



County of Cayuga

Office of the Chair
Hon. Aileen McNabb-Coleman

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2020

Engage in safe celebrations this Memorial Day weekend

This Memorial Day weekend will feel very different. We will miss the cheering crowds in the streets and children waving flags as a parade of decorated vehicles, marching bands, and other civic organizations pass us by. We will miss the wreath laying and other community events we have come to expect on this particular weekend. Instead, we will have to find quieter and more personal ways to remember and pay respect to the service members who have given their lives for this country. According to the Governor, ceremonies marking this holiday with 10 or fewer participants is permissible this weekend.

As we are slowly and thoughtfully reopening our regional economy, we need to remember that while some restrictions have been loosened, we need to remain vigilant about social distancing and personal safety measures so we can safely work our way toward the next phase of reopening.

The Chair of the Legislature has issued an Emergency Order effective today that extends the closing of all playgrounds, sporting fields, and athletic courts except tennis courts within the county. It also requires visitors to public parks to maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from unrelated persons.

To enjoy the nicer weather, there are a number of outdoor activities that we can engage in while practicing social distancing and wearing a mask when a distance of 6 feet cannot be maintained:

- Outdoor, low-risk recreational activities like tennis, golf, and driving ranges (except miniature golf)
- Beaches and shorelines (follow safety and capacity instructions of staff on site)
- Boating, kayaking, canoeing, row boats
- Parks and open public spaces (except playgrounds)
- Drive-in movie theater

While new guidelines are being worked out, the following activities remain not permissible until further notice:

- Playgrounds and basketball courts remain closed
- No contact sports on athletic fields
- No live music as this may attract crowds
- No garage sales



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Looking ahead, the Cayuga County Parks & Trails Department in consultation with the Chair of the Legislature, Cayuga County Health Department, Sherriff's Department, and Emergency Management Office is announcing the cancelation of the July 3rd Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks and the Cayuga County Fair. The uncertainty regarding relaxing restrictions on gatherings prevents the planning required to ensure safe and enjoyable events.

"After careful deliberation and collaboration we felt that continuing these events would violate the mass gathering guidelines and contribute to the spread of the coronavirus," said **Aileen McNabb-Coleman, Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature**. "I understand it is disappointing to not be able to mark the holidays with our usual traditions, but the health and safety of our community members remains our highest priority."
