



Tip Sheet for Celebrating Halloween 2020



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As families start to plan for the upcoming holiday season beginning with Halloween, it is important to plan early and identify safer options to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19. This ongoing risk requires everyone to follow necessary precautions. The following measures are necessary to slow the spread: maintain physical distancing of at least six feet from others, wear a face covering when in public, wash hands often, avoid gatherings of any size with people from different families, and stay home when sick.

Butte County Public Health recommends that you choose a safer alternative to celebrate Halloween. You should not go trick-or-treating or mix with others outside [allowed private gatherings](#) this Halloween season.

Safer Alternatives for Halloween

The safest way to celebrate Halloween is to spend time with people in the same household or to celebrate virtually.

- Online parties/contests (e.g. costume or pumpkin carving)
- Car parades that comply with public health guidance for vehicle based parades including:
 - Drive-by events or contests where individuals dress up or decorate their vehicles and drive by “judges” that are appropriately physically distanced.
 - Drive-through events where individuals remain in their vehicles and drive through an area with Halloween displays.
 - Drive-in events where individuals can receive a treat bag (limited to commercially packaged non-perishable treats) or a take away item from an organizer while the participants remain in their vehicle.
- Dressing up homes and yards with Halloween themed decorations.
- Halloween movie nights at drive-in theaters - *must comply with State Industry [Guidance for Family Entertainment Centers](#).*
- Halloween themed art installations at museums - *must comply with State Industry [Guidance for Museum](#).*

Higher Risk Activities Strongly Discouraged for Halloween

- Door-to-door trick or treating is not recommended because it can be difficult to maintain proper physical distancing on sidewalks, porches, and at front doors.
- “Trunk or treating” where children go from car-to-car to receive treats is not recommended because it can be difficult to avoid crowding and maintaining proper physical distancing.

Higher Risk Activities Not Permitted for Halloween

Some of the traditional holiday activities and events are prohibited by the State. These include:

- Carnivals, festivals, live entertainment, and haunted house attractions that are intended for the general public.

Personal Protection Measures:

Regardless of how you choose to celebrate Halloween it is important to keep the following in mind:

- [Correctly wear a face covering](#) to prevent disease spread when outside your home and around others that are not part of your household. The face covering should cover your nose and mouth. Certain exemptions apply.
- Avoid confined spaces - Actively stay away from indoor spaces that don't allow for easy physical distancing of at least 6 ft between you and others.
- Avoid close contact – stay at least 6 feet away (3 or more adult steps) from all other people who are not part of your own household, especially while talking, eating, drinking, and singing.
- Wash or sanitize your hands often.
- If you are sick, or you have been in contact with someone who is sick with COVID-19 or has symptoms of COVID-19, stay home and away from others.
 - [How to self-quarantine](#) if you have been exposed to COVID-19
 - [How to self-isolate](#) if you have symptoms of have tested positive for COVID-19