

RELEASED: October 9, 2020; 9:15am

Good morning Downtown Cadillac Association Members,

Our Downtown Cadillac Association Board of Directors met yesterday morning to discuss whether to proceed with sponsoring our annual Halloween Downtown event, to be held October 30, from 4-6pm. This event is not an event we need a permit for, since it's in the public right of way, however, as an organization we have considered:

- Logistics - level of volunteers and protocols needed to ensure social distancing, last year over 1,500 children participated, along with 1-2 additional adults along the Pine Street to Cass Street sections of Mitchell Street, from 4-6pm
- Masking/ hand coverings – requiring and monitoring mask usage for children and adults along the corridor
- Sanitation – asking the businesses to consider wearing gloves while handing out treats/ coupons, with sanitizer stations along the route
- Liability – with this type of quick passing crowd, how to ensure 'tracing'? what would it look like if an outbreak occurred with negative results of event patrons contracting COVID-19 and the possibility of shutting down some of our downtown businesses for 14 days.

With these items considered and further consulted with the Dept of Health #10, **we have opted to not support proceeding** with a collective Halloween event this year. While it makes us sad to come to this decision (we love the event), there are too many health, financial and legal risks and concerns for the association to sponsor and organize it.

If you as an individual business decide to do it on your own, to protect our community and our downtown businesses from getting shut down from a out-break, we ask that you consider the attached guidelines from the Health Department and please have all of your staff that are handing out items wear surgical gloves and be masked, and place tape on the sidewalk to maintain social distancing. We would also highly recommend handing out items outside your door.

Please know that this is for the health and safety of our community and businesses. Please also note that this DOES not Cancel Halloween, it just gives notice that the DCA will not sponsor a collective organized event downtown, and everyone should practice the CDC guidelines this year.

NOTE: this will also be pushed out via our Downtown Cadillac Association Facebook page and posted to our website www.downtowncadillac.com

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Have a Great Day and be safe out there!

Your DCA Board of Directors:

Ben Hicok - After 26 - President

Carol Burkert - Mercantile Bank - Treasurer

Sheila Dennison - The Ultimate Gifts - Director

Tereesa Arn- Horizon Books - Director

Josh Bailey - Cadillac News - Director

Joni Holly - City2Shore - Director

Kelly Smith - Baker College -Director

Downtown Cadillac Association

201 N. Mitchell Street, Suite 102, Cadillac, MI 49601

www.downtowncadillac.com

www.cadillaclakescruise.com

www.cadillaccraftbeerfest.com

THE ONLY THING SCARY ABOUT HALLOWEEN SHOULD BE THE COSTUMES

STAY SAFE!

The way we celebrate Halloween in Michigan will be different this year due to COVID 19. There are still many ways to celebrate safely. Here are some tips to help Michiganders stay safe this year.

Make sure to also check on and follow guidance or regulations released by the local health department.

HOMEOWNERS

- *Do not hand out candy if you are sick.
- *Wear a face mask covering BOTH your mouth and nose. *Use duct tape to mark 6 foot lines in front of your home and leading to driveway/front door.
- *Position a distribution table between yourself and trick or treaters.
- *Distribute candy on disinfected table to eliminate direct contact.
- *Wash hands often.
- *Consider handing out candy in an open space where distancing is possible, rather than from the front door.
- *Consider a neighborhood costume parade, it is an easy way to keep safe space between children.

PARENTS AND TRICK-OR-TREATERS

*Share with your children that this year may be different than last, but let them know some of the new ways you plan to celebrate and still have lots of fun.

*Stay home if sick.

*Talk with your children about safety and social distancing guidelines and expectations. Keep a 6 foot distance from others not in your family group.

*Trick or treat with the people you live with.

*Participate in one way trick or treating and guide children to stay to the right to ensure social distancing.

*Avoid congregating in groups around houses.

*Carry a flashlight at night and ensure your children have reflective clothing.

*Wear a face mask covering BOTH your mouth and nose

A costume mask (such as for Halloween) is not a substitute for a cloth mask.

Do not wear a costume mask over a protective cloth mask if wearing both causes difficulty breathing. Instead, consider using a Halloween themed cloth mask.

Only go to houses with safety measures in place.

Inspect candy.

Wash hands frequently with soap and water or use sanitizer containing at least 60 percent alcohol, especially before eating or after coughing/sneezing, and as soon as you return home.

Check out halloween2020.org to find exciting activities and ways to celebrate Halloween this year based on levels of COVID risks in your area.

HERE ARE SOME IDEAS FOR SAFE HALLOWEEN GATHERINGS:

Consider refraining from Halloween gatherings this year or use an online meeting platform to have a virtual party instead.

If you choose to have a gathering:

Only have a few people over to limit the possibility of crowding. Indoor gatherings over 10 people are prohibited by EO 2020 176.

Have all food and party favors set out individually to prevent cross contamination. (Avoid buffet style or shared food and drinks.)

Make sure there are plenty of areas with hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.

Stay 6 feet away from others.

Wear a fun face mask, instead of a costume mask.

State of Michigan COVID 19 Website

Michigan.gov/Coronavirus

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Halloween Guidance:

[CDC.gov/coronavirus/2019_ncov/daily_life_coping/holidays](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays)

Partnership for a Safe Halloween: Halloween2020.org