

## **From the CDC: Hosting gatherings or cook-outs**

### **Remind guests to stay home if they are sick**

- Remind invited guests to stay home if they have been exposed to COVID-19 in the last 14 days or are showing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Consider keeping a list of guests who attended for potential future contact tracing needs.

### **Encourage social distancing**

- Host your gathering outdoors, when possible.
- Arrange tables and chairs to allow for social distancing. People from the same household can be in groups together and don't need to be 6 feet apart.
- If planning activities for adults consider those where social distancing can be maintained.
- When guests arrive, minimize gestures that promote close contact. For example, don't shake hands, do elbow bumps, or give hugs. Instead wave and verbally greet them.

### **Wear cloth face coverings**

- Wear cloth face coverings when less than 6 feet apart from people or indoors.
- Consider providing face coverings for guests or asking them to bring their own.

### **Clean hands often**

- Consider providing hand sanitizer in addition to clearly marked hand washing areas.
- Wash your hands when entering and exiting social gatherings. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Make sure there is adequate soap or hand sanitizer available in the restrooms. Consider providing cleaning supplies that allow guests to wipe down surfaces before they leave.
- Remind guests to wash their hands before serving or eating food.
- Use paper towels for drying hands so guests do not share a towel.

### **Limit the number of people handling or serving food**

- Encourage guests to bring their own food and drinks.
- Limit people going in and out of the areas where food is being prepared or handled.
- If serving any food, consider identifying one person to serve all food so that multiple people are not handling the serving utensils.
- Use single-use options or identify one person to serve sharable items, like condiments, so that multiple people are not handling the items.

### **Limit contact with commonly touched surfaces or shared items**

- Use touchless garbage cans or pails.
- Use gloves when removing garbage bags or handling and disposing of trash. Wash hands after removing gloves.
- Clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces and any shared items between use.
- If you choose to use any shared items that are reusable (e.g., seating covers, tablecloths, linen napkins), wash, clean, and sanitize them after the event.

Here are a few more suggestions from the CDC for hosting or attending summer events.

- Don't hug and shake hands when your guests arrive; instead, wave and verbally greet them.
- Provide a few extra face coverings for guests who don't have one or who forget to bring their own.
- Set out hand sanitizer (make sure it's at least 60 percent alcohol), and provide clearly marked handwashing areas.
- Provide cleaning supplies that allow guests to wipe down surfaces before they leave.
- Arrange tables and chairs to allow for social distancing. Not everyone needs to be 6 feet apart — people from the same household can be closer.
- Make sure you clean reusable shared items before and after the event.
- Limit people going in and out of areas where food is being prepared, such as near the grill and in the kitchen.
- Planning activities or lawn games? Keep social distancing in mind. Consider cornhole, sidewalk chalk or frisbee.
- Replace shared hand towels in the bathroom and kitchen with single-use towels.
- Keep a list of guests who attended for potential future contact tracing needs.