

Town of Taylorsville

“The Brushy Mountain Gateway”

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Halloween During COVID-19 Pandemic

Governor Cooper’s Executive Order 169, issued on September 30, 2020, sets limits for outdoor gatherings to a maximum of 50 people. Many traditional Halloween activities can be high-risk for spreading viruses and are prohibited under Executive Order 169 if they exceed the established limits of participants. Large trick-or-treating events should be avoided, and alternatives established that reduce the risks to participants and provide a safe alternative.

Taylorsville Town hall will be forgoing the long standing annual tradition of distributing candy at Town Hall this year due to COVID- 19 and the current Executive Order. Additionally enhanced Policing geared toward large gatherings of trick-or-treater's will be scaled back and will not include the customary , enhanced foot patrols, multiple ATV's , and close contact community policing we are all accustomed to having. As a Town we look forward to normalcy, and promise that when we can resume our long held fun activities we will all celebrate in Grand Fashion.

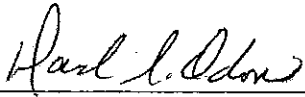
Trick-or-Treating Recommendations for Individuals

- Traditional trick-or-treating is a high-risk activity due to the close contact with people and handling of candy. The CDC recommends participating in one-way trick-or-treating where prepared goodie bags are placed outside of your home for families to “grab and go” while continuing to social distance.
- If you are preparing goodie bags, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after preparing the bags.
- For people who choose to hand out candy:
 - Before you answer the door, make sure your face covering is in place over your nose and mouth, wash or sanitize your hands before answering door.
 - Remain six feet from the Trick-or-Treater.
 - Place the candy inside the child’s bag for them instead of having them take it from the bowl themselves.
- Parents/guardians should limit the number of homes their children visit.
- It is not recommended to trick-or-treat with people outside of your household.
- Always remain six feet away from people outside your household.
- All trick-or-treating participants should wear a mask or face covering while outside at all times.
- A costume mask is not a substitute for a cloth or surgical mask.

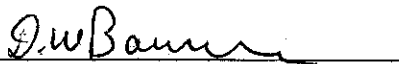
- Do not wear a costume mask over a protective cloth or surgical mask because it can be dangerous if the costume mask makes it hard to breathe. Instead, consider using a Halloween-themed cloth mask.
- Do not wear a costume rubber mask over another face covering of any kind.
- Trick-or-Treaters should carry hand sanitizer for use while trick-or-treating.

Some lower risk activities recommended by the CDC are:

- Carving or decorating pumpkins with members of your household and displaying them
- Carving or decorating pumpkins outside, at a safe distance, with neighbors or friends
- Decorating your house, apartment, or living space
- Doing a Halloween scavenger hunt where children are given lists of Halloween-themed things to look for while they walk outdoors from house to house admiring Halloween decorations at a distance
- Having a virtual Halloween costume contest
- Having a Halloween movie night with people you live with
- Having a scavenger hunt-style trick-or-treat search with your household members in or around your home rather than going house to house



David S. Odom, Town Manager



D.W. Bowman, Chief of Police