



Winter Holiday and Celebration Guidance during the COVID-19 Pandemic

For complete article: https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_GuidanceWinterHolidays.pdf

Gatherings:

- Limit indoor gatherings to individuals that reside within the immediate household
- Consider live streaming celebrations/events so they may be viewed safely by others.
- Tree lightings, menorah lightings, and other holiday gatherings should be held outdoors.
- Persons who have been told to quarantine or isolate should not attend any gathering, regardless of whether it is held indoors or outdoors. They should complete the recommended period of time for the quarantine/isolation to protect others. This includes persons who are awaiting test results. Persons who are tested should quarantine away from others until they receive their test results. If any household member is pending COVID test results or has symptoms compatible with COVID, all household members should remain home until a negative test is received.
- Do not host or attend gatherings with anyone who has COVID-19 or anyone who has been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

If hosting a small holiday gathering:

- Small gatherings should be limited to immediate household members
- Current indoor gathering limits are no more than 10 persons
- Utilize single-use serving ware to the extent possible (e.g., cups, plates, utensils, etc.).
- Make sure everyone washes their hands before preparing, serving, and/or eating food.
- Make hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) available for all to use.
- Avoid buffets and self-serve drink stations.
- Use no-touch trash cans if possible.
- Seating arrangements should encourage social distancing by maintaining 6 feet between individuals who are not in the same household
- Guests should wear masks when not eating and drinking.
- Clean commonly touched surfaces and areas often.
- Provide disinfecting wipes in the bathroom for guests to wipe down toilet handles, faucet knobs/handles, and doorknobs.
- Make sure each bathroom has soap.
- Consider single-use hand towels instead of cloth towels in the bathroom(s).

Holiday Travel

- Travel outside of your home should be limited.
- Airports, bus stations, train stations, public transportation and rest stops are all places where travelers can be exposed to COVID-19, it is recommended that non-essential travel be limited this holiday season.
- It is recommended that you stay home and connect with family and friends via video conferencing technology, such as FaceTime, Zoom, Skype, or Google Meetings.