

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

