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City encourages citizens to celebrate Halloween safely

Charleston, S.C.--With coronavirus cases on the rise and Halloween approaching, the city of Charleston is asking citizens to stay safe by following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines while celebrating the holiday this year.

First and most important, trick or treaters should practice the three "W"s: wash your hands, watch your distance and wear a mask.

In addition, when wearing a costume, please remember that a costume mask is not a substitute for a cloth mask. According to the CDC, "a costume mask should not be used 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."

And, of course, anyone who may have COVID-19 or may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 should not participate in activities or give candy out to trick-or-treaters.

This year, the CDC also recommends a number of low-risk alternatives to trick-or-treating, such as carving pumpkins and displaying them, decorating the house, doing a scavenger hunt where children look for Halloween themed items while walking outdoors at a safe distance and more.

For more ideas on how to safely celebrate the holiday, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html#halloween>.

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