



280 Rowe Street/PO Box 45 - Wheeler, OR 97147 - 503.368.5171

Happy Holidays!

Nehalem Valley Care Center supports family engagement and the resident's right to leave the facility. We understand and acknowledge the fact that some residents might want to leave the facility to temporarily visit with family and friends for the holidays and/or attend other outings. This is a special time of year and to ensure the health and safety of the community, we all need to work together to take extra precautions to help reduce the spread of COVID-19, which can pose an elevated danger to the health of all our residents.

Leaving the facility could increase residents' risk for exposure to COVID-19. The risk may further be increased by factors such as a resident's health status, the spread of COVID-19 in the community (e.g. cases or positivity rate), or attendance at large gatherings. Should a resident ultimately choose to leave the facility, here are some standard infection control practices to follow:

- Limit close contact (maintain physical distancing of six feet or more), keep gatherings as small as possible, and use technology to engage with others remotely.
- Wear a facemask or cloth face covering.
- Limit contact with commonly touched surfaces or shared items.
- Keep safe around food and drinks. Avoid communal serving utensils, passing of food, potluck, or buffet style food service, and instead opt for individually prepared plates by a single server.
- Perform hand hygiene often (e.g., wash hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer).
- Avoid large gatherings, crowded areas, and high-risk activities such as signing.
- Ask anyone who has signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or has been exposed to someone diagnosed with COVID-19, to not attend the gathering.
- Indoor gatherings should have good ventilation and open windows if possible.
- Check local conditions and state requirements for precautions and restrictions, including positivity rates and quarantine requirements, before crossing state lines.
- Review the attached packet for additional information on Holiday Celebrations.
- Regardless of vaccination status residents who return from holiday outings will be tested for COVID-19 and evaluated for active monitoring for up to 14-days, to protect the health and safety of our residents and staff.
- Notify the facility Administrator within 48 hours of contact if you or someone at the gathering develops COVID symptoms.

*Please note: Staff are receiving a notice with standard infection control practices and are being encouraged to use extra caution during the Holiday Season. The health and safety of our residents, staff, and community is our top priority. We appreciate your understanding as we work together to protect the health and safety of those around us.*