

County of San Diego

Guidance for Celebrating Winter Holidays during the COVID-19 Pandemic

To minimize the spread of COVID-19 and ensure families stay safe during 2020 winter holiday celebrations, the County of San Diego offers guidance for the most common activities:

Winter Holiday Activities

Recommended

- Shopping online for holiday gifts or gift cards, and online activities.
- Drive-through or drive-by events with members of the same household where the participants do not leave their car.
- Send a pre-made dinner or ingredients through online food delivery services and eat together virtually.
- Charity meal activities and donate food to drive-through pantries, local food drives, or online food bank fundraisers in accordance with our [Charitable Meals Guidance](#).
- Holiday- or Winter-themed movie nights and home decorating with your household.
- Get a flu shot to protect yourself and minimize complications from the flu or COVID-19 viruses.

Not Recommended

- Per [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) travel considerations](#), traveling increases the chance of getting and spreading COVID-19. Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others.

Not Allowed

- Gatherings with members of other households is prohibited unless expressly permitted in the [Regional Stay at Home Order](#).
- Carnivals, festivals, and live entertainment are not allowed because close interactions increase the risk of infection.
- Ice skating rinks are not allowed as they host many guests from different households where it is difficult to maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet.

Safer Alternatives

Many winter holiday activities can be high-risk for spreading viruses. There are safer, alternative ways to celebrate including:

- Remote games and activities to replace traditional in-person entertainment.
- Driving with members of your household in your car to view holiday lights and decorations.
- Participate in a winter- or holiday-themed virtual run, hike, or bike ride.
- Visit Santa, or other holiday figures, at locations that offer a touchless experience only with members of the same household.
- Virtual gift exchanges where participants can follow personal protection measures prior to remotely giving and accepting gifts.

Personal Protection Measures

However you celebrate, please continue to follow the [Regional Stay at Home Order](#), [County of San Diego Public Health Order](#), [CDPH Holiday Guidance](#), [California Department of Public Health Guidance](#), and the [CDC Holiday Guidelines](#). To stay safe during the 2020 winter holiday season, please remember to:

- Wash or sanitize your hands often, and clean frequently touched items regularly.
- Avoid close contact – stay at least 6 feet away from people who are not part of your household.
- Avoid indoor spaces that don't allow for easy distancing of at least 6 feet between you and others.
- Correctly wear an [appropriate face covering](#) over your mouth and nose when outside your home and around others who are not part of your household.
- Stay home and away from others if you are sick, have a symptom of COVID-19, or have been in contact with someone who is sick with or has symptoms of COVID-19.
- Follow directions if you are advised to [isolate](#) or [quarantine](#).

For questions, please contact SafeReopeningComplianceTeam@sdcounty.ca.gov.



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