Gatherings and travel for fall and winter celebrations may put people at increased risk for COVID-19. For a safe holiday, decide how to minimize COVID-19 risk while celebrating, e.g., wash hands often or use hand sanitizer, stay home when sick, wear a face mask and clean/disinfect high contact surfaces.

Sacramento County Public Health recommends reducing the spread of COVID-19 during holidays:

**Holiday Travel**
- Delay travel until fully vaccinated
- If not fully vaccinated and choose to travel, get tested before and after
- All are to wear masks while on public transportation & at hubs
- For unvaccinated, it is recommended to also wear masks outdoors during travel
- For details read [CDPH Travel Guide](https://www.sacwell.org/cases-counts)

**Holiday Photos**
- Late afternoon lighting is incredible to take photos by the river in Old Sacramento, at the Capitol and the many parks throughout the County
- If planning a visit with Santa for photos, be prepared and plan ahead. Malls make preparations for a safe visit with Santa, which may require reservations and wearing a mask

**After the Gathering**
If you think/know you’ve been exposed to COVID-19 at a gathering, take 14 days of precautions to protect others:
- Stay home as much as possible
- Avoid being around people at increased risk
- Get tested for COVID-19

**Activities to Avoid**
- Shopping in crowded stores (try to shop before 10AM or after 7:30PM)
- Using alcohol/drugs (clouds judgement)
- Hosting or attending gatherings if you or household member is COVID-19 positive, waiting for results, has symptoms or exposed in the last 14 days and if at increased risk for severe illness

**Holiday Alternatives**
- Greet others with an ‘air’ hug
- Prepare family recipes and deliver to family and friend’s doorstep
- Have a virtual dinner and share recipes
- Watch sports/parades/movies from home
- Shop online
- Visit tree farms where social distancing measures (space, masks, hand sanitizer) are being followed
- Play games with friends/family virtually

**Viewing Holiday Displays**
- Driving through the local neighborhoods to look at holiday lights can be a fun way to get out and feel the holiday spirit. Visit areas where you can stay in your car and drive through
- If you do visit an area where walking is required, ensure that your household members wear a face covering and avoid large crowds, if possible

For a full list of COVID-19 holiday safety tips visit emd.saccounty.net

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