



October 19, 2021

SCPH Media Contact Phone Number: (330) 812-3700

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Best Practices for Halloween Safety

[Akron, OH] – Summit County residents are encouraged to exercise caution when planning trick-or-treating and Halloween events that put them in close contact with people outside their households. Unfortunately, children ages 5-11 will still be ineligible for COVID-19 vaccination before this year's Halloween festivities and with the current spread of COVID-19 it is important to continue to take precautions when engaging in Halloween activities.

Summit County Public Health would like to provide residents with some best practices for celebrating Halloween safely amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic:

- Protect those not eligible for vaccinations yet, such as young children, by getting yourself vaccinated.
- Select events or attractions that are small, held outdoors, and allow attendees to stay in their cars or socially distance.
- Consider holding costume parties or pumpkin carving contests online, to minimize exposure.
- Avoid crowded, poorly ventilated spaces.
- Avoid direct contact with trick-or-treaters.
- Set up a station with individually bagged treats for kids to take.
- Wash hands before handling treats.
- Wear a well-fitting mask.
- If you or your child are not feeling well or have symptoms of COVID-19 stay home and don't host or attend any gatherings.

Let's work together this Halloween to keep those individuals who are unable to be vaccinated safe and healthy. The CDC's holiday guidance can be found at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays/celebrations.html>

If you have questions, please call the COVID-19 Call Line (330) 926-5795. The call line is open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. M-F.

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