FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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Lehigh County EMA Advises Caution for Upcoming Holiday Weekend

Public safety remains primary concern for Lehigh County’s Green Phase transition

Lehigh County, PA- Outdoor safety is a rising concern in Lehigh County as more individuals set out to celebrate the upcoming Fourth of July weekend. In preparation the Office of Emergency Management advises the public to be mindful when it comes to outdoor activities, especially in large groups or near open waters. This is to ensure the safety of county residents as Lehigh County moves forward in the less restrictive green phase.

Be advised that mask regulations are still in effect despite Lehigh County’s transition into the green phase and that lesser social restrictions still apply.

Lehigh County EMA urges residents to remain diligent in social distancing practices: maintaining a six feet distance, washing hands often, utilizing hand sanitizer, and wearing a mask following the CDC recommendations. Citizens are also reminded to stay home if they are sick or feeling unwell.

Additionally, as public pools remain closed amidst the pandemic, many residents are looking to nearby rivers and lakes for their recreational activities without taking the proper safety precautions. This has led to an increase in 9-1-1 calls therefore the Office of Emergency Management advises the public to practice open water safety.

Safety tips include:

- Knowing CPR and other basic water rescue skills
- Keeping an eye out for uneven drop offs, currents, and areas with limited visibilities
- Teach children how to swim prior to exposure, ideally in a designated swimming pool or area.
- Utilize a Coast Guard approved life jacket when boating or in open waters

Critical reminder that swimming in quarries is prohibited for the safety of the public and under no circumstances should an individual swim in its waters.

For further resources, please consult Lehigh County Emergency Management webpage at https://www.lehighcounty.org/Departments/Emergency-Management-9-1-1.

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