

Covington Corner

20 Moffat Drive
Covington Township PA 18444
www.covingtontp.org

Volume 66 September 2020



Clean-up has been rescheduled

Clean-up is rescheduled for Friday, September 18th and Saturday, September 19, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there will NOT be paper permits. Instead, you will need to present your photo I.D. to the police officer on duty, showing your Covington Township address. Township employees will be wearing masks and will unload the items you bring to clean-up. Everyone is strongly encouraged to stay in their vehicles during this drop off.

With the exception of tires, the clean-up is free of charge. ALL tires must be removed from their rims. Fees for tires are:

\$3.00 per car tire
\$6.00 per light truck tire
\$20.00 per heavy truck tire

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL NOT BE TAKEN FOR CLEAN-UP:

Hazardous waste, gasoline, kerosene, paint, paint cans, oil containers, combustible fuels, building materials, electronics and household garbage.

Please remember to enter the clean-up area from Dorantown Road (located behind the Covington Fire Department) and exit via Route 502.



2020 Census... Making Sure Townships Count

Townships are a great place to live, work, play, and raise a family

- ⇒ **Count every resident:** It's important to make sure every township resident, young and old, is counted. Critical dollars and representation are at stake.
- ⇒ **Constitution Day:** The census was mandated by the Founding Fathers in the U.S. Constitution. Lets celebrate that historical fact by making sure every township resident is counted by September 17th, Constitution Day.
- ⇒ **Did you know?** This is the first time the census can be filled out online. It can also be completed by mail and phone.

Congressional representation

2020 Census results will determine the number of seats each state received in the U.S. House of Representatives and, in turn, the number of Electoral College votes. Results also impact congressional and state legislative districts.

Business decisions

Business owners use census statistics to create economic and employment opportunities. The statistics help determine where to hire new employees, open new locations, and more.

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Disclaimer:

The events listed in this newsletter may not happen as scheduled due to regulations set by government officials (i.e. stay at home orders and social distancing requirements) because of extenuating circumstances with the unprecedented novel coronavirus. All events are listed with a contact number for further information so that you can call to see if the events will actually take place.

Covington Township at your Service

Board of Supervisors (570) 842-8336 ~ Chairman Thomas M. Yerke (Meeting 1st Tues. of the month @ 7pm; Work session last Tues of the month @ 7pm)

Building Inspector (570) 842-4607 David Lamm, 8am - 5pm

Dept. of Public Works (570) 840-0727 ~ Director Thomas M. Yerke

District Magistrate (570) 842-2111
~ Honorable Kipp Adcock

Fire Dept. (570) 842-4130 ~ Brad Jones, Fire Chief

Main Office (570) 842-8336 ~ Douglas A. Hein, Secretary - Treasurer; 9am - 4pm, Monday - Friday, Moffat Estate

Pavilion Manager (570) 840-6959 ~ Melinda Musso

Planning Commission (570) 351-6086 ~ Denise Hokien, Secretary (Work Session 1st Wed. of the month @7pm, Meeting 3rd Wed. of the month @7pm)

Police Dept. (570) 842-6400 ~ Bernie Klocko, Chief

Real Estate Tax Collection ~ (570) 840-0725 Kate Tierney
covingtontwptaxcollector@gmail.com

Recreation Committee (570) 842-8336 (Meeting 3rd Thurs. of the month @7:00pm)

Senior Center (570) 843-6485

Sewage Enforcement Officer (570) 241--8743 ~ Gary Enslin

Sewer Authority Office (570) 842-0757 ~ Ann Bentler, Manager (10am - 2pm, Monday - Friday, or by appointment; Meeting 2nd Tues. of the month @7pm)

Township Engineer (570) 237-5254 ~ Mary Louise Butler, P.E., Engineering Surveying Consultants & Design, Inc.

Earned Income Tax & Local Service Tax Collector
(866) 701-7206 ~ Berkheimer Assoc.

Zoning Office & Zoning Hearing Board Secretary
(570) 842-0457 ~ Melinda Musso (8am - 4pm Mon.-Fri.)

Zoning Officer (570) 842-0457 ~ Ronald Donati

From Your Supervisors...

Township Supervisors gave Mary Lou Butler, Township Engineer permission to apply for a PennDOT Multi-Modal Grant for the Langan Road project.

The Declaration of Disaster Emergency has been extended until September 1, 2020 and township offices remain closed to the public. Personnel can be reached by phone during normal office hours.

During the timeframe that our recycling center has been closed due to the pandemic, the Lackawanna County Recycling Center announced they are going to start billing townships a fee per ton of materials sent to their facility. The fees increase if non-recyclable materials are in the bins. We are currently in discussions to see how the township can safely reopen our facility and appropriately screen all materials being brought to make sure only appropriate recyclable get dropped off.

Throughout the pandemic, township meetings have been held via Zoom. All meetings, regardless if they are held in person or via Zoom, are open to the public. Recently, the Board of Supervisors have started to hold these meetings in person. The township will be following all guidelines set out from Governor Wolf and the Department of Health. Information as to how meetings are held will be posted on our website under Public Notice. The Board understands that there are people that may not be comfortable attending in the middle of a pandemic; however, they would like our Covington Township residents to know that they are welcome to join us. Please be advised that masks and social distancing is mandatory.



NOW IN EFFECT

**Masks are
mandatory in all
public spaces.**

Advertising

Covington Corner is distributed quarterly to approximately 1,000 households and/or businesses and surrounding areas.

If you are interested in advertising in our newsletter, please call (570) 842-0457.

The cost of a 2" x 2 1/2" ad is \$25.00.

From Your Police Department...



COVID-19 Contact Tracing Related Scams

Source: PA Department of Health August 12, 2020

The Pennsylvania departments of Health and Aging today warned Pennsylvanians about contact tracing scams and emphasized the need to stay alert as COVID-19 remains a threat in our communities. Scams might include a caller asking for someone's Social Security number or payment for tracing services – neither of which are ever a component of a contact tracing inquiry.

“Contact-tracing is vital in the state’s efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19 and we want Pennsylvanians to be confident that if they receive a call from a contact-tracer that the call is legitimate,” Sec. of Health Dr. Rachel Levine said. “If someone is unsure and would like to verify if the caller does in fact work in contact tracing, they can call the PA Department of Health at 1-877-PA HEALTH (1-877-724-3258) to verify.”

Across the state, the goal is that within 24 hours of receiving the positive result reported into the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS), trained public health staff conduct an interview for a case investigation with the newly confirmed COVID-19 case to obtain a list of close contacts they had while infectious.

Then contact tracers, both trained staff and volunteers, reach out to those close contacts to educate, inform, and offer support. Methods used, after initial phone call, may include phone calls, texts, emails, and mailings. Contact tracers will not say who exposed the individual in order to keep their information confidential.

Contact tracing is the process of identifying people who have come into contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 so that they can quarantine and monitor for symptoms. Scammers are attempting to take advantage of how this process works by pretending to be contact tracers and trying to get personal information out of victims through phone calls or electronic messages.

A contact tracer may ask:

- For verification of your date of birth, address, and any other phone numbers you may have; and
- If you have already tested positive for COVID-19 they may also ask for the date and location of where you were tested.

Continued on page 7

Neighborhood Events

Auxiliary VFW Post 5207 Breakfast - 2nd Sunday of each month 9 am-noon (adults \$8 child 12 & under \$6)

NP Rotary Club—Meets at the Elmhurst Country Club on Thursdays 6 pm (at alternate NP sites January through March) (570)842-2547

Minisink Lions Club—meets 1st & 3rd Thursday at the VFW— Jim Strempek (570) 842-4488 New members are always welcome!

Covington Fire Co. Women's Auxiliary— Meets the 1st Monday of each month at 7 pm call Betty for more information (570) 842-0448

NP Kids Closet - Supplies clothing to needy area children. In need of all sizes of socks and underwear. Also, gently used shoes & sneakers of any size. To make a donation or for an appointment, please call Sara Keating at (610)390-7961 or (570)689-4383.

NP Food Pantry— Bill's Plaza (next to Tasty Swirl) every Thursday from 11:30 am -1 pm. Proof of North Pocono School District Full-time residency required. Dry goods donations appreciated. (570) 842-4741

Parish Buffet Breakfast—St. Eulalia's Church, Elmhurst, 3rd Sunday of every month 8:30am -12pm in church hall. For more information call (570)842-7656

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS)—each Tuesday 6:30pm, Moscow Borough Building, Van Brunt St. Moscow

Jefferson Twp. Fire Co.—Station 29 All You Can Eat Breakfast first Sunday of every month 8 am—noon

NP Library - KIDS: Music & Movement -Mondays @10am, PreK Storytime - Tuesdays @11am, Toddler Time -Fridays @10am, Lego Club 1st Saturday @11am, STEM -3rd Saturday @11am; ADULTS: Breakfast Book Club 3rd Monday @10am, Novels at Night -3rd Thursday @6pm, Mahjong -Mondays @12:30pm, Mexican Train Dominos -Tuesdays @12:30pm, Yoga -Thursdays @5pm, Bridge Club -Fridays @12:30pm (570) 842-4700 www.lclshome.org/npocono

Business 2 Business—Meets every Thursday 8-9 am at Friendly's in Dunmore (570) 842-2808

Moscow Mason Lodge - Meets 2nd Thursday of each month, Lodge Hall, Green St., Moscow, Dinner 6:30, Meeting 7:30 (570) 842-6591

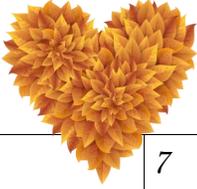
North Pocono Cultural Society - Meeting 2nd Monday of each month, 7 pm at the Moscow Borough Building 123 Van Brunt Street, Moscow (570) 357-1672.

NP LovinLife Ministries - Prayer group, Sanctuarians for Life, online found on FaceBook or meets Mon.-Fri. 8pm at the Swartz Residence, 21 Swartz Drive. New members are welcome. (570) 249-1357

The Lucky Horse Shoes 4H Club - meets the 1st Sunday of each month 1 pm at Woodlands Stables, Freytown Road call Carol (570) 842-3742.



September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Board of Supervisors Meeting 7pm	2 Planning Commission Work Session 7pm	3	4	5 If you're lucky enough to still have grandparents, visit them, cherish them and celebrate them while you can. ~ Regina Brett
6	7 Labor Day	8 Sewer Authority Meeting 7pm	9	10 A grandparent is a little bit parent, a little bit teacher, and a little bit best friend. ~ Unknown	11  Never Forget	12 4-7pm Meatloaf dinner @ Gouldsboro F.D. 570-842-2663
13  HAPPY Grandparents DAY	14	15 The reason grandchildren and grandparents get along so well is that they have a common enemy. ~Sam Levenson	16 Planning Commission Meeting 7pm	17 Recreation Committee Meeting 7pm	18	19
20 9am Golf tournament Gouldsboro F.D. 570-842-2663	21	22 	23	24 Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go. ~ Unknown	25	26
27	28 Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower. ~ Albert Camus	29 Board of Supervisors Work Session 7pm	30			

Census (continued from page 1)

How the 2020 Census helps your community

Here's why responding to the 2020 Census is important:

Federal and state funding: Federal, state and municipal officials make decisions about how billions of dollars in public funds are allocated for schools, roads and bridges, fire and emergency services, health care, and more based on census statistics. Programs include those for:

Municipalities:

- ⇒ Liquid fuels funds for roads and bridges
- ⇒ Natural gas impact fees
- ⇒ Grants targeted to municipalities

College students:

- ⇒ Federal Pell Grants
- ⇒ Career and technical education grants
- ⇒ Adult education grants

Older people and low-income populations:

- ⇒ Medicare
- ⇒ Medicaid
- ⇒ Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)
- ⇒ Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Young children:

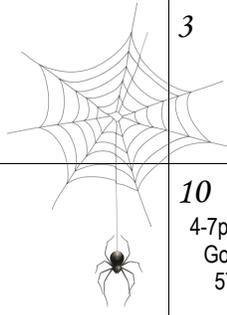
- ⇒ Head Start
- ⇒ National School Lunch Program
- ⇒ Title IX Funding

PLUS, many more community programs!

For more information: [2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020census.gov)

Customer service representatives are available every day from 7am to 2am eastern time at 844-330-2020.

October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<p>Why do elevators make ghosts happy? It lifts their spirits.</p>		Board of Supervisors Meeting 7pm	Planning Commission Work Session 7pm	Zoning Hearing Board Quarterly Meeting 7:30 pm		4-7pm Pasta dinner Gouldsboro F.D. 570-842-2663
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
12-4pm Chicken BBQ Elmhurst F.D. Take-out only 570-842-8309	<i>Columbus Day</i>	Sewer Authority Meeting 7pm		Recreation Committee Meeting 7pm	<p>What do you get when you drop a pumpkin? Squash</p>	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	<p>Where do ghosts learn to become pilots? Fright school</p>		Planning Commission Meeting 7pm	<p>Why couldn't Dracula's wife fall asleep? Because of his coffin</p>		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
2pm Children's Halloween Party by the Auxiliary @ Covington F.D. 570-842-4130		Board of Supervisors Work Session 7pm	<p>What is a mathematician's favorite food? Pumpkin Pi</p>			

Halloween Word Search

N	R	C	N	O	T	E	L	E	K	S	H	R	N	D
E	E	Y	A	F	A	E	P	A	O	A	E	E	I	J
E	D	H	Y	N	Y	I	L	X	U	B	T	C	K	W
W	I	D	K	Y	D	U	G	N	O	R	S	O	P	N
O	P	F	Y	K	C	Y	T	T	I	I	E	S	M	W
L	S	M	Y	A	J	E	C	C	S	V	I	T	U	C
L	Y	I	R	T	D	O	K	O	J	R	K	U	P	S
A	F	D	K	H	W	O	P	X	R	K	Z	M	M	X
H	P	T	O	B	R	S	Z	Q	X	N	A	E	Q	D
C	G	U	Q	T	F	X	G	W	W	F	T	S	Y	C
T	S	E	R	W	Q	P	I	R	R	L	L	T	T	M
E	S	E	N	I	E	T	S	N	E	K	N	A	R	F
L	A	O	X	C	C	P	F	N	Q	Z	C	B	A	V
T	C	B	H	H	B	W	S	F	U	C	V	V	P	K
G	S	H	R	G	R	X	M	B	W	M	J	S	F	X



- PUMPKIN
- SKELETON
- SPIDER
- TRICK OR TREAT
- WITCH
- GHOST
- HALLOWEEN
- HAUNTED HOUSE
- OCTOBER
- PARTY
- BATS
- CANDYCORN
- COSTUMES
- DRACULA
- FRANKENSTEIN



November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 I am grateful for laughter, except when milk comes out of my nose. ~ Woody Allen	2	3 Board of Supervisors Meeting 7pm <i>Election Day</i>	4 Planning Commission Work Session 7pm	5	6 The more grateful I am, the more beauty I see. ~ Mary Davis	7
8 	9	10 Sewer Authority Meeting 7pm	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i>	12 Gratitude is the healthiest of all human emotions. The more you express gratitude for what you have, the more likely you will have even more to express gratitude for. ~ Zig Ziglar	13	14
15 As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter the words, but to live by them. ~ John F. Kennedy	16	17	18 Planning Commission Meeting 7pm	19 Recreation Committee Meeting 7pm	20 My socks may not match, but my feet are always warm. ~ Maureen McCullough	21
22	23	24 Board of Supervisors Work Session 7pm	25	26 Happy Thanksgiving 	27	28 
29 1pm Pizza Party with Santa by the Auxiliary @ Covington F.D. 570-842-4130	30					

For Your Better Health...

Source: WebMD

Sugar Risks

People who drink as little as 3 to 4 ounces of sugar-sweetened drinks a day may have up to 18% higher risk for cancer than those who avoid the stuff.

Optimistic Outlook

Think positive! You might live longer. In a study that followed about 70,000 women and 1,400 men for several decades, optimists lived the longest. In fact, regardless of the person's finances, health condition or lifestyle factors—such as smoking and diet—positive outlook increased life span by up to 15%. Optimists in the study were most likely to live past 85. Feeling pessimistic about your own chances? You can change.

Optimism isn't a fixed trait. It's a psychological state that you can develop.

76,043 Estimated number of head and neck injuries over the last 20 years related to texting and ...walking!

Mighty Melon

One cup of fresh, cubed cantaloupe provided roughly 100% of an adult's daily value of vitamin C and vitamin A, two vitamins that promote skin health. This melon also contains lutein and zeaxanthin, yellow and orange pigments that protect your eyes against age-related macular degeneration, as well as fiber and plenty of water, making it a hydrating treat for steamy days.



Veteran's Day

By Cheryl Dyson

On Veteran's Day we honor all.

Who answered to a service call.

Soldiers young, and soldiers old,

Fought for freedom, brave and bold.

Some have lived, while others died,

And all of them deserve our pride.

We're proud of all the soldiers who,

Kept thinking of red, white and blue.

They fought for us and all our rights.

They fought through many days and nights.

And though we may not know each name,

We thank ALL veterans just the same.



Veteran's Corner

By Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Renna

SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

Now It's Our Turn To Serve

The Wilkes-Barre Medical Center offers returning veterans transition assistance to ensure continuity and coordination of health care services post deployment. Although it may not seem a post-deployment priority for veterans, taking a proactive approach to health care has proven to have long term benefits.

If you have a family member or a friend that has recently served, help us connect. We want to assure that their health care needs are being met.

If you know a veteran that is interested in services provided by the Wilkes-Barre Veterans Center, go online at: www.va.gov or phone: 1-877-222-8387.

"BE THANKFUL"

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire.
If you did, what would there be to look forward to?
Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.
Be thankful for the difficult times.
During those times you grow.
Be thankful for your limitations, because they give you opportunities for improvement.
Be thankful for each new challenge, because it will build your strength and character.
Be thankful for your mistakes.
They will teach you valuable lessons.
Be thankful when you're tired and weary, because it means you've made a difference.
It's easy to be thankful for the good things.
A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks.
Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.
Find a way to be thankful for your troubles, and they can become your blessings.

~Author Unknown~

Continued from page 3

COVID-19 Contact Tracing Related Scams

A contact tracer will **never** ask for:

- Your social security number, financial or bank account information, or personal details unrelated to your potential exposure to someone with COVID-19;
- Personal information through SMS/text message or send you to any website link asking for personal information;
- Photographs or videos of any kind;
- Passwords; or
- Money or payment.

A contact tracer will **never** share your information with any local, state or federal law enforcement agency.

Pennsylvania Secretary of Aging Robert Torres noted that older adults are at particular risk of being victims of this insidious type of scam.

"Scammers prefer to prey on individuals who may be more trusting, are alone, or may respond out of confusion or fear," said Sec. Torres. "COVID-19 has isolated many older adults from family and other supports. Therefore, it's understandable that an older adult, hearing that they may have been exposed, would want to cooperate with any effort to protect themselves or a loved one. However, it's important that they stay alert about any contact from anyone identifying themselves as a contact tracer and do not provide personal information until they are sure the individual and information are legitimate."

Pennsylvanians are reminded that mask-wearing is required when visiting businesses or in any setting outside the home where social distancing is difficult. Remember: My mask protects you; your mask protects me.

More information on how contact tracing works can be found at: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Guidance/Contact-Tracing-Process.aspx>

SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

cdc.gov/coronavirus



Wear a cloth face covering in public spaces



Stay at least 6 feet from other people



Frequently wash your hands

ARE YOU OK?

If you are being hurt at home, or witnessing others being hurt in your home. Use these resources to have your message heard.

THERE IS HELP FOR YOU.



SAFE2SAY SOMETHING

Download the app from the Apple or Google Play Store to submit a report. Or call 1-844-723-2729.



CHILDLINE

Call the national hotline, available 24/7, to make a confidential report 1-800-932-0313.



CALL 911

Call 911 if you are in immediate danger. Answer any questions the dispatcher has so that help can find you.



LACKAWANNA POLICE

Call the Lackawanna County Police Department non-emergency number to make a report 570-342-9111.



TEXT 911

Text 911 if you are in an emergency situation. Remember to provide your address so help can find you.



CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER OF NEPA
www.cacnepa.org | (570)969-7313

North Pocono Senior Center

10 Moffat Drive, Covington Twp.

Adults 55 years old & older are welcome

OPEN every Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9 a.m.—2 p.m. (unless noted)

Activities include:

- Bingo
- Bingo dinner
- Pinochle tournaments
- Pinochle lessons
- Red Hat Meetings
- Dominoes and lessons
- Holiday parties
- Brunch
- & much more!



North Pocono School District is closed or delayed due to bad weather, then the Senior Center will be closed.

Transportation and detailed information on our schedule of events can be obtained by calling (570)843-6485

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Clothes Closet

HOURS: Thursday's 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Saturday's 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

WHERE: Bill's Plaza (next to laundromat)

DETAILS: Sponsored by a mission of the Daleville United Methodist Church

Free clothing available for men, women, and children.

- * Donation accepted of new or gently used, clean clothing & shoes during open hours
- * Emergency clothing, leave a message at (570) 842-6776



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THINK CREMATION IS THE SAME WHEREVER YOU GO?

Think again.

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We own and operate our private family crematory so your loved one never leaves our care. Don't take a chance with a third-party crematory.

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(570) 343-0413
Corey Brian Strauch, Supervisor



MY MASK PROTECTS YOU, YOUR MASK PROTECTS ME.



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www.NorthPoconoPreschool.org

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Susan's

Hallmark

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of Daleville & Mount Pocono
570-842-7461 / 570-839-8125



of Daleville & Mount Pocono
570-842-7461 / 570-839-3885

ShopRite
PHARMACY
of Daleville & Mount Pocono
570-842-7848 / 570-839-5340

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570-842-7624



of Daleville & Mount Pocono
570-842-2513 / 570-839-2050

ShopRite Plaza Daleville

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Board of Supervisors
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Return Service Requested

PrSrt Standard
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BE INFORMED: Know Your Risk During COVID-19

On a scale of 1 to 10, how risky is...

Source: TMA COVID-19 Task Force

Low Risk

- 1: Opening the mail
- 2: Getting restaurant takeout
Pumping gasoline
Playing tennis
Going camping

Moderate-Low Risk

- 3: Grocery shopping
Going for a walk, run, or bike ride with others
Playing golf
- 4: Staying at a hotel for two nights
Sitting in a doctor's waiting room
Going to a library or museum
Eating in a restaurant (outside)
Walking in a busy downtown
Spending an hour at a playground

Moderate Risk

- 5: Having dinner at someone else's house
Attending a backyard barbecue
Going to a beach
Shopping at a mall

- 6: Sending kids to school, camp, or daycare
Working a week in an office building
Swimming in a public pool
Visiting an elderly relative or friend in their home

Moderate-High Risk

- 7: Going to a hair salon or barbershop
Eating in a restaurant (inside)
Attending a wedding or funeral
Traveling by plane
Playing basketball
Playing football
Hugging or shaking hands when greeting a friend

High Risk

- 8: Eating at a buffet
Working out at a gym
Going to an amusement park
Going to a movie theater
- 9: Attending a large music concert
Going to a sports stadium
Attending a religious service with 500+ worshippers
Going to a bar

Ranked by physicians from the TMA COVID-19 Task Force and the TMA Committee on Infectious Diseases