

Landis Communities Update November 11, 2020

Yesterday the CDC released an article with tips on Celebrating Thanksgiving. The article reviewed the three W's of Wearing a mask, Washing hands frequently and Watching to maintain a six-foot distance. Here is some of the additional information shared:



*Traditional Thanksgiving gatherings with family and friends are fun but can increase the chances of getting or spreading COVID-19 or the flu. **The safest way to celebrate Thanksgiving this year is to celebrate with people in your household.** If you do plan to spend Thanksgiving with people outside your household, take steps to make your celebration safer.*

If Attending a Gathering

- *Bring your own food, drinks, plates, cups, and utensils.*
- *Wear a mask, and safely store your mask while eating and drinking.*
- *Avoid going in and out of the areas where food is being prepared or handled, such as in the kitchen.*
- *Use single-use options, like salad dressing and condiment packets, and disposable items like food containers, plates, and utensils.*

If Hosting Gathering

- *Have a small outdoor meal with family and friends who live in your community.*
- *Limit the number of guests.*
- *Have conversations with guests ahead of time to set expectations for celebrating together.*
- *Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and items between use.*
- *If celebrating indoors, make sure to open windows.*
- *Limit the number of people in food preparation areas.*
- *Have guests bring their own food and drink.*
- *If sharing food, have one person serve food and use single-use options, like plastic utensils.*

The full article can be found at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays/thanksgiving.html>

We understand the frustration of not being together, how we all miss family and friends, and the isolation we have experienced this year. It has been a roller coaster of regulations **and** of emotions. Please be encouraged that although there may be a few more difficult months ahead, this will not last forever and will get through this!

Affiliate Updates

Welsh Mountain Home

We are saddened to share that on November 8, a resident passed away due to COVID-19. This was the first death WMH experienced from the virus. A second resident died this morning. To date, 31 residents have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Several have been asymptomatic and many are on their way to recovery. Four team members have been infected and all have recovered and returned to work. Testing continues weekly. We are grateful for the guidance and support provided by the Department of Health and Department of Human Services.

Landis Adult Day Services

On this Veterans Day, Adult Day Services is delighted to honor the veterans who attend the center. We are grateful to partner with the Veterans Administration in making Adult Day services available to them. The center is holding a celebration today that will feature each of the veterans who attend and thank them for their service. We are grateful that, to our knowledge, Landis ADS remains free of COVID-19 among clients and team members.

Landis Homes

It is with grief we share that a Personal Care resident passed away on November 5 due to COVID-19. Please keep in your thoughts the family, friends and caregivers of this resident.

Universal testing last week brought no positive results among Healthcare or Personal Care residents. Four of the 324 team members did test positive. An additional four team members who were tested for symptoms also tested positive. Universal testing continues weekly due to the high testing positivity rate in Pennsylvania.

On Monday, November 9, 2020, 166 team members and 70 Personal Care residents were tested. The results are already back and all are negative! However, Personal Care remains in the prerequisite stage of reopening.

Yesterday 173 team members and 86 Healthcare residents were tested. These results are still pending. We are also aware of one person in Residential Living with a pending test.

Visitation in Healthcare and Personal Care is expanding to include compassionate care visits as well as regular visits. In Healthcare, a family member, resident or team member may request a compassionate care visit to benefit a resident believed to be in need. This request is made to the social worker. If need is established, visits are granted on a short-term basis and are then re-evaluated. Regular visits may also be scheduled.

Personal Care visits for compassionate care are also requested through a social worker. If approved, visitors are required to have a negative test for COVID-19 within seven days of the visit. These visits are limited to two hours, per regulations. Spouses of Personal Care residents who live in Residential Living are automatically approved for compassionate care visits.

Looking ahead to the Christmas Season, plans are underway to bring some holiday cheer to Landis Homes! Stay tuned for details on lights, cookies and music to bring the spirit of the season during this most unusual year!

Residents, clients and family members may contact Jenny Sheckells with questions or concerns at jsheckells@landis.org or 717.381.3573. You may find other communications and videos on our website: www.landiscommunities.org/COVID

Larry Zook
President/CEO
Landis Communities

Michelle Rassler
Executive Director
Landis Homes

Evon Bergey
Vice President, Community Initiatives
Landis Communities