

## Halloween 2020

Many traditional Halloween activities can be high-risk for spreading viruses. There are several safer, alternative ways to participate in Halloween. We have therefore developed these guidelines to help our residents have a safe Halloween.

If you have COVID-19 or are self isolating, you should not participate in in-person Halloween festivities and especially should not hand out treats or sweets to people who visit (eg for “trick-or-treat”).

### No risk activities

These activities can be safe alternatives:

- Carving pumpkins with members of your household and displaying them.
- Decorating your home
- A Halloween scavenger hunt where accompanied children are given lists of Halloween-themed items to look for while they walk outdoors from house to house admiring Halloween decorations at a distance.
- Having a virtual Halloween costume contest
- Having a Halloween film night with your household or people in your support bubble.

### Moderate risk activities

- “No contact” goodie bags - where individually wrapped goodie bags are lined up for families to grab and go while continuing to social distance (such as at the end of a driveway or at the edge of a yard)
  - If you are preparing goodie bags, [wash your hands](#) with soap and water for at least 20 second before and after preparing the bags.
- Having a small group (no more than 6) , outdoor, open-air costume parade where people are distanced more than 2 metres apart
- Attending a costume party held outdoors where protective masks are used and people can remain more than 6 feet apart
  - A costume mask (such as for Hallowe'en) is **not** a substitute for a cloth mask. A costume mask should **not** be used unless it is made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that covers the mouth and nose and doesn't leave gaps around the face.
  - Do **not** wear a costume mask over a protective cloth mask because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe. Instead, consider using a Halloween-themed cloth mask.
- Going to an open-air, one-way, walk-through haunted forest where appropriate mask use is enforced, and people can remain more than 2 metres apart. Do not mix outside your households or bubbles.

- If screaming will likely occur, greater distancing is advised. The greater the distance, the lower the risk of spreading a respiratory virus.
- Visiting pumpkin patches or orchards where people use hand sanitizer before touching pumpkins or picking apples, wearing masks is encouraged or enforced, and people are able to maintain social distancing

### High risk activities

**Avoid** these high risk activities to help prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19:

- Participating in traditional door to door trick-or-treating where treats are handed to children.
- Crowded costume parties held indoors (these are unlawful under the regulations)
- Going to an indoor “haunted house” where people may be crowded together and screaming.
- Using [alcohol or drugs](#), which can cloud judgement and increase risky behaviours.

### Illegal Activities

**Gathering in groups of more than 6 people or multiple households unless as part of a properly organised COVID secure event (by a charity or public body) is illegal and Police can take enforcement action including fines.**