Allegan County Health Department Urges COVID-19 Safety as Independence Day Celebrations Near

(Allegan, MI) — The Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) encourages residents to protect loved ones and themselves during the upcoming July 4 weekend and other planned summer celebrations. Residents should continue practicing safe steps to reduce the chances of getting or spreading COVID-19. As the reopening of restaurants, bars, group gatherings, and other activities continue, the risk of COVID-19 spread increases.

According to Executive Order 2020-110 for Region 3 in Michigan, rules on gatherings and events does allow for larger social gatherings of people not part of the same household (10) indoors and (100) outdoors but they must be able to maintain six feet distance from one another. In addition, outdoor parks and recreational facilities may be open, provided the reasonable modifications are made to allow employees and patrons not part of the same household to maintain six feet of distance from one another, and close areas in which social distancing cannot be maintained. Region 3 includes Allegan County.

“Areas in Michigan have seen a surge in COVID-19 cases; yet if our community commits to wearing face coverings in public spaces, excellent hand hygiene, and social distancing, we can continue to slow the spread of the virus in our community,” states ACHD Health Officer, Angelique Joynes, MPH, RN. “Research has shown that the more community members practice these actions, the transmission of this virus decreases.”

ACHD urges residents to continue practicing COVID-19 precautions to keep you and your loved ones safe this holiday weekend. Recommendations for gatherings include:

- Keeping gatherings small and following the Executive Orders.
- Making sure areas are cleaned and disinfected, before and after use.
- Meeting outside.
- Mindful distancing. Keeping six feet apart from others outside your household.
- Eating outdoors. Consider getting takeout from your favorite places.
- Wearing a mask, if possible.
- Washing or sanitizing hands often.
- Not sharing food, drinks, or other items. For small gatherings, having everyone bring their own snacks or serving food with single-use utensils.
- Avoiding large crowds outdoors and indoors. If social distancing cannot be maintained, facemasks are strongly encouraged.


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