



WARREN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH



TIPS FOR HOLIDAY GATHERINGS DURING COVID-19

We ask that you think about all possible health risks when planning or arranging a gathering during the holidays.

Please know that Warren County Health Services continues to discourage non-essential gatherings at this stage of the COVID-19 pandemic, but we ask that you adhere to the following guidelines if you choose to host or attend one:

- Until further notice, no more than 10 people can come together at a gathering at a home in New York State under COVID-19 guidelines.
- If hosting a gathering, inform guests to **stay home if feeling any symptoms of illness.**
- Gather outside whenever possible. In the fall, we recommend that get togethers be scheduled for warmer daylight hours when guests can be outside.
- If hosting an indoor gathering, please open windows to allow extra ventilation.
- Mask/face covering and social distance guidelines should be enforced, even outside.
- Sit only with members of your household when eating or drinking.
- Keep at least 6 feet of “social distance” when in the company of those from outside your household, particularly when involved in conversations.
- Make hand sanitizer available, and wipe or clean common surfaces during the event.
- Serve individual drinks, and do not share drinkware or communal drinks such as punch.
- Do not serve food buffet style, where people gather in close quarters to get food or line up for food. Limit use of shared food-serving utensils.
- Allow multiple entrances and exits to be used to avoid crowding, and ensure adequate space.
- Discourage people from sharing items that are difficult to clean, sanitize, or disinfect.
- Offer paper towels for handwashing in the bathroom, and remove community towels.
- Keep a list of who is in attendance in case there is a subsequent illness and contact tracing is needed.

For additional guidance, go to www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html.

Warren County Health Services can be reached at [518-761-6580](tel:518-761-6580) for any questions.

