



For Immediate Release | October 27, 2020

## Town of Ridgway Encourages Residents to Explore New Ways to Celebrate Halloween During Pandemic

Ridgway, CO – As residents begin to plan for the upcoming holiday season beginning with Halloween, the Town of Ridgway is promoting guidance that has been issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) for celebrating safely, including safer alternatives that still promote a festive environment amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The Town believes it's important that families follow best practices in order to minimize the risk of catching or spreading COVID-19 while having fun on Halloween.



Wear a mask that fully covers your nose and mouth, wash your hands frequently, and maintain at least 6 feet of distance from people outside your household. Avoid crowds. Be mindful that using alcohol and drugs can cloud judgement and increase riskier behaviors. Also, keep in mind that there are plenty of ways to have fun on Halloween while doing your part to minimize the risk of catching or spreading the virus. CDPHE is encouraging alternatives to traditional, door-to-door trick-or-treating this year. Ideas include:

- Line up individually wrapped treats at the end of the driveway or yard's edge. Watch the fun and enjoy the costumes from a distance.
- Use a plastic slide, cardboard tubes, or plastic pipes to deliver candy from a distance.
- Take kids on an outdoor, distanced treasure hunt to look for candy or Halloween-themed items.

“The Town of Ridgway is not canceling Halloween this year, but we are discouraging people from gathering in large groups. We believe it is critical that residents continue to do their part to flatten the curve, which requires us to be smarter and more strategic about how we trick-or-treat,” said Mayor John Clark. “Families and children can still have a really good time without jeopardizing their health and safety due to the pandemic.”

To check out CDPHE's general recommendations and to learn more ideas for alternative Halloween celebrations, visit <https://covid19.colorado.gov/halloween-tips-and-tricks>.

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