

Safe Holidays in the Age of COVID-19

December 10, 2020 Erin Read



Ensure the conditions in which every **Knox County** resident can be healthy.



The virus that needs no introduction...

- Novel coronavirus causes COVID-19
- Currently no FDA-approved vaccine
- Transmission:
 - via respiratory droplets
 - between people in close contact (less than 6 feet apart for at least 15 min)



A Different Year

- Holiday celebrations will need to be different this year
- Avoid high-risk activities
- Consider fun alternatives



Considerations for Hosting or Attending

- Limit number of attendees to allow six feet of distance between households
- Host outdoors or increase indoor ventilation
- Require guests to wear masks
- Encourage guests to avoid singing or shouting
- Encourage guests to wash hands often
- Stock bathrooms with single-use/paper towels
- Limit contact with communal items like serving utensils
- Ask guests to limit non-household contact for 14 days prior to event



Food and Drinks

- Avoid potluck-style gatherings
- Wear a mask when serving food to guests
- Have one person serve all the food
- Avoid crowded buffet stations; keep six feet of distance between households
- Make sure everyone washes hands before and after meal
- Offer no-touch trash cans
- Change and launder linen items immediately following event

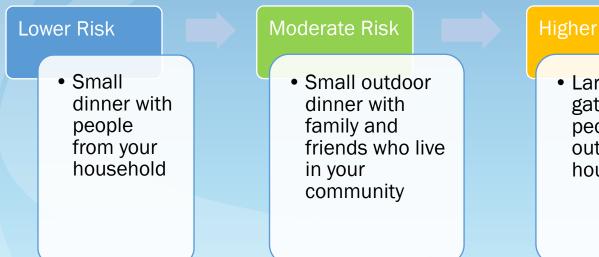


Who should NOT attend in-person gatherings?

- People who have COVID-19 (should be in isolation)
- People who have been exposed to COVID-19 (should be in quarantine)
- People at increased risk for severe illness
 - Older adults
 - Have certain medical conditions
 - People who live or work with someone at increased risk for severe illness



Relative Risk





 Large indoor gathering with people from outside your household



Resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/personal-social-activities.html#gatherings





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