



**Kentucky Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# Celebrate Halloween Safely

This guidance is designed to help curb the spread of COVID-19. It will be reassessed and updated as the situation evolves and we learn more in the weeks leading up to Halloween.

## At All Events / Activities



**Wear a face covering.**



**Sanitize hands often.**



**Maintain six feet distance from others.**

## Recommended Activities: Trick-or-Treat the Safe Way

If trick-or-treating is permitted in your community, please trick-or-treat the safe way.

- Place individually wrapped candy outside on the porch, driveway, or table.
- Maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet from anyone not within your household.
- Always wear a face covering. Halloween masks DO NOT count as a face covering.
- Clean hands before and after touching the wrapped candy.
- Trick-or-treat in family groups and don't congregate in large groups.
- Trick-or-treat in your own neighborhood. Do not travel to other neighborhoods.
- Use hand sanitizer often, especially after contacting frequently-touched surfaces and before eating anything.

## Consider safe alternatives:

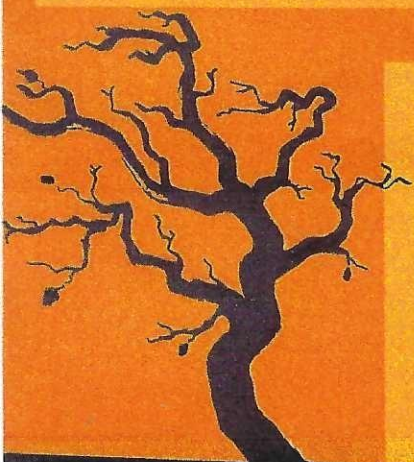
- Carve or decorate pumpkins for display
- Decorate your home or living space
- Have a virtual Halloween costume contest
- Watch Halloween movies with the people you live with
- Have a scavenger hunt for Halloween treats in and around your home
- Drive-by costume or car decorating contest with judges who are social distancing

## AVOID high-risk activities:

- Traditional door-to-door trick-or-treating
- Trunk-or-treat events with large groups in parking lots
- Costume parties
- Haunted houses
- Hayrides or tractor rides
- Traveling to fall festivals in neighboring towns
- Any event with large crowds

## REMINDER

- Stay home if you are sick
- If your child is at greater risk of complications from COVID-19, use extra caution and avoid moderate and high-risk activities
- Consider the people in your household who may be at risk of greater complications from COVID-19
- Focus on keeping Halloween fun and safe for children by avoiding adult activities that further increase the risk of COVID-19 transmission





# NEWS

## HALLOWEEN GUIDANCE RELEASED

📰 [News](#) / 📅 October 2, 2020

The Kentucky Department for Public Health (DPH) released guidance Thursday for conducting Halloween activities. They encourage communities to focus on events for children and avoid adult activities that could increase the risk of spreading COVID-19. The state acknowledged that decisions on trick-or-treating are made at the local level, and parents are urged to follow all local ordinances and guidelines.

Families participating in trick-or-treating should follow these recommendations:

- Place individually wrapped candy outside on a porch, driveway or table.
- Maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet from anyone not within your household.
- Wear a face covering.
- Clean hands before and after touching wrapped candy.
- Trick-or-treat in family groups and do not congregate in large groups.
- Trick-or-treat in your own neighborhood and do not travel to other neighborhoods.
- Use hand sanitizer often, especially after contacting frequently touched surfaces and before eating anything.

DPH noted that Halloween masks are not considered adequate face coverings, and Public Health Commissioner Dr. Steven Stack encouraged children to wear a cloth mask under any plastic costume mask.

Thursday's recommendations warn that traditional trick-or-treat and trunk-or-treat activities should be considered "higher risk," especially if treats are handed out to children in person. The Department's recommendations also warn against haunted houses, hayrides, tractor rides and fall festivals. "Let's keep Halloween for the kids," stated Dr. Stack.

You can access the DPH Halloween guidance [here](#).

Access a DPH Halloween safety information sheet [here](#).

Thursday's report included 910 new cases, a 4.11% positivity rate and 17 new deaths. New cases reported on Tuesday and Wednesday topped 1,000 each day.

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