



**Erie County  
Department of  
Health**



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

June 30, 2020

CONTACT: Kara Kane, [kara.kane@erie.gov](mailto:kara.kane@erie.gov) or (716) 858-4941

### **ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REMINDS RESIDENTS OF TRAVEL ADVISORY**

*Slow the spread of COVID-19 in New York State by preventing travel-based transmission of this disease*

**ERIE COUNTY, NY**— Governors in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut announced a travel advisory on June 25, 2020 that requires all individuals traveling from states with significant community transmission of COVID-19 to remain under quarantine for a period of 14 days. As of today, June 30, those states include Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas and Utah.

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has established exemptions for essential workers, but in general, people who are returning to Erie County from those listed states are required to remain under precautionary quarantine. Those requirements include:

- Separate quarters with separate bathroom facilities for each individual or family group. Access to a sink with soap and water, and paper towels is needed.
- The contact must have a way to self-quarantine from household members as soon as fever or other symptoms develop, in a separate room. There must be a door that separates it from the rest of the living area and has its own bathroom. Given that an exposed individual might become ill while sleeping, the exposed individual must sleep in a separate bedroom from household members.
- Cleaning supplies, e.g. household cleaning wipes, must be provided in any shared bathroom.
- If an individual sharing a bathroom becomes symptomatic, all others sharing the bathroom will be considered exposed persons until the symptomatic individual is appropriately evaluated and cleared.
- Food must be delivered to the individual's quarters.

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- Quarters must have a supply of face masks for individuals to put on if they become symptomatic.
- Garbage must be bagged and left outside by the door of each of the quarters for routine pick up. Special handling is not required.
- Individuals should self-monitor for fever and other symptoms of COVID-19 daily throughout the duration of the quarantine period.

Individuals or businesses with questions about this advisory should contact NYSDOH.

“If you are planning a trip, **we are urging you to avoid travel** to states or regions where there is a high prevalence of COVID-19,” **said Commissioner of Health Dr. Gale Burstein**. “The number of reported Erie County COVID-19 cases is currently low. We must avoid importing new cases from outside of NYS which can lead to COVID-19 community transmission and new outbreaks in Erie County.”

**She continued**, “We have done so much to reduce the number of cases in our community these past months, and we need to keep at it. Travelers who return from a high-risk state can contact our COVID-19 Information Line at (716) 858-2929 to report their travel as soon as they return and to schedule a free COVID-19 diagnostic test, 5-7 days past your last day in one of those states.”

To file a report of an individual failing to adhere to the quarantine pursuant to the travel advisory, please call 1-833-789-0470 or use the form on the ECDOH web site [[www.erie.gov/covid19/travelform](http://www.erie.gov/covid19/travelform)].

Per New York State, anyone who returns from a high-risk state from non-essential travel will not be eligible to receive paid sick leave benefits for their quarantine period.

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Erie County Department of Health, Searchable Map of COVID-19 test locations:  
<http://www.erie.gov/covidtestsites>

New York State Department of Health, COVID-19 Travel Advisory:  
<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>

*Includes the current list of restricted states, information about travel and quarantine, and exemptions for essential workers*

New York State Governor’s Office: Executive Order No. 205, Quarantine Restrictions on Travelers Arriving to New York  
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/no-205-quarantine-restrictions-travelers-arriving-new-york>

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