



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

Major General John C. Harris Jr., Adjutant General

Giving thanks during a pandemic

Thanksgiving is likely to look a lot different for most of us this year compared to years past. While it may seem out of place to give thanks while we continue to see the spread of COVID-19, there are several reasons I am thankful this year.

First, I am thankful for all of you — the men and women of the Ohio National Guard. You have stepped up to be mission-ready, training during the time of a pandemic. You've assisted in the dozens of missions to help our fellow Ohioans during their time of need, and you've deployed to fulfill our federal missions around the globe. It has not been an easy task, and the road ahead of us is still paved with uncertainty. I am humbled by the sacrifices you've made to serve our communities, state and nation.

I am also thankful for your families and employers. They too have made sacrifices during the recent months. Please let them know how much I appreciate their support. We couldn't do our jobs as Citizen-Soldiers and Citizen-Airmen without them.

If you are going to celebrate Thanksgiving this year with the traditional meal and family time, I would urge you to use caution. Please strongly consider limiting the number of people included in any get-together; and use face masks, practice social distancing and wash your hands frequently. We have to do our part to stop the spread of this virus. The changes and sacrifices that we all make this holiday season will help increase the likelihood that we have many more holidays to celebrate in the future with our loved ones.

May you and your Family have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

Major General John C. Harris, Jr.
Ohio National Guard
The Adjutant General