



# Department of Public Health

*Monroe County, New York*

**Adam J. Bello**  
*County Executive*

**Michael D. Mendoza, MD, MPH, MS**  
*Commissioner of Public Health*

**For Immediate Release:**  
**Wednesday, May 5, 2021**

## **Reminder: Monroe County Department of Public Health Available to Assist with Outdoor Events and Festival Guidance**

**ROCHESTER, NY** — Monroe County Executive Adam Bello and Commissioner of Public Health Dr. Michael Mendoza would like to remind all organizations and planning committees for outdoor events and festivals that the Department of Public Health is available to help identify appropriate New York State Department of Health guidance and explain certain requirements, including whether plans or other information must be submitted to the Department of Public Health. Recent studies have shown that outdoor events have low rates of transmission, particularly when proper health and safety measures are in place.

“The Monroe County community is known for our fun and family-friendly summer festivals, carnivals and other outdoor events, which we all missed in 2020. Starting May 10, New York State will be increasing the gathering limit for outdoor events, which will help us put a greater focus on bringing people back together outdoors, where we know transmission of COVID-19 is low,” said County Executive Bello. “Outdoor gatherings are proven to be safe, provided proper steps are taken, so we want to encourage our community to get back outdoors and enjoy all that we have to offer.”

“While we’re still waiting for additional state guidance for outdoor festivals and large gatherings, our team at the Department of Public Health is available to direct planners to NYSDOH guidance applicable to outdoor events, to help bring back some of our favorite local festivals and events,” added Dr. Mendoza.

Festival organizers are encouraged to call the Monroe County COVID-19 hotline at (585) 753-5555 or email [COVID19@monroecounty.gov](mailto:COVID19@monroecounty.gov) to get in touch with a Department of Public Health representative who can assist with their event plans.

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