HALLOWEEN GUIDANCE DURING COVID-19

We want you to enjoy Halloween traditions like Trick-or-Treating as safe as possible for the entire family. Large gatherings or events are still not recommended due to the risk of COVID-19, so this year consider celebrating a little differently. Keep tabs on how active COVID-19 is in your community, and have a back-up plan on the ready. Don’t forget to remind your little monsters to wash their hands, watch their distance, and wear their face coverings. If you or someone in your house is sick, stay home.

FOR MUNICIPALITIES

- Be consistent- Select the same Trick-or-Treat hours for all municipalities
- Hold a contest- Encourage yard decorations or virtual costume contests
- No place like home - Encourage participates to stay in their own neighborhoods
- Mask up - Encourage all participants to wear face coverings with their costumes and social distance with those outside of household
- Keep space - Encourage participants to stay 6 feet apart from others and not crowd on porches
- Free to decline - If you don't want to participate, turn porch light off
- Be respectful - Respect those who have their lights turned off
- Family first - Only Trick-or-Treat with your household members
- Limit contacts- Place candy in a bucket or table on the front porch. No in-person contact is recommended.
Make this Halloween memorable for reasons other than COVID-19! The more people, the more chance of COVID-19 showing up uninvited.

FOR FAMILIES

- Get creative- Decorate your yard or windows
- Make new traditions - Carve pumpkins at home, bake sweet treats, hide candy in the backyard, or watch a scary movie
- Take it outside – There is no risk-free way to hold an indoor house party
- Keep germs to yourself- Stay home and do not participate if you do not feel well or were in contact with someone who was sick
- Mask up – Those over age 2 and who are able are encouraged to wear a face covering
- Control the candy – Place candy in a bucket or table on the front porch. No in-person contact is recommended.
- Avoid going door-to-door in groups – Stick with your household members in your own neighborhood
- Pack hand sanitizer and keep it with an adult– It's not needed after every house
- Protect the most at risk - Those with a chronic health condition or 65+ are encouraged to stay home or Trick-or-Treat virtually on the phone
- Handle candy with care- Wash hands before/after sorting candy and before eating
- Risk of getting sick from food packaging is thought to be low- For extra caution consider holding candy overnight. Do NOT use disinfectants of any kind on the candy.
Indoor parties and enclosed haunted houses are strongly discouraged – the more people, the closer together, for a longer period of time, the higher the risk for spreading COVID-19.

Take it outdoors- Host a “Trunk or Treat” line of cars handing out candy in a parking lot or a "drive through" haunted house.

Spread out - Park cars several feet apart so lines keep moving and people are not crowded.

Promote space for health - Encourage participants to wear face coverings and stay 6 feet apart during any event.

Virtual is best - Offer virtual costume contests or events.

Families first - Stay with your household members only.

Don't bring COVID-19 to the event - Stay home if you are feeling even mildly sick, are in isolation, or are in quarantine.

For Halloween guidance from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, please visit https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/community.htm

Have A Happy Halloween!