Spread Joy, Not COVID

Tips for Protecting Yourself and Others This Holiday Season

Get Vaccinated, Including a Booster Shot if You're Eligible

Vaccines are the best way to end the pandemic and they prevent COVID-19 illness, hospitalization and death. They're safe, effective and free. Learn more about COVID-19 vaccines and visit sccFreeVax.org or MyTurn.ca.gov to get vaccinated.

Stay Home if You're Sick

Anyone feeling sick, even with mild symptoms (sore throat, cough, sniffles), should stay home, isolate from others, and get tested. Download our testing fact sheet and read our testing guidance.

Get Tested Before and After Traveling or Gathering for the Holidays

Know Before You Go. Get tested 1-3 days before a family gathering, or prior to any travel, even if you have no symptoms. Antigen testing should be done 24 hours prior to a gathering or travel. PCR testing should be done within 72 hours – with results available prior to a gathering or travel. There are no out-of-pocket costs to get tested. Visit sccFreeTest.org or call (408) 970-2000. Learn more about types of COVID tests.

Know When You Return. Test upon returning from the holidays. Test again 3-5 days later.

Also Consider the Following:

- Take precautions if some in your group are unvaccinated (e.g., wear masks, socialize outdoors, keep gatherings short).
- Be sure to wear a good mask, that fits well. N95 and KN95 or surgical masks do the best job filtering out viruses and particles.
- Gather outside or increase airflow in indoor spaces. Read our ventilation fact sheet.
- Activate CA Notify (California's COVID-19 exposure notification system) on your smartphone. Ask your guests to do the same.

Read more from the California Department of Public Health

Help prevent the spread of COVID-19 by following current CDC travel guidelines

Santa Clara County
PUBLIC HEALTH