

Stay Safe for the Holidays

The holidays will be different this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Fall and winter holidays are usually a time for gathering with family and friends. This year, make safety the top priority.

Celebrate at home

- The Tompkins County Health Department is strongly discouraging all travel and non-essential gatherings to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Celebrate with your household

- The Health Department urges single household gatherings only — the people you have been in close contact with during the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- All gatherings are limited to no more than 10 people at private residences both indoors and outdoors by Executive Order of the Governor.

Why this is important

- Private social gatherings, where households mix or individuals move from one gathering to another, are now one of the primary ways that COVID-19 is spreading. Locally, these activities contributed directly to the largest one-day increase in cases since the start of the pandemic.

Consider alternatives this year

- Have a small dinner with only people who live in your household.
- Prepare meals for family and neighbors, especially those at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, and deliver them contact-free.
- Have a virtual dinner and share recipes with friends and family.
- Shop online (including local small businesses) rather than in person on the day after Thanksgiving or other holiday shopping days.
- Watch sports events, parades, and movies from home.

* Your household includes the people you are and have been living with in your house or apartment. College students returning home are from a different household, and proper precautions should be taken for a minimum of 14 days.

Please continue to take steps to stop the spread of COVID-19 in our community

— It's not too late to get a flu shot, to protect yourself and those around you —



Testing Helps
stop the spread



Keep 6-foot
Distance



Use a Face
Covering



Wash Hands
Well, Often



Avoid Crowded
Areas



Monitor
Symptoms



Reach out
to others



Stay Home for the Holidays



Your Partner for a Healthy Community

[TompkinsCountyNY.gov/health](https://www.tompkinscounty.gov/health)