



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**October 2, 2020**

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## **SANTA BARBARA COUNTY PROVIDES GUIDANCE FOR SAFELY CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN**

**(SANTA BARBARA, Calif.)** – Halloween will need to be celebrated differently this year to keep people safe. The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department is providing [guidance](#) on how to take part in this holiday in a manner that reduces the risk of spreading COVID-19.

Gatherings of people outside of your household are currently not permitted. Santa Barbara County is in the Red Tier, which means virus transmission remains substantial. There are many ways to celebrate creatively this year! Some ideas include:

- Watching Halloween movies at home or virtually with others
- Halloween movie night at drive-in theaters (that comply with the State Guidance for Movie Theaters and Family Entertainment Centers)
- Virtual costume party or virtual craft projects
- Decorate your house or apartment inside and out.

Outdoor alternatives to traditional trick-or-treating include:

- **Trunk or treating:** This activity is allowed for the purpose of distributing candy only; no other events are permitted. Follow the safety practice guidelines. Park cars at least 8 to 10 feet apart from each other. Do not cluster in groups. If lines form, keep people at least 6 feet apart.
- **Car parades:** Car parades must comply with [Drive-In Event Guidance](#).
- **Plan a socially distanced costume parade:** Place treats where kids can pick them up along the parade route (daytime activity). Alternatively, provide a bag of treats at the end of the parade. Be careful not to allow spectators or crowds to gather at these types of activities.

“Traditional trick-or-treating can be a high-risk activity and alternatives are strongly encouraged this year. We must remain diligent during this holiday season and ensure that we are wearing face coverings, practicing social distancing, and avoiding mixing with people that do not live in our household,” shared Van Do-Reynoso, Director for the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department.

For general questions about COVID-19 and precautions currently recommended by Santa Barbara County Public Health Department, residents may call 211 or visit [www.publichealthsb.org](http://www.publichealthsb.org).

**Stay Connected:**

County Public Health: [www.PublicHealthSBC.org](http://www.PublicHealthSBC.org), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

County of Santa Barbara: [www.CountyofSB.org](http://www.CountyofSB.org), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#)

2-1-1 Call Center: Dial 211 or outside the area, call (800) 400-1572

Community Wellness Team Information and Referral Line: (805) 364-2750

Behavioral Wellness Crisis Line: (888) 868-1649