



Jackson County Health Department

1715 Lansing Avenue • Jackson, MI 49202 • Phone (517) 788-4420 • Fax (517) 788-4373



Creating Healthy Communities

To: News Editor

From: Rashmi Travis, MPH, CHES
(517) 768-1658

Re: Upcoming Easter Holiday Celebrations

Date: April 3, 2020

For Immediate Release

(Jackson, MI) Governor Gretchen Whitmer released the [“Stay Home, Stay Safe,”](#) order on March 24, 2020, requiring all *Michigan businesses and operations to temporarily suspend in-person operations that are not necessary to sustain or protect life. In addition, all Michiganders must stay in their homes unless they’re a part of the critical infrastructure workforce, engaged in an 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 grocery store.*

In spite of this measure, Michigan is now one of the states with the highest number of cases of COVID-19. We know COVID-19 is present in the Jackson community. We are battling an unseen enemy. When we follow social distancing guidelines and stay at home, we protect ourselves and our loved ones. By doing this, we also protect those around us (co-workers, friends, neighbors).

The Easter season is a popular time for family traditions and gatherings. Knowing that COVID-19 can spread even before there are any symptoms of illness, it is so important to avoid any traditions that include family and friends or other people who do not live with you. These events include gathering for special services, Easter egg hunts, parades, boat rides, sporting events, etc. Connect with loved ones virtually. Set up an internet connection and plan to be online together as you each eat your Easter dinner in your own home. Start a contest with your family or friends over the most creative ideas to connect virtually. We are including some ideas that our staff have come up with.

Please remember, it is up to each of us to do our part in this fight against a new virus. In protecting ourselves and our families, we protect each other. This year show you care by avoiding drive-up gatherings and avoid any gathering of people who do not live in your home. Have visits to loved ones in hospitals, nursing homes, or other residential care facilities virtually. If your loved one needs help, ask their caregivers to assist you to set that up ahead of time.

If you have any questions, please visit www.mijackson.org/hd or call (517)788-4420.



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Easter Themed Ideas for Safe Celebrations

Ideas on how to celebrate Easter safely to reduce your risks of infection from coronavirus (COVID-19)

- Quarantine Easter Egg Hunt, an event where households, businesses and organizations are invited to “hunt” for Easter eggs while practicing social distancing. People can participate by decorating eggs as simple or elaborate as they would like to make them and placing them in windows. Then, families can go for walks in their neighborhoods and tally how many eggs they see along the way
- Families can use chalk to decorate their driveways with eggs, or paint their windows.
- Watch an Easter service on television or Livestream an Easter Service on social media like Facebook or Zoom.
- Watch Easter themed movies
- Make an Easter inspired donation to a charity important to your family
- Prepare a nice meal together, sit down as a family, share what you are grateful for.
- Indoor Easter egg hunt
- Easter themed arts and crafts
- Read books about Easter
- Do a scavenger hunt to find Easter baskets.
- Surprise another family with an Easter egg hunt by hiding eggs in their yard
- When it’s time for dinner, set up a Zoom conference with the rest of your family members.
- find any branch outside and use it as a substitute for palm branches to help celebrate Palm Sunday.
- If you are looking for something to do on Holy Saturday, visit a cemetery, maybe the grave of a loved one.
- have a bonfire with your family and when you do, make it a teaching moment, and share about the Easter vigil and fire.
- Listen to a worship playlist
- Send Easter cards to family and friends
- Make a new Easter tradition
- Host an online modeling show for kids and adults to model their Easter fashion and post to Facebook, twitter or other social media.
- Host an online virtual Easter egg hunt or game with family members. (pretend like you hid eggs (make your list of hiding places) and let others find them (guess locations where they are hid) (For example under the stairs, on grandpa’s favorite rocking chair, in mom’s green flower pot, in dad’s boot by the front door. etc.)
- Call a relative, friend or neighbor you haven’t talked to in a long time and see how they are doing.
- Have everyone post their favorite Easter picture on Facebook/Facetime, Skype, Twitter, Zoom or other social media.
- Post your favorite bible verse or church hymn on Facebook/Facetime, Skype, Twitter, Zoom or other social media