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NCDHHS Guidance for Thanksgiving Celebrations, Black Friday Shopping

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services released new guidance for Thanksgiving celebrations and Black Friday shopping to help North Carolinians gauge the risks, protect their friends and loved ones, and slow the spread of COVID-19.

"The best way to protect loved ones during Thanksgiving is to limit travel and gatherings with anyone who does not live in your household," said NCDHHS Secretary Mandy K. Cohen, M.D. "If you do plan to get together, there are important steps you can take to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 to your family and friends."

Because North Carolina is experiencing high numbers of COVID-19 cases across the state, NCDHHS urges caution when gathering for Thanksgiving and other holiday celebrations, especially for gatherings that include people who are at a higher risk of developing complications from COVID-19, such as anyone over the age of 65.

If people do plan on traveling or gathering, they should consider having a screening COVID-19 test three to four days ahead of time. A screening test can help someone know if they have COVID-19 even if they do not have yet have symptoms. However, a screening test can miss some infections. Furthermore, a negative test only gives you information for that

point in time. Screening tests are available at state-funded community testing events. Call ahead to other testing sites to see if they offer screening tests at their locations. Community testing events and other testing sites are listed online at ncdhhs.gov/testingplace.

"Consider getting a screening test ahead of your Thanksgiving travel or gathering. If you test positive, stay home and isolate. If you test negative, it's not a free pass. Wear a mask and practice all 3Ws, including keeping 6 feet of distance from others and washing hand often," Secretary Cohen said.

People who have been recently diagnosed with COVID-19, have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been around a person with COVID-19, should not host or participate in any in-person gatherings until they complete their isolation or quarantine period.

For a full list of guidance about traveling and gathering during the holidays, along with a chart outlining low, medium and high-risk activities, see the NCDHHS Interim Guidance for Thanksgiving Holiday.

During Black Friday shopping it is strongly recommended individuals do not participate in any traditional Black Friday shopping where customers gather in large groups waiting for the store to open or are in crowded stores for extended times.

Any large gathering of people poses an increased risk for spreading COVID-19. People at high risk for COVID-19 complications should limit in-person shopping. And people who have recently been diagnosed with COVID-19, have COVID-19 like symptoms or who have been exposed to COVID-19, should not shop in person until their isolation or quarantine period is over.

Individuals who do shop in person should follow the 3Ws and remember stores are limited to 50 percent capacity. For further Black Friday guidance, including step-by-step tips for how to reduce risk while shopping, see the NCDHHS Interim Guidance for Black Friday Shopping at www.ncdhhs.gov.

Anson County Alcoholics Anonymous

The Anson County Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Group meets at 7 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays for a Closed Discussion Meeting. They have a Closed Speaker Meeting on the first Monday of each month only at 7 p.m.

The Harmony AA Group meets at 12 noon on Wednesdays for an Closed Discussion Meeting.

Closed meetings are for AA members only, or for those with a drinking problem and "have a desire to stop drinking." No guests or visitors please.

All meetings are non-smoking and handicap accessible.

All meetings are held at the AA Building, located at 2177 Country Club Road in Wadesboro. They are located between Twin Valley Golf Club and Wadesboro Health and Rehabilitation Center.

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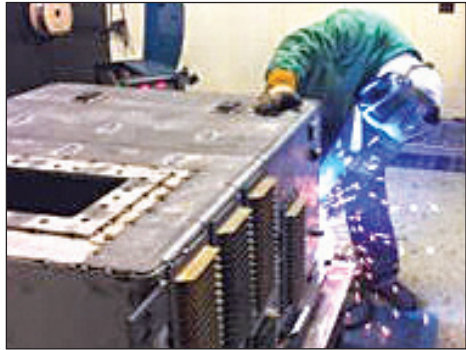
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Or you may visit our office and pay with cash, check, money order or credit / debit card. The Tax Collector office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please call 704-994-3218 for payment information.

A drop box on the Greene Street side of our building is available for after-hours delivery.

Feel free to break tax payments into partial payments that better fit your personal budget, but please be sure to complete payment by January 6, 2021. We hope you can use this extra time for budgeting tax payments over the coming months.

Interest and fees on outstanding taxes will begin January 6, 2021.

Please settle taxes in a timely manner and avoid costly interest and advertising fees. Thank you to the many who have already paid 2020 taxes. Joe Dutton, Tax Collector

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