State Health Officials Warn Against Trick-Or-Treating

State health officials are advising Californians to skip trick-or-treating this Halloween. New guidelines, released Tuesday, stop short of prohibiting the activity amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Health officials voiced concerns that it’s not possible to practice social distancing while trick-or-treating and celebrations would lead to interaction with people from outside one’s household. State officials are strongly discouraging trick-or-treating and suggested that some Halloween activities, such as costume contests and pumpkin carving, move online. They also recommend that families go on a walk while dressed up but forgo stopping door-to-door for candy. While providing Halloween safety tips, health official say this does not mean that trick-or-treaters will be citied. But recommend we strongly do Halloween differently than we have in the past. California is experiencing a respite from COVID-19; hospitalizations and deaths have dropped to the lowest levels seen in months. Official warn, “Don’t be misled that this disease is any less deadly. Quite the contrary — it is as deadly as it’s ever been in the context of those that are high-risk.” On Friday the state released holiday guidelines warning residents against mingling with members of any other households, but those restrictions are likely to become even more difficult to abide by as people look to spend holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas together.

