

Four creature comforts to offer holiday guests

Overnight guests can make the holiday season feel that much more special. Spending extra time with loved ones is part and parcel of the holiday season for millions of individuals, and hosting overnight guests ensures hosts get quality time with friends and family members they may not see much of throughout the rest of the year.



Holiday hosts may want to go the extra mile for their overnight guests who traveled long distances to see them. With that in mind, hosts can provide these four creature comforts to make overnight guests feel right at home during their stay.

1. Charging dock: Just about anyone who has traveled over the last two decades has forgotten to pack a phone charger or left one behind at one point or another. A charging dock on each guest room nightstand can ensure no such fate awaits hosts' friends and family members.

2. Fresh bedding: It's customary to wash sheets after overnight guests leave so the next time loved ones are welcomed into a home the bedding is clean. But if it's been awhile since you've hosted an overnight guest, wash the bedding, including sheets, pillowcases, covers, and, if necessary, comforters or duvets, prior to guests' arrival. The scent of freshly washed bedding can set a welcoming tone that guests will appreciate.

3. Toiletries: Stock up on extra toothbrushes and travel-sized accessories like mouth-

wash and hand sanitizer so guests who might have forgotten their own items don't feel like they have to impose and ask for a ride to the store to purchase new items. If kids are coming, be sure to purchase some spare kids' size toothbrushes.

4. Privacy: Privacy is perhaps the most significant creature comfort to offer overnight holiday guests. In homes with small children, hosts can check guest room door locks to ensure they still work and install replacements if they don't. In addition, in homes where this is possible, designate one bathroom as "guests only" during their stay. Privacy also can extend to where guests spend their nights. If possible, pick a room away from the hustle and bustle of the house so guests can get some quiet time and rest during their stay. Privacy also can extend to where guests spend their nights. If possible, pick a room away from the hustle and bustle of the house so guests can get some quiet time and rest during their stay. Privacy also can extend to where guests spend their nights. If possible, pick a room away from the hustle and bustle of the house so guests can get some quiet time and rest during their stay.

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Planning pointers for holiday hosts

Hosting is a significant part of the holiday season. From late November until New Year's Day, millions of people across North America welcome friends and family into their homes. Whether you're hosting a small gathering with locally based loved ones or welcoming distant relatives into your home for several days, the following are some planning pointers to ensure your home is ready and guests feel welcome this holiday season.

• Hire a local cleaning service. The holiday season can be hectic. Holiday functions at school, office parties, community events, and more fill up social schedules between late November and early January. Busy social schedules leave little time for house cleaning, which is a must before welcoming guests into a home. A local cleaning service can clean the whole house for hosts welcoming overnight guests or focus on a few popular entertaining areas if party guests will be going home at the end of the night.

• Get an early head count. Ask party invitees and prospective overnight guests to RSVP

early enough to ensure you can accommodate everyone's needs. Additional seating may be required for holiday parties, while hosts may need to arrange for extra bedding for overnight guests. The earlier you know who's coming, and potentially staying, the more time you have to ensure you can accommodate everyone.

• Rent items from a local party supply store. When hosting large gatherings, a local party supply store can be the place to go for decorations, seating, food trays and utensils, and more. Such establishments also may rent specialty supplies like outdoor heat lamps for cold weather parties or tents and outdoor tables and chairs in areas where the weather is warm during the holiday season. Hosts can typically rent everything they need to host the party, saving them the expense of buying items that may just sit in storage the rest of the year.

• Arrange for transportation. Whether guests are flying in from distant lands or local friends, relatives or neighbors stopping in for the night, hosts can arrange for transportation to and from their homes to ensure everyone arrives safely and makes it home without incident. Pick overnight guests up at the airport so they see a friendly face upon arrival. When hosting gatherings with local family and friends, encourage others to share how they intend to get home and recruit designated drivers if you intend to serve alcohol.

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Tasty tidbits about eggnog

Eggnog is a rich and delicious beverage that has become synonymous with the most festive time of year. This milk- and egg-based concoction is tasty on its own, or it can be dressed up with other flavors and spiked with a favorite spirit when celebrating the holiday season with other adult partygoers.

December is National Eggnog Month, and December 24 is National Eggnog Day. There is no more perfect time of year to learn everything you can about eggnog -- all the while sipping a cup of this creamy concoction. Indulge in these festive facts about the beverage, courtesy of Mental Floss, The Fact Site and Tastemade.

Eggnog likely originated in the medieval period and was known as "posset," a hot, milk-based drink made of spices and wine. Even though posset could be a cocktail, it also was used as a remedy for colds and flu for its soothing properties.

Milk, eggs and sherry used in the early recipes were difficult to come by, so when eggnog first appeared it was a drink only the wealthy could enjoy. That changed when eggnog was popularized in the American colonies, where dairy products and liquor were more readily available.

Entomologists believe "eggnog" stems from the word "noggin," which refers to small wooden mugs often used to serve strong ale, known by the slang word "nog."

In the Medieval period, it was risky to drink milk straight because it wasn't pasteurized. Eggnog contained alcohol so that it would kill off any harmful bacteria in the milk.

A typical homemade version of eggnog has roughly one egg per serving. However, commercial eggnog is regulated by the FDA and can only contain 1 percent of the product's final weight in egg yolk solids. That stems from fear of raw egg and salmonella.

President George Washington apparently enjoyed serving eggnog at Christmas, and even had his own special recipe (see below), according to the *Old Farmer's Almanac*.

There is no right or wrong alcohol to use when preparing eggnog. Distilled spirits like



rum, sherry, cognac and whiskey all have produced suitable eggnos.

Puerto Rican coquito is a traditional drink that is very similar to eggnog.

Individuals concerned about eggs or milk in eggnog can enjoy a vegan recipe made from nut milk instead. Commercially produced vegan eggnog offerings are now more widely available.

One of the more notable flavors in eggnog comes from the use of nutmeg. Nutmeg is a fragrant spice made from grinding the seed of the nutmeg tree.

Now that you've learned about eggnog, whip up a batch of George Washington's original recipe this holiday season.

Eggnog

(George Washington's original interpretation)

- 1 quart cream
- 1 quart milk
- 1 dozen tablespoons sugar
- 1 pint brandy
- 1/2 pint rye whiskey
- 1/2 pint Jamaica rum
- 1/4 pint sherry

Eggs (Washington forgot to include the number of eggs, so home chefs can improvise or use six, which seems to be the standard in traditional recipes)

Mix liquor first, then separate yolks and whites of eggs, add sugar to beaten yolks, mix well. Add milk and cream, slowly beating. Beat whites of eggs until stiff and fold slowly into mixture. Let sit in cool place for several days. Taste frequently.

Tip: Today's recipe makers may want to set the eggnog in the refrigerator as the "cool place" of choice.

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Day trips to entertain holiday guests

Travel tends to heat up as the weather begins to chill around the holiday season. With friends and family to see and holiday cheer to spread, it's no wonder why millions of people take to the roads, railways and friendly skies to travel during the holiday season.



It's not uncommon for holiday hosts to open their homes to loved ones for days at a time. Holiday hosts who want to ensure that visitors enjoy their stay can plan certain excursions to make the most of their time together.

• Go see the lights. Holiday lighting displays are popular across the country. Treat guests to a visit to a nearby attraction. That could be an amusement park that drapes the center of the park in lights, Main Street storefronts and town centers that put on tree lighting ceremonies, urban centers where department stores showcase impressive windows, or other attractions where lights take center stage.

• See a show. From productions of "A Christmas Carol" to other holiday favorites, it's not difficult to find entertainment that showcases some holiday spirit. Dance troupes may be showcasing "The Nutcracker"

or a choral ensemble may be putting on a concert of Christmas carols. Enjoy a night or day out at one of these events.

• Visit a cathedral or temple. The holiday season brings many individuals closer to their faiths. Travelers may want to visit a house of worship during their stay. Many churches are dressed up for Christmas and some may even have live animals in their living nativity scenes.

• Cut down a Christmas tree. Save the tree cutting and trimming for when guests arrive. This way everyone can enjoy a day out at the tree farm as families select the perfect evergreen. Partake in refreshments such as hot chocolate or warm cider, then return home to decorate the tree together.

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Did You Know?



Scores of people insist that exercising with a partner is a great way to remain committed to a fitness regimen, and now research is beginning to support that assertion. A 2023 study from researchers in Japan published in the Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics found that exercising both alone and with a partner two or more times a week helped to lower risk of cognitive impairment, but the risk was decreased by a more significant margin among those who exercised with others. Authors of the study found that the risk of cognitive impairment decreased by more than 29 percent among individuals who worked out with a partner, which was nearly double the percentage reduction (15 percent) among those who exercised alone.

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MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING PETERSBURG CITY COUNCIL

November 21, 2023

Petersburg City Council held a special meeting Nov. 21, 2023 at 7 p.m. at the community center. Members present were Susan Dahl, Brian Johnson, and Amber Vickaryous (via phone). Kevin Sundre, James Schmidt and Tricia Johnson were not present.

After discussion, motion by Brian, second by Susan, to purchase Lots 4-6 of Block 18, OT Petersburg and Lot 8 and S1/2 of Lot 9 of Block 23, OT Petersburg for \$1 each from Nelson County, Motion carried.

Motion by Brian, second by Susan, to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Tricia Johnson City Auditor

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: Aneta (Nelson County), North Dakota

CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 380873-01

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 3200023-04

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed Water Replacement and Sewer Rehabilitation project for the City of Aneta in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR Part 6). The NDDEQ has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion and is exempt from further substantive environmental review.

Because the proposed project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion, a full Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment will not be required. The following is a description of the proposed project and a brief statement of how the project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion.

The existing cast iron water mains and clay sewer mains are nearing the end of their useful life. The proposed project consists of removing and replacing the existing cast iron water mains and services and installing new PVC pipe. The vitrified clay sanitary and storm sewer mains will be rehabilitated by relining with cured-in-place-pipe (CIPP), which is a trenchless method of construction. Steel casing will need to be bored under the BNSF railroad tracks to allow for installation of the new water main and sanitary sewer main.

The proposed project will reduce the risk of emergency repairs to fix breaks and will bring the water

and sewer systems back into good working condition.

The City of Aneta plans to apply for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$930,000.00 and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$1,570,000.00 to finance the project. The city has the legal authority and financial and administrative capability to construct the proposed improvements.

This project is being granted an exclusion because the improvements will occur within existing city street right-of-way or easements. Some work will also take place within NDDOT and BNSF right-of-way. No previously undisturbed areas will be affected by the construction activities. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer has concluded that no historic properties will be affected by this project provided it takes place in the location and manner described in the documentation and provided all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 23-5670). It has been determined that exempting the proposed project from further review under the National Environmental Policy Act will not result in adverse impacts to the population or area of Aneta and Nelson County.

The documentation to support this decision will be on file and available for public review at the NDDEQ, Division of Municipal Facilities. Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to Hristo Papalichev, Environmental Engineer, Division of Municipal Facilities, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, 4201 Normandy Street, 3rd Floor, Bismarck, ND 58503-1324.

Dated the 16th day of November, 2023.

David J. Bruschwein, P.E. Director Division of Municipal Facilities

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Attorney for Personal Representative

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN DISTRICT COURT, NELSON COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH WHEELER, DECEASED.

Probate No. 32-2023-PR-00016
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Debra Quam as Personal Representative of the Estate or filed with the Court.
Dated this 28th day of November, 2023.

/s/ Roger Wheeler
Roger Wheeler
Personal Representative
(Publish Dec. 7, 14 & 21, 2023)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE NORTHEAST CENTRAL JUDICIAL DISTRICT, NELSON COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

In the Matter of the Estate of Kenneth Simor Quam JR., Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above Estate. All persons having claims against the deceased are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Debra Quam as Personal Representative of the Estate or filed with the Court.
Dated: Dec. 1, 2023

/s/ Debra Quam
Debra Quam
Personal Representative
Address: 308 Margaret St. N.
Tolna, ND 58380

Kelly Jane Swenseth
Swenseth Law Office, PLLC
PO Box 393
418 Fourth Avenue NE
Devils Lake, North Dakota 58301
Attorney for Personal Representative
First Publication on the 7th day of December, 2023.
(Publish Dec. 7, 14 & 21, 2023)

SEEKING New Management

For Stump Lake Park and/ or Stump Lake Café & Bar Operations

Please submit proposals and résumé to the Nelson County Auditor's Office.

Position(s) will be open until filled.

Any questions or inquiries please call the Auditor's Office at 701-247-2463

FOR SALE

Nelson County Highway Department is selling the following equipment

- ▶ 2007 Challenger MT555 Tractor
- ▶ 2000 John Deere 7610 Tractor
- ▶ 1999 Freightliner Semi
- ▶ 1981 Freightliner Semi

Online auction starts Dec. 15, 2023 and ends Dec. 20, 2023.

Equipment is listed in the Consignment Auction at SteffesGroup.com.

Please go to this website for specifications and bidding.

Help Wanted

We are looking for:

- ◆ Cooks
- ◆ Server
- ◆ Bartender

Apply in person or contact Scott with any questions 701-247-2487

SUNLAC INN

310 4th Ave. SE :: Lakota, ND

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- CNA
- RN/LPN
- Driver
- Housekeeping Assistant
- Maintenance Mechanic
- Supervisor of Ancillary Services
- Activities Assistant

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.

Please apply at sanfordcareers.com and search for "Lakota, ND."

LAKOTA