

# **Mendocino County Public Health**



# **Guidance for Celebrating Halloween During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Many traditional Halloween activities can be high-risk for spreading viruses. There are several safer, alternative ways to participate in Halloween. If you may have COVID-19 or you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in in-person Halloween festivities and should not give out candy to trick-or-treaters.

## **LOWER RISK ACTIVITIES**

- Carving or decorating pumpkins with members of your household
- Decorating your living space with members of your household
- Walking or driving around your neighborhood to admire outdoor decorations
- Attending a virtual Halloween party, like dance parties and costume contests

#### 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.
- Attending an outdoor costume parade with members of your Stable Household Support Group
- Going to pumpkin patches, orchards, or corn mazes where **social distancing**, **wearing masks**, and frequent hand-washing is encouraged or enforced

## **ACTIVITIES TO AVOID**

- Traditional trick-or-treating (treats handed to kids going door-to-door)
- Trunk-or-treating (treats handed out from trunks of cars in large parking lots)
- Outdoor activities with people outside of your household where social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart) cannot be maintained
- Traveling to rural areas if you live in an area with community spread of COVID-19
- Using alcohol or drugs, which can cloud judgement and increase risky behaviors

## **PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES**

- The current Mendocino County Health Order prohibits all public and private gatherings
  - Gatherings are defined as events that bring together persons from multiple households, living units or Stable Groups, at the same time for a shared or group experience in a single room, space or place.
- Carnivals, festivals, petting zoos, and live entertainment are not allowed because frequent
  interaction with high-touch surfaces by children and participants increase the risk of infection to the
  community.

## PERSONAL PROTECTION MEASURES

- **Wear a mask.** Do not substitute a costume mask 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.
- Stay at least 6 feet apart from those outside of your household
- Wash or sanitize hands often. Always wash your hands before preparing or handling food.
- If you are sick, or you have been in contact with someone who is sick with COVID-19 or has symptoms of COVID-19, **stay home and away from others.**



# **Mendocino County Public Health**



# Guidance for Celebrating Día de los Muertos During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Many traditional activities can put you at higher risk for exposure to COVID-19. There are several safer, alternative ways to celebrate Día de los Muertos. If you may have COVID-19 or you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in in-person Día de los Muertos festivities.

### LOWER RISK ACTIVITIES

- Playing music in your home that your deceased loved ones enjoyed
- Making and decorating masks
- · Making an altar for the deceased
- Setting out pillows and blankets in your home for the deceased
- Attending a virtual celebration

### MODERATE RISK ACTIVITIES

- Organizing an outdoor, open-air parade with members of your Stable Household Support
   Group
- Visiting and decorating graves of loved ones with household members only and staying at least 6 feet away from others in the area
- Preparing traditional family recipes and delivering them to family and neighbors in a way that does not involve contact with others

## **ACTIVITIES TO AVOID**

- Traveling to rural areas if you live in an area with community spread
- Participating in outdoor activities or events with people outside of your household where social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart) cannot be maintained
- Using alcohol or drugs, which can cloud judgement

## PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- The current Mendocino County Health Order prohibits all public and private gatherings
  - Gatherings are defined as events that bring together persons from multiple households, living units or Stable Groups, at the same time for a shared or group experience in a single room, space or place.
- Carnivals, festivals, petting zoos, and live entertainment are not allowed because frequent interaction with high-touch surfaces by children and participants increase the risk of infection to the community.

#### PERSONAL PROTECTION MEASURES

- Wear a mask. Do not substitute a Día de los Muertos mask 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.
- Stay at least 6 feet apart from those outside of your household.
- Wash or sanitize hands often. Always wash your hands before preparing food.
- If you are sick, or you have been in contact with someone who is sick with COVID-19 or has symptoms of COVID-19 stay home and away from others.