



PREMIER EYECARE ASSOCIATES

*Committed to your Family's Vision Health*

**Chillicothe, MO**  
**660-646-3937**

**Brookfield, MO**  
**660-258-4709**

**Trenton, MO**  
**660-359-3957**



## **Floater's Can be Normal or a Sign of a Serious Eye Condition**

The space inside the eye is filled with a clear, gelatin-like substance called the *vitreous*. In a newborn, the vitreous is firm like *Jello* and attached firmly to the lens in the front and the retina in the back. With age, this vitreous can become more liquefied and can detach from either the front or back part of the eye. This detachment at an early age often causes an increase in floaters – spider web-like or black specs that seem to float in the field of vision.

These bits of tissue cause shadows on the retina (light sensitive back portion of the eye) and are seen as particles “floating”. This is why they are most noticeable in bright sunlight or in a white or bright setting. If flashes of light accompany the floaters, or if the floaters are very large in number, this can be a sign of a more serious retinal condition such as a retinal tear or detachment. While many times the onset of floaters is a non-serious, normal aging process, sometimes floaters can be indicative of a more serious retinal problem. A dilated eye exam will determine if the floaters are sight threatening.