



News Release

Unified Government Public Relations
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Unified Government Public Health Department Provides Guidance on Celebrating Halloween and Fall Gatherings during COVID-19 Pandemic

The Unified Government Public Health Department (UGPHD) has developed guidance for the community members to keep in mind as they celebrate Halloween and other Fall activities in the midst of COVID-19.

Recommended Activities

Some of the activities with lower COVID risk that the UGPHD recommends include:

- Online parties or contests (such as online costume contests, pumpkin carving, etc.)
- Drive-through events where individuals remain in vehicles. This could include events where individuals receive a treat bag (containing commercially packed, non-perishable treats) or activities like drive-in Halloween movies
- Decorating yards and homes with Halloween-themed decorations, and driving or walking to enjoy other Halloween decorations in local neighborhoods

Safer Trick or Treating, and “Trunk or Treating” Activities

Many typical Halloween activities pose more COVID-19 risk than the recommended activities above, including “Trunk or Treat” events and trick or treating. As many community members may choose to engage in their usual Halloween traditions, the UGPHD urges people to take precautions to enjoy those activities in a safer way.

- Wear a cloth face covering over the nose and mouth when trick or treating or when answering the door for trick or treaters
- Carry hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol and use it at regular intervals.
- Consider disinfecting candy wrappers or other items accepted from homes.
- Leave at least 6-feet between yourself and people not in your household. Do not crowd sidewalks, driveways, or porches. At “Trunk or Treat” events, cars should be spaced at least 6 feet apart.
- Practice routine hand hygiene with soap and water or hand sanitizer
- Clean frequently-touched items and surfaces regularly, such as door knobs.
- Consider spacing items 6-feet apart on your porch, in your yard or on a table in your driveway with a sign advising trick or treaters to “Take 1”.
- Opt out of these activities if you are over 60 years old or have a compromised immune system
- If you currently are sick, have recently tested positive for COVID-19, are awaiting COVID-19 results, or are quarantining, you should opt out of all trick or treating activities.

Find the full “Wyandotte County Guidance for Celebrating Halloween and Fall Gatherings 2020,” go to <http://bit.ly/WyCoHalloween2020> or go to wycokck.org/COVID-19, and click on the COVID Hub, which includes a section on Halloween guidance.

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