

PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDANCE - CELEBRATING HOLIDAYS

Recent Updates (Changes highlighted in yellow):

12.9.2020

- Updated to reflect the State of CA Regional Stay at Home Order <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/12.3.20-Stay-at-Home-Order-ICU-Scenario.pdf>.
- Updated to include travel restriction based on the State's Regional Stay at Home Order.
- Updated so that Door-to-Door activities be moved to the Not Permitted section.

As families and friends plan for the holiday season it is important to consider how to celebrate in ways that may be different from other years, in order to minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19. Plan early and identify alternatives to some of the more traditional but riskier types of celebration activities. Since some of the traditional ways in which holidays are celebrated are not permitted by state and local public health orders this year, consider some safer alternatives that are listed below.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Permitted

- Online parties and contests (e.g. holiday meal, tree trimming).
- Car parades that comply with public health guidance for [Car Line Celebrations](#) including:
 - Drive-through celebrations or contests where individuals dress up or decorate their vehicles and drive-through “judges” that are appropriately physically distanced or in vehicles.
 - Drive-through events where individuals remain in their vehicles and drive through an area with holiday displays that are created by households, at their own households. For non-residential establishments, displays that are completed by staff or third party vendors must adhere to existing protocols and Health Officer Orders.
 - Drive-through celebrations where individuals can receive one bag of treats or takeaway items (limited to commercially packaged non-perishable treats) from an organizer while the participants remain in their vehicle. Each drive-through celebration should have only one bag of items passed through to the vehicle, avoiding multiple interactions. Those passing through items and those in the vehicle should wear face coverings and cannot enter into the street, to ensure public safety.
 - Drive-through events where individuals do contactless drop-off or pick-up of toys or other donations.
- Holiday movie nights at drive-in theaters (must comply with the [Drive-In Movie Theater](#) protocol).
- Live Performances or Concerts done at drive-in theaters (must comply with the [Drive-In Movie Theater](#) protocol).
- Holiday-themed meals at restaurants for **takeout or delivery** (must comply with the [Restaurant](#) protocol). **Onsite dining is currently not permitted.**
- Dressing up homes and yards with holiday-themed decorations.
- Buying and decorating a Christmas tree (tree lots must comply with the [Retail](#) establishment protocol and may not have amusement park or carnival type activities such as rides, face painting, petting zoos, food service, bounce houses or visits with Santa that are closer than six feet.)

Not Permitted

- Gatherings and events are not currently allowed under the State of CA Regional Stay at Home Order. All public and private gatherings and events with individuals from more than one household are not permitted, except for outdoor faith-based services and protests in accordance with applicable public health protocols.
- Carnivals, amusement parks, festivals, events, or similar activities that cause individuals from different households to gather are not permitted.
- Department store Santa/holiday displays or photo opportunities that do not allow everyone to maintain 6 feet of physical distance from non-household members at all times are not permitted. Santas must wear a face covering at all times.
- Caroling in commercial or public settings are not permitted.
- Door-to-door activities, such as residential caroling, are not permitted because it can be very difficult to maintain proper social distancing on porches and at front doors and ensure that everyone answering or coming to the door is appropriately masked to prevent disease spread. Singing results in greater risk of respiratory droplet spread.

TRAVEL

At this time, please re-think your holiday plans and cancel any plans for travel outside the region in the coming weeks. The [CA Department of Public Health Travel Advisory](#) is in effect, so anyone arriving in CA from other states or countries, including returning CA residents, should practice self-quarantine for 14 days after arrival.

Hotels and lodging cannot accept or honor out-of-state reservations for non-essential travel, unless the reservation is for at least the minimum time period required for quarantine and the persons identified in the reservation will quarantine in the hotel or lodging entity until after that time period has expired.

With the Regional Stay Home Order in effect in a region, hotels and lodging can only offer accommodation for COVID-19 mitigation and containment measures, treatment measures, accommodation for essential workers, or providing housing solutions, including measures to protect homeless populations.

Things to consider if traveling:

- Is COVID-19 spreading at your destination?
 - The more cases at your destination, the more likely you are to get infected during travel and spread the virus to others when you return.
 - The following CDC resources can help you to assess the risk of travel both locally and internationally:
 - [CDC COVID Data tracker](#)
 - [CDC Travel Recommendation by Destination](#)
- Are you or is someone you live with at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19?
 - Anyone can get very ill from the virus that causes COVID-19, but older adults and people of any age with certain underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe illness if they become infected with COVID-19.
 - Stay at home as much as possible these few weeks except for accessing essential services, and try to use delivery services if possible for groceries and medicine.
- Does your destination have requirements or restrictions for travelers?
 - Some destinations have requirements, such as requiring people to test prior to travel or to quarantine upon arrival. Check state, territorial, tribal and local public health

websites for information before you travel. If you are traveling internationally, check the destination's Office of Foreign Affairs or Ministry of Health or the [US Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Country Information](#) website for details about entry requirements and restrictions for arriving travelers.

PERSONAL PROTECTION MEASURES

Regardless of how you choose to celebrate the holidays, it is important to follow ALL of these measures to reduce your risk:

1. Wear a cloth face covering when outside your home and around others that are not part of your household whether you are indoors or outdoors.
2. Watch your distance – Avoid gatherings with people you don't live with and stay at least 6 feet away (3 or more adult steps) from all other people who are not part of your own household, especially while talking, eating, drinking, and singing.
3. Remain outdoors as much as possible **when conducting essential activities. Minimize or eliminate non-essential activities while the Regional Stay at Home Order is in effect.**
4. Wash or sanitize your hands often.
5. Disinfect frequently touched items regularly.
6. If you are sick, or you have been in contact with someone who is sick with COVID-19 or has symptoms of COVID-19 stay home, away from others, and get tested.
7. A negative COVID-19 test is not a reliable way to lower risk to others. Outbreaks DO occur at gatherings even after people attending have tested negative, because they later can become infectious for COVID-19, even without symptoms.

KNOW WHERE TO GET RELIABLE INFORMATION

Beware of scams, false news and hoaxes surrounding novel coronavirus. Accurate information, including announcements of new cases in the City of Pasadena, will always be distributed by Public Health through news releases, social media, and our website. The website has more information on COVID-19 including FAQs, infographics and a guide to coping with stress, as well as tips on handwashing.

- Pasadena Public Health Department

- <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/covid-19>

Other reliable sources of information about novel coronavirus are:

- California Department of Public Health (CDPH, State)
 - <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV2019.aspx>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, National)
 - <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/novel-coronavirus-2019.html>

Additional Information and Resources

If you have questions, or if you observe a violation, you can request information or submit a complaint through the Citizen Service Center. Call 626-744-7311 or visit <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/CSC>.



COVER YOUR COUGH WITH YOUR ELBOW OR TISSUE (THEN DISPOSE AND WASH YOUR HANDS)



STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK



PRACTICE PHYSICAL DISTANCING OF 6 FEET OR MORE



WASH YOUR HANDS WITH SOAP AND WATER FOR 20 SECONDS, FREQUENTLY



COVER NOSE AND MOUTH WITH CLEAN FACE COVERING



PERFORM DAILY HEALTH SCREENINGS

**Watch
Your
Distance**

