Safer At Home **JULY 411** CELEBRATIONS**

July 4th is a wonderful celebration for all Americans. As we move toward this major holiday, the Alabama Department of Public Health wants to share some recommendations and reminders for local governmental officials:

- COVID-19 spreads easily, and is still affecting Alabama communities.
- Decisions on fireworks displays and large community gatherings should be made with the priority of keeping community members safe.
- High risk members of the community, including senior citizens and people of any age that suffer from chronic diseases, need to be especially aware of their risks for COVID-19 and should avoid gatherings where they cannot appropriately social distance.
- Six feet of social distance between people should be required in order to mitigate the risk of virus transmission.
- Asymptomatic spread of COVID-19 is a major risk factor. These "super spreaders" do not know they are carrying the disease. It is estimated 1 in 4 infected people are "super spreaders." For this reason, we strongly recommend wearing masks in public gatherings.
- If your community has active cases of COVID-19, it is strongly recommended that July 4th community fireworks be cancelled.
- The myth that COVID-19 spread is not an issue in hot weather is not supported by any evidence. COVID-19 spread has been seen in many different climates and varying temperatures.

For more information on July 4th updates, please check our website at <u>alabamapublichealth.gov</u>.

Keeping Alabama communities safe – the Alabama Department of Public Health's mission is to promote, protect and improve Alabama's health.

ALABAMA PUBLIC HEALTH