



MEDIA RELEASE

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Celebrating Holidays in Shiawassee County During COVID-19

Holidays are a popular time for family and friends to gather with one another, however, this year celebrating holidays like Easter and birthdays will be different. As Michigan COVID-19 cases continue to rise, it is important to avoid gathering with people outside of your household. The Shiawassee County Health Department understands that this will be difficult for families with holiday traditions.

The Shiawassee County Health Department encourages residents to do their part by staying home and staying safe. Governor Gretchen Whitmer released the *“Stay Home, Stay Safe”* order *requiring all Michiganders must stay in their homes unless they are part of critical infrastructure workforce, engaged in outdoor activity where you can maintain social distancing of 6 feet or more, or performing tasks necessary to the health and safety of themselves or their family, like going to the hospital or the grocery store.*

This year show you care for your community by not gathering in groups to celebrate. The Shiawassee County Health Department has shared some ideas of how you can celebrate holidays together:

- Use chalk to decorate your sidewalk or driveway
- Put eggs in your front lawn or windows
- Stream an Easter service using Zoom or Facebook Live
- Prepare a meal together, share what you are grateful for over the phone
- Do an indoor or backyard scavenger hunt for baskets and eggs
- Share your favorite holiday memory on social media
- Create holiday themed arts and crafts
- Call a relative, friend, or neighbor and check in to see how they are doing
- Bake a cake
- Have a virtual birthday party
- Make a new holiday tradition

The Shiawassee County Health Department knows these are trying times, but as a community we can slow the spread of COVID-19 by not gathering together. Connect with loved ones virtually to protect one another and reach out to those you may know are struggling. You are not alone; we are all in this together.

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