

## Guidance

# CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN

We want everyone to enjoy this festive and fun holiday as safely as possible. Please consider the following recommendations when celebrating Halloween this year. Talk with children about different ways to celebrate Halloween, and about staying safe while participating in your household's chosen activities.

### **Continue to follow COVID-19 precautions at all times:**

- If you are sick, stay home.
- If you have been in contact with someone who is sick with COVID-19, or has symptoms of COVID-19, stay home.
- Wear a face covering (over both mouth and nose) to prevent disease spread when outside of your home and around others who are not part of your household.
- Keep activities outdoors.
- Avoid close contact with others outside of your household. Stay at least 6 feet apart.
- Wash or sanitize your hands frequently.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and items regularly.

## Consider Alternatives to Trick-or-Treating

To reduce your risk of being exposed to someone with COVID-19 and getting sick, the following activities can be safe alternatives:

- Celebrate Halloween with your household members by:
  - Decorating your home
  - Halloween movie night
  - Scavenger hunt in and around your home
- Celebrate with friends through a virtual Halloween party or contest that could include:
  - A virtual Halloween costume contest
  - Carving or decorating pumpkins

## For Hosts and Operators of Events/Attractions

- Follow all state and local guidelines regarding event sizes.
  - [Click here for more information.](#)
- Require masks and provide handwashing/sanitizer stations.
- Hold events outside or in large spaces that allow for physical distancing.
- Consider limiting common seating areas or play areas where people may congregate.



## CHESTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## Safest Ways to Participate in Trick-or-Treating Activities

- Stay in your own neighborhood.
- Trick-or-treat with members of your household only.
- Have adults accompany trick-or-treaters to help them follow precautions.
- Limit the number of houses you visit and limit the time you spend at doorways.
- Ask children to stay as far away from the treat-givers as possible.
- Have an adult hold the candy/bag for smaller children.
- Only allow children to eat treats that come in their original wrapper.
- Keep your face mask on; **costume masks are not a replacement**-- save the candy eating for when you return home!
- Talk to your neighbors about ways to enjoy Halloween safely, including creative ways to distribute treats like hanging candy from a wall or fence for children to take.
- **Follow regular Halloween safety tips** such as decorating costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and carrying glow sticks or flashlights to help increase visibility among drivers.

## For Households Offering Candy to Trick-or-Treaters

- Do not hand out candy if you are sick.
- Wear a face mask.
- Use duct tape or Halloween décor to mark a 6-foot line from where you will be stationed.
- **Create one-way trick-or-treating routes**, with groups arriving to a home from one direction and leaving from another.
- Put candy on a table, wall, or fence for children to take.
- If you are preparing goodie bags, wash your hands before preparing the bags.
- Wash hands with soap and water often.

## Additional guidance about Halloween activities can be found at:

<http://bit.ly/CDCHolidayGuidance>



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