

Halloween in the Time of Covid-19


Lower Risk Activities (for spread of COVID-19)

- Carve or decorate pumpkins with family. Display them.
 - For a group, carve outside socially distanced, with friends/family from your area
- Decorate house, apartment, or living space
- Create a scavenger hunt for your kids for things found in the neighborhood. Go for a walk to admire decorations and find the items on the list. (More detailed suggestion is not to collect items, take a photo with your phone, or just check them off on a list.)
- Virtual Halloween Costume Contest
- Halloween movie night with family
- Have a scavenger hunt-style trick-or-treat search at home. (turn off the lights to make it scary)
- Virtual Dance Party* Arrange with friends/family to learn Michael Jackson's Thriller dance or Rocky Horror Picture Shows The Time Warp and do it all together on Zoom



Moderate Risk Activities

- One-way trick or treating. Create individual goodie bags and line them up along the walk or driveway for trick-or-treaters to pick up. Space them so that they are socially distanced. (If you prepare bags, wash your hands with soap and water before and after preparing the bags.)
 - Another version is to suspend items from tree branches or fence posts. Stay safely on your porch/yard and wave to the kids.
- Do not wear a costume mask over a protective cloth mask because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe. Use a Halloween-themed protective/cloth mask instead.
- A costume mask is not a substitute for a cloth mask. A costume mask should not be used unless it is made of two or more layers of breathable fabric that covers the mouth and nose and doesn't leave gaps around the face.

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- Going to an open-air, one-way walk-through Haunted Forest (corn maze?) where appropriate mask use is enforced and people can remain 6 feet apart. **
 - If screaming is likely, greater distancing is advised.
 - Going to pumpkin patches or orchards where people use hand sanitizer before touching pumpkins or picking apples, wearing masks is encouraged or enforced and people are able to maintain social distancing.**

(**locally –Redwood Valley- the farm Jack and Noel’s Holiday Garden is following guidelines and doing what they can to make this a fun season. The county can’t endorse a business, I know. But, could perhaps tell people to search Facebook for “Corn Maze” or something??)

THINGS TO AVOID

- ☒ Traditional Trick-or-Treating (treats handed to kids going door-to-door)
The grouping at doorways, laughing, screaming, touching is too high-risk
- ☒ Trunk-or-treat where treats are handed out from trunks of cars in large parking lots
- ☒ Attending crowded costume parties held indoors (gatherings not being allowed by the health orders)
- ☒ Going to an indoor haunted house where people may be crowded together and screaming. (gatherings not allowed by health orders)
- ☒ Going on hayrides or tractor rides with people who are not in your household
- ☒ Using alcohol or drugs which can cloud judgement and increase risky behaviors
- ☒ Traveling to a rural fall festival that is not in your community if you live in an area with community spread of COVID-19

Actividades Para Dia de los Muertos

Lower Risk Activities

- Preparing traditional family recipes for family and neighbors, especially those at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and delivering them in a way that doesn't involve contact with others
- Playing music in your home that your deceased loved ones enjoyed
- Making and decorating masks or making an altar for the deceased
- Setting out pillows and blankets in your home for the deceased
- Joining a virtual get-together celebration



Moderate Risk Activities

- Visiting and decorating graves of loved ones with household members only and keeping more than 6 feet away from others in the area

Things to Avoid

- ☠ Large indoor celebrations with singing or chanting (gatherings not allowed per health orders)
- ☠ Having a dinner party with people from different households (gatherings not allowed per health orders)
- ☠ Using alcohol or drugs which can cloud judgment.