



DATE: September 29, 2020

TO: Ashtabula County Cities, Villages & Townships

FROM: Raymond J. Saporito, Health Commissioner  
Ashtabula County Health Department

RE: Halloween Trick or Treat

The local health departments of Ashtabula County strongly recommend that all Cities, Villages and Townships in Ashtabula County hold Halloween Trick or Treat on Saturday, October 31, 2020 during the same time period of between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Having Halloween Trick or Treat on the same day and time in all of the communities in Ashtabula County will help to minimize repeated exposures to COVID-19 to Ashtabula County residents during the Halloween season.

On September 24, 2020, the Ohio Department of Health changed Ashtabula County's COVID-19 risk rating from the lowest risk rating (yellow) to an intermediate risk level (orange). An orange risk rating for COVID-19 means that the County is experiencing increased exposure and community spread of COVID-19.

In light of the increased risk of COVID-19 disease transmission in Ashtabula County, it becomes more important for Ashtabula County residents to exercise caution when participating in Halloween Trick or Treat activities.

The local health departments of Ashtabula County encourage Ashtabula County residents to initiate several COVID-19 preventive actions that will help to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 during Halloween in Ashtabula County.

These COVID-19 preventive actions include:

1. People who are sick with flu-like or COVID-19 like symptoms should not participate in Halloween Trick or Treat activities.
2. People who have COVID-19 or are awaiting test results should not give out candy.
3. People under quarantine should not participate in Halloween Trick or Treat activities.
4. People giving out Halloween candy to trick or treaters should wear masks and gloves.

5. People giving out Halloween candy should give out only individually wrapped items.
6. People should avoid letting children select candy from a common container.
7. People that choose to give out Halloween candy should turn their porch lights on.
8. People giving out candy should have hand sanitizer available.
9. Children that are participating in Halloween Trick or Treat should wear cloth or surgical masks.
10. Families participating in trick or treat should stay together and stay at least 6 feet from other families.
11. Avoid attending indoor or large outdoor Halloween parties because of an increased risk of COVID-19 disease transmission.

For more information on how to reduce risk of COVID-19 disease transmission, contact the Ashtabula County Health Department at 440-576-6010, the Ashtabula City Health Department at 440-992-7123 or the Conneaut City Health Department at 440-593-3087.