

# Consider the risk of the activities you choose this Winter Holiday season

It is important to use caution and plan ahead for Winter Holiday festivities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Keep in mind that the more people interact at a gathering, the closer together people are, and the longer the interaction lasts, the higher the risk of spread. Decisions on whether to hold and/or participate in activities should be made by local communities, individuals, and parents/guardians.

Some traditional Winter Holiday activities can be high risk for spreading viruses. There are safer, alternative ways for individuals and families to participate in Winter Holidays.

### **Lowest Risk Activities**

#### These types activities are low risk options for celebrating Winter Holidays:

- Outdoor activities
- Space for people to spread out, 6 feet or more apart from each other
- Use of face coverings
- Fewer people
- Limited time in close contact to others
- Handwashing facilities and/or sanitizing products readily available
- Frequently touched surfaces cleaned and disinfected often

*Some safe Winter Holiday activities to enjoy:* Host virtual celebrations with friends and family—gather virtually for a gift exchange, to build gingerbread houses or to bake and decorate cookies, host a virtual "ugly sweater" contest, or eat a meal together virtually; Drive through a light display or walk/drive around your community to look at decorations; Create a winter holiday scene and take family photos at home; Plan a virtual visit with Santa or visit him outside

## **Highest Risk Activities**

### These types of activities are high risk and should be limited and may need to be cancelled:

- Indoor activities
- Confined spaces
- Crowded conditions, people close together
- No or limited use of face coverings
- More people
- People spending long periods of time near each other
- Limited handwashing/sanitizing products
- Limited cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces
- Equipment/supplies used by multiple people
- Buffet/self-serve food

*It's best to avoid these activities:* Holiday parties and gift exchanges held indoors; Crowded holiday parties (indoor or outdoor); Shopping in crowded shopping malls/centers; Visits with Santa indoors and in-person; Activities where groups of people are intermingling

