

## Special Events Safety Guide

**KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**



**PHILADELPHIA HOSTS MANY SPECIAL EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. HAVING A MEMORABLE TIME INCLUDES VISITOR SAFETY AND WORKS BEST WHEN CITY DEPARTMENTS, PARTNERS, EVENT ORGANIZERS, AND YOU WORK TOGETHER!**

### Stay Safe

- Attending an event with a group? Choose a meeting place in case you get separated.
- If you see something suspicious, say something. Tell the nearest police officer, event official, or call 911.
- Find out what items you can bring and what is not permitted for security reasons.
- Be sure to secure your personal belongings. Lock your cars. Keep valuables out of sight.
- Drones are not permitted over crowds, unless the operator gets a waiver. Report the drone and operator locations to the nearest police officer.
- Follow public safety official guidance.

### Be Aware

- Know your surroundings. Be an observer when you arrive at the area.
- Be sure to look for the exits, restrooms, and locations of first-aid stations.
- Make sure to check the weather before you go and dress properly for the forecast. When thunder roars, go indoors.
- Avoid standing on or near temporary structures (like scaffolding or awnings) that could collapse or become unstable.
- Those with access or functional needs are encouraged to be mindful of conditions that may impact exit routes and time needed to safely leave the area.

### Stay Healthy

- Let someone know if you feel sick. If you start to feel dizzy, overheated, or nauseous, ask for help right away. A friend or event official can make sure you get medical attention as soon as possible.
- Stay hydrated.
- Wear sunscreen if outside.
- Clean hands after touching surfaces such as door handles and railings.

### Be Patient

- Special events bring large crowds. With big crowds, you may have long waiting periods for security, bathrooms, food, public transportation, and traffic. Be patient with those around you and be ready to wait in lines and navigate the crowd.
- Walk around crowds rather than through them.
- If an emergency happens, head calmly to the nearest exit.



## QUICK TIPS

- Sign up for text and email alerts, including weather alerts, from ReadyPhiladelphia at [www.phila.gov/ready](http://www.phila.gov/ready).
- Follow the Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management on Twitter and Facebook @PhilaOEM.



During large outdoor events, City officials coordinate with the National Weather Service and monitor the weather continuously, especially for extreme temperatures, storms, lightning, and high winds. If an announcement is made urging you to leave the area, please do so calmly and immediately.

Consider taking public transportation to large special events. There may be special travel schedules. If you do drive, know where you parked. Write it down or take a photo of where you parked.



Family and friends can get separated. Take pictures at the event so you have photos of how everyone is dressed. Put your name and phone number in your child's pocket. You may not be able to make calls if cell phone service is overwhelmed. Try using text messages or social media. Make plans with the people you are attending the event with, like a meet-up point in case you cannot reach each other.