This is a Message from the Marblehead Health Department. I urge you to do your part to protect your loved ones. As Massachusetts residents plan for the Thanksgiving holiday, we offer the following considerations to help keep our friends, families, and communities safe during COVID-19. If you host a holiday celebration, keep it small. Private gatherings are limited to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors. Visitors from all states except Vermont and Hawaii must quarantine for at least 14 days or produce a negative COVID-19 test result.

If you participate in a celebration, follow public health guidance.

Any time you’re near people you don’t live with:

- **Wear a mask** when not eating or drinking
- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Stay at least six feet apart from others
- Consider if those around you may be at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, such as older adults or those with certain medical conditions, and take extra precautions
- If gathering indoors, improve ventilation by opening windows and doors
- Limit in-person holiday gatherings to only people you live with or limit to a small group of individuals with whom you are regularly in contact.
- Gatherings with more people pose more risks. As a reminder, gatherings in Massachusetts are subject to gathering size limits.
- Keep visits short – gatherings that last longer pose more risk than short gatherings.
- Host a **virtual** holiday dinner with extended family or friends, especially if they are at higher risk for illness from COVID-19. Prepare traditional family recipes for family and neighbors, especially those at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, and deliver them in a way that doesn’t involve contact with others.

For more information visit [mass.gov/holidays](https://mass.gov/holidays).

Protect yourself, your family, and your community.