



*Borough of Stratford*  
*"A Clean Community"*  
*Est. 1889*

*From the Desk of Council President Linda Hall, Director of Public Events*

## **How can we safely trick-or-treat and celebrate Halloween in Stratford?**

To help ensure a safe Halloween for everyone in New Jersey, the Department of Health has released health and safety guidance for local officials, schools, organizations, and families.

The Department of Health strongly encourages everyone to wear a face covering that covers both the nose and mouth. Costume masks do not count, as they do not provide the necessary level of protection.

**STRATFORD RESIDENTS MAY PRINT OUT AND POST THE OFFICIAL BOROUGH OF STRATFORD "OPT OUT" POSTER ON THEIR DOORS OR WALKWAYS. PRINTED COPIES WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE BOROUGH HALL DURING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 26, 2020.**

The Department of Health strongly recommends all Halloween activities **be held outdoors**, as the biggest threats for viral spread exist indoors. All Halloween activities must be limited to the following indoor and outdoor occupancy limits:

Indoor gatherings must be limited to **25 people or 25% of a room's capacity** – whichever number is lower. All attendees must wear face coverings and stay six feet apart. Outdoor gatherings must be limited to **500 people** and social distancing must be practiced.

### **TRICK-or-TREATING**

Those who plan to trick-or-treat should limit their groups to current household members, consider staying local, and limit the number of houses on their route. Parents are asked to accompany their children and be especially mindful of any health risks or dangers to their children.

#### **For those putting out treats:**

**Laying out candy on a small table layered with newspaper is the best option** to offer wrapped candy.

As an alternative, and for homes with driveways, car hoods layered with newspaper are a great and easy alternative to setting up a table.

**Any forms of communal bowls or hand-to-hand transactions are strongly discouraged.**

All candy given out should be commercially packaged and non-perishable.

In all cases, if you are leaving treats out for children, always honor social distancing.

Please wear a mask whenever person-to-person contact is a risk.

## **TRUNK or-TREATING**

For outdoor "trunk-or-treating" (when children go car to car instead of house to house):

Limit the number of participating cars to ensure adequate space for social distancing and help minimize crowds.

Ensure the outdoor area has sufficient space per car to avoid overcrowding and to allow adequate space for social distancing.

**Lay pre-wrapped candy on newspaper layers vehicle hood to avoid communal bowls and person-to-person contact.**

Design the event in a long line, rather than a circle, to ensure social and physical distancing to discourage crowding.

Consider having assigned times or multiple shifts to minimize crowding during the event.

**WITH REGRETS, STRATFORD'S ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE WILL NOT BE HELD**

**Trick or Treating hours are from 3:00pm until the 7:00pm curfew for minors. If accompanied by an adult, children may trick or treat until 9:00pm.**

## **HAVE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE HALLOWEEN**

*NOTE: No one should participate in Halloween activities if they or a household member have a known exposure to COVID-19, have symptoms of COVID-19, or have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and have not yet met the criteria for discontinuing isolation or were told to quarantine. Parents or guardians are strongly encouraged to accompany their children to ensure their children do not take any unrealized or unnecessary risks while enjoying the traditions of Halloween.*

# NO TRICK-OR TREATING



**OPT OUT**



**Thank you for understanding and we look forward to seeing our neighbors soon**



STRATFORD SAFE