

## *City of Cadillac Trick-or-Treating Guidelines*

**Trick-or-Treating is on Halloween (October 31<sup>st</sup>)**

**Hours are generally from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

*Please review the District Health Department's Guidance Starting on Pg. #2*

### **Tips for Trick-or-Treaters**

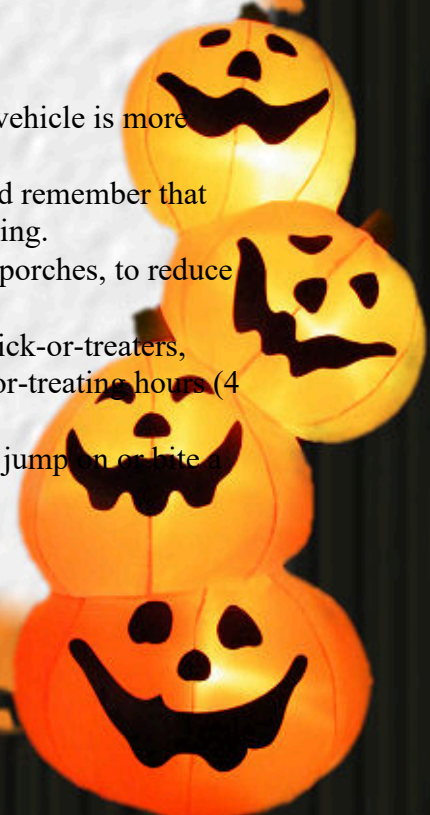
- Use sidewalks and crosswalks whenever possible, and never assume that you will be seen by a vehicle. Use flashlights after dark to easily see and be seen. For greater visibility, consider using glow sticks in your costume, or decorate or trim costumes with reflective tape. Bags or sacks should also be light colored or decorated with reflective tape or even glow sticks too.
- Younger children should walk in groups with older children or be accompanied by an adult.
- Unaccompanied children should carry a mobile phone for quick emergency communication.
- Only visit homes that have lights on and appear inviting to trick-or-treaters, and never enter a home; wait on the front porch or front door area for the resident to hand out treats.

### **Tips for Parents & Guardians**

- Use your cell phone to take a picture of your children before leaving the home, since should they become lost or missing, the picture can be quickly circulated to law enforcement and the community.
- If your children will be out unaccompanied, set clear boundaries and time limits, and make them adhere to the rules you have established.
- Treats should be inspected prior to being consumed; instruct your children to not eat their treats until after first providing you the chance to see them. Only eat candy wrapped in its original, unopened wrapper, and inspect all fruit and homemade items thoroughly before consumption.

### **Tips for Motorists & Safety Around Homes**

- Drive with your headlights on, even during daylight, so that your vehicle is more visible.
- Avoid distracting activities, such as talking on a mobile phone, and remember that excited children may dart out into traffic at any time without warning.
- Remove anything that could be an obstacle from lawns, steps and porches, to reduce the possibility of injury to trick-or-treaters.
- Check outdoor lights and replace burned-out bulbs. If accepting trick-or-treaters, please turn your outdoor lights on during the recommended trick-or-treating hours (4 p.m. to 8 p.m.), even if there is still daylight.
- Restrain pets so they do not inadvertently escape your property or jump on or bite a trick-or-treater.





Hello:

Halloween is quickly approaching and DHD#10 has received several requests for guidance on how to proceed this year. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services recently issued the following release:

To help ensure the only thing scary about Halloween is the costumes, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has issued guidance on how to safely celebrate the holiday during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The way we celebrate Halloween in Michigan will be different this year due to COVID-19,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health. “However, there are still many ways to celebrate safely. The guidance MDHHS issued today provides tips for trick-or-treaters and their parents along with homeowners who wish to hand out treats.”

Tips for all groups include staying home if you are sick; maintaining social distancing of at least six feet; wearing a cloth mask that covers both the mouth and nose; and washing hands often or frequently using hand sanitizer containing at least 60 percent alcohol.

In addition to the MDHHS guidance document, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) also issued recommendations this week. CDC considers trick-or-treating a high-risk activity and offered alternative activities to consider as well as safety tips if parents and children choose to trick-or-treat.

Tips for trick-or-treaters and parents:

- Share with your children that this year may be different than last but let them know some of the new ways you plan to celebrate and still have lots of fun.
- Talk with children about safety and social distancing guidelines and expectations. Keep a six-foot distance from others not in your group.
- Participate in one-way trick-or-treating and guide children to stay to the right to ensure social distancing.

- Trick or treat with people you live with.
- Avoid congregating in groups around houses.
- Wear a face mask covering both mouth and nose.
  - A costume mask (such as for Halloween) is not a substitute for a cloth mask.
  - Do not wear a costume mask over a protective cloth mask if wearing both causes difficulty breathing. Instead, consider using a Halloween-themed cloth mask.
- Only go to houses with safety measures in place.
- Check out [halloween2020.org](https://halloween2020.org) to find exciting activities and ways to celebrate Halloween this year based on levels of COVID risks in your area.

Tips for homeowners:

- Use duct tape to mark six-foot lines in front of home and leading to driveway/front door.
- Position a distribution table between yourself and trick-or-treaters.
- Distribute candy on a disinfected table to eliminate direct contact.
- Consider handing out candy in an open space where distancing is possible, rather than from the front door.
- Consider a neighborhood costume parade; it is an easy way to keep safe space between children.

The guidance also urges Michiganders to consider hosting virtual parties instead of in-person Halloween gatherings. If a gathering is hosted, it should be limited to 10 people or less per MDHHS's [Emergency Order](#), social distancing should be maintained, cloth masks should be worn and food and party favors should be set out individually to prevent cross contamination. Download this [Halloween Guidance](#) for more information.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at [Michigan.gov/Coronavirus](https://Michigan.gov/Coronavirus) and [CDC.gov/Coronavirus](https://CDC.gov/Coronavirus).