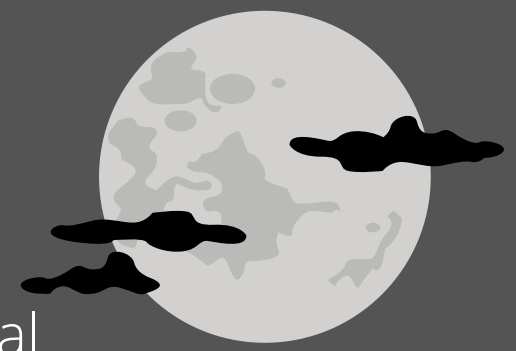



COMMUNITY GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN SAFELY

DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC





Neighborhood Trick-or-Treating will take place on **Friday, October 30th from 5:00-7:00 PM.** Those participating need to incorporate social distancing, mask wearing, and proper hand cleaning/sanitizing. For this year, it is highly encouraged to plan Halloween celebrations that are at home, use social media, or other activities that allow for socially distanced ways to celebrate and connect with family and friends safely. However, if you do choose to attend an in-person Halloween celebration the Town of Durham is offering the following guidance.

NEIGHBORHOOD TRICK-OR-TREATING


 As an alternative to traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating (considered high risk), anyone who would like to distribute treats should create a one-way candy pick-up and leave individually wrapped candy or treats on a table, on their front walkways, sidewalks, or any outdoor space that allows for at least 6 feet of social distance from the door. The individually wrapped candy should be spread out so each piece is not touching another.

Anyone distributing candy or treats should wash their hands properly for at least 20 seconds before placing the candy on the table and when replenishing. There are many other creative ways to distribute Trick-or-Treat goodies that promote social distance and contactless pick-up. Some ideas include, candy slides, creating a candy clothesline, attaching bagged candy to a wooden skewer that are placed on your lawn for pick up, etc. Have fun and get creative with how you can safely distribute goodies this year.

 All individuals participating in Trick-or-Treating, including those passing out candy, should maintain social distance of least 6 feet and wear proper face coverings. A costume mask, such as those worn for Halloween, is not a substitute for a face covering. Facial coverings are not recommended to be worn under costume masks as this could cause breathing problems.

 Only household members should Trick-or-Treat together, and they should maintain 6-foot social distance from other Trick-or-Treaters at all times. Mixed household Trick-or-treaters are discouraged. It is recommended that parents/guardians remain with their child at all times during Trick-or-Treating to ensure that social distancing, facial coverings, and hand cleaning/sanitizing are being upheld.







 Alcohol-based hand sanitizer should be carried and used frequently.

 Candy collected during Trick-or-Treating should not be consumed until after handwashing. As always, a parent/guardian should check all candy to make sure it is wrapped and should discard unwrapped candy.

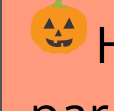


 Outdoor areas are preferred for Trick-or-Treating. Enclosed indoor areas, like apartment buildings, present greater risk of transmission.

ALTERNATIVES TO TRICK-OR-TREATING






Low risk activities:

-  Carve or decorate pumpkins with members of your household.
-  Carve or decorate pumpkins outside, at a safe distance, with neighbors or friends.
-  Decorate your house, yard, or living space.
-  Have a virtual Halloween costume contest with friends or family.
-  Have a scavenger hunt-style Trick-or-Treat with your household in and around your home.
-  Attend one of the Spooktacular Community Events hosted by Durham Parks & Recreation. Visit durhamrec.recdesk.com for event information.

Medium risk activities:

-  Have a small group, outdoor, open-air costume parade where people are distanced. Individual neighborhoods are welcome to coordinate with the Durham Police Department at (603) 868-2324.
-  Visit a local farm or orchard where healthy habits and social distancing are being maintained.
-  Attend or create an open-air, one-way haunted forest or haunted walk where social distancing of 6 feet or greater and appropriate masking is enforced.

High risk activities (please avoid):

-  Participating in traditional door to door Trick-or-Treating where treats are placed in bowls/baskets or directly handed to children.
-  Attending a trunk-or-treat where treats are handed out from trunks or cars lined up in a large parking lot.
-  Attending costume parties held indoors or going to a haunted house with crowds of people.
-  Going on hayrides or tractor rides with people who are not in your household.
-  Traveling to fall festivals that are outside of our community.

A MESSAGE FROM DURHAM POLICE

The Police department will once again have officers on bicycles in residential neighborhoods to be seen and interact with all the little ghosts and goblins! For downtown activity over the weekend the Durham Police will have an expanded complement of officers on duty to handle the older ghosts and goblins. The department will strive to maintain a high visibility of officers to monitor gatherings via a proactive strategy that is designed to prevent issues, educate community members on healthy and safe practices, and allow everyone to enjoy the weekend in a safe manner.

As a reminder, if you think you could have COVID-19 or may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in in-person Halloween festivities and should not give out candy to Trick-or-Treaters. Individuals at increased risk for severe illness should not attend in-person Halloween gatherings.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

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