

As you may have seen in the news, the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) is currently investigating a norovirus outbreak involving the CLIMB Works Zipline Canopy Tour in Gatlinburg, TN.

Norovirus is commonly referred to as the “stomach flu”. It is a very contagious virus that causes vomiting and diarrhea. Symptoms usually last one to two days but can last longer in severe cases. It is not usually deadly but in the severe cases can lead dehydration and hospitalization. The CDC says that norovirus is spread through contact with an infected person, consuming contaminated food or water and touching contaminated surfaces and then putting unwashed hands in your mouth. According to the TDH there have been more than 500 reports of gastrointestinal illness from visitors of this zipline facility.

The Tennessee Department of Health is recommending that if you visited the CLIMB Works Zipline Canopy Tour in Gatlinburg between June 15, 2018 and July 6, 2018 and then experienced vomiting or diarrhea in the following week you should report those symptoms to your doctor. Be sure to mention to the doctor that you were in Gatlinburg and visited the CLIMB Works zipline company.

If you or someone you know are sick here are a few tips to prevent the spread of norovirus:

- Wash your hands with soap and water
- Stay home when you are sick
- Clean and sanitize surfaces

For more information on norovirus, prevention and the ongoing outbreak please visit the CDC website and the Tennessee Department of Health website.

<https://www.cdc.gov/norovirus/>

<https://www.tn.gov/health/news/2018/7/12/tdh-investigation-ongoing-into-illnesses-associated-with-zipline-tour-in-gatlinburg.html>

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