

Be a Friend/Be a Hero

There's a
Hero in You

You are
Brave

You are
a Role
Model

October 2020 Newsletter

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Halloween Safety in 2020

As we enter October and the season of Halloween, many families will be taking increased precautions to ensure the safety of their children in this era of the "new normal." Cities and towns are grappling with tough decisions of whether to cancel many fall events and festivals. While Halloween is a beloved tradition for many families, it may look different this year. Whether your child will be treat-or-treating the traditional way or in a new way to adapt to the current climate, read on for tips to make the most of the fall holiday.

Halloween in 2020

- *Drive-Through Trick-or-Treat* – Like many people have done in lieu of graduation parties and baby showers, organize a drive-through Halloween with your neighbors. Position your kids on the front lawn in costumes and take turns having neighbors gently pass out candy from their vehicles. Remember to socially distance, wear a mask when necessary, and wash hands regularly.
- *Halloween Movie Marathon* – Gather the family together for a Halloween-themed movie night. Grab some popcorn (or candy corn!) and enjoy quality time together. This is a good opportunity to share movies that you enjoyed as a child too! Keep in mind everyone's comfort level with scary movies. For ideas, check [this list](#) of kid-friendly Halloween movies with age-appropriate recommendations.
- *Halloween Snacks* – Preparing food brings family together. Check out [these fall recipes](#) for treats like Caramel Apple S'mores, Dracula Dentures and Apple Nachos.
- *Halloween Dance Party* – Have a costume party at home and dance to spooky Halloween tracks. Check out [this playlist](#) of classic Halloween songs.

Halloween Safety Tips

- *Mask up, Michiana!* – Remember to bring your mask or face covering. If you are crafty, try to make the mask a part of the Halloween costume. Be creative!
- *Safety First* – Before trick-or-treating, review safety procedures with your children. Remind them about street safety including crossing streets safely, being aware of surroundings, and walking on sidewalks when available or on the far edge of the street facing traffic.
- For children under age 12, join them on their trick-or-treat outing.
- For kids mature enough to trick-or-treat without parental supervision, tell them to stick with their group in familiar and well-lit areas. Advise them not to enter homes unless with a trusted adult and to never accept rides from strangers. Check in on your child regularly.
- Only eat factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers.
- For more tips, check out [these recommendations](#) from the CDC.