd.state.wi.us/dvr

Educational Resources
Contact these agencies for more information about eye care:

Don’t Lose Sight (AMD)
www.dontloselight.org

Prevent Blindness Wisconsin
(414) 765-0505
www.preventblindness.org/wi

Wisconsin Health Agencies
http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/LocalHealth

Adult Advocacy Agencies

AARP
(888) 687-2277 | www.aarp.org

Medicare
(800) 944-0051 | www.medicare.gov

Wisconsin Board on Aging and Long Term Care (Medigap)
(800) 242-1060
www.longtermcare.state.wi.us

Veterans Administration
(800) 827-1000

Social Security Administration
(800) 722-1213 | www.ssa.gov