

Holiday Gathering Recommendations

Due to COVID-19, Renfrew County and District Health Unit **strongly encourages** residents to celebrate the holiday season in-person with **members of their household** only.

Gathering In-person

If you choose to attend or host a gathering in-person with those outside of your household, please follow public health guidelines:



- Observe the provincial private **gathering limits** of 10 indoors or 25 outdoors. Keep your gathering as small as possible.
- Consider hosting **outdoor** gatherings where maintaining a physical distance is easier. Enjoy a bonfire, sledding or skating instead of traditional meals or indoor gatherings.
- Plan ahead to ensure that **physical distancing** is possible for all guests. Space out seating arrangements and have members of the same household sit together.
- Promote proper **hand hygiene** by providing access to hand sanitizer, soap and water.
- Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces often, such as door handles, railings and washroom facilities.
- When possible, open windows to increase air flow.
- Ensure that guests have been **screened** for symptom(s) of COVID-19 prior to arrival and inform those who may have symptom(s) not to attend the gathering.
- Keep contact information for all of your guests as public health may need this information for contact tracing.
- Remind guests to follow **public health recommendations**, like maintaining physical distancing, wearing a face covering, frequent hand hygiene, and avoiding close physical contact like shaking hands, hugs and/or kisses.

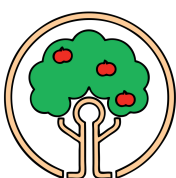


Serving Food or Drinks

It is recommended that you **avoid** gathering for holiday meals, as this requires face coverings to be removed and increases the use of shared items.

If serving food or drinks at your gathering, please note the following recommendations:

- Avoid potluck or buffet-style food service, to minimize the number of people touching serving utensils and dishes. Have one person serve meals or use pre-portioned meals.
- Serve food on individual plates to prevent guests from touching the same objects.
- Wash your hands often before and during preparation.
- Ask guests to clean their hands before and after eating.
- Plan how you will ensure physical distancing throughout the gathering, including seating and while serving food.



Renfrew County and District Health Unit
"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"
Visit us at www.rcdhu.com