BOO TO YOU PROGRAM

The Township of O'Hara is offering the following recommendations for a happy and healthy trick or treating experience for your child and/or charge. These are recommendations only and are not to be substituted for parental and/or guardian judgement if you believe your child and/or charge should go trick or treating during the COVID-19 pandemic. These recommendations should also not circumvent your judgement on whether you wish to hand out treats during trick or treating.

Homeowners who display a BOO TO YOU!! sign are indicating that they are following the Township's recommendations to the best of their ability.

As always, children should not trick or treat without adult supervision and all candy should be inspected by an adult prior to consumption.

Recommendations for those trick or treating:

1. If you or anyone with you feels sick, have come into contact with someone with COVID-19 or someone awaiting test results do not participate in trick or treating.
2. Create an action plan with your trick or treater before you leave your home. They should know how they should approach trick or treating. This plan should include what items they may or may not accept, avoiding unnecessary contact with communal surfaces and communal candy bowls, limiting interactions with others, asking you before they participate in any activities, etc.
3. Limit trick or treating to your own neighborhood.
4. Trick or treat with household members and/or members of your social pod.
5. Limit groups of children trick or treating to 3 or 4. Discuss with them the need to social distance. Adults accompanying children should also socially distance. Social distancing is keeping a minimum of 6 ft. between individuals.
6. It is recommended that all members of your trick or treating group vaccinated or not wear a face covering. This includes both children and adults.
7. Select face covering friendly costumes. Costume masks that leave holes for breathing are not an appropriate substitution for a face covering.
8. Stress the importance of your trick or treater not touching their face.
9. Carry and use hand sanitizer frequently. Ensure that the costume selected is hand sanitizer friendly.
10. Limit the sharing of props (wands, swords, light sabers) between children.
11. Consider fun ways for your trick or treater to pick up candy without touching multiple pieces. Grabbers, kitchen tongs, and pliers are a few suggestions.
12. Keep interactions with other trick or treating groups and treat givers as brief as possible.
13. Wash your and your trick or treater's hands with soap and water immediately when returning home.
14. If you think it is best to let your trick or treater's candy sit for a period of time before an adult inspects it and your trick or treater enjoys it, consider having a special treat at home for them to enjoy Halloween night.

Recommendations for BOO TO YOU!! participating homes

1. If you or anyone with you feels sick, have come into contact with someone with COVID-19 or someone awaiting test results do not participate in trick or treating.
2. Proudly display your BOO TO YOU!! sign where it is clearly visible.
3. Consider giving only one type/flavor of treat so trick or treaters are not tempted to rummage for something they like. (i.e. one flavor of potato chips; all the same treats packaged in treat bags)
4. Consider pre-packaging your treats if using multiple pieces of candy. Pre-packing options include Halloween treat bags or plastic baggies.
5. Consider giving out pre-packaged items such as bags of chips, popcorn balls, large candy bars, etc.
6. Do not hand out homemade goodies or unwrapped items. Do not ask children to participate in activities such as bobbing for apples or anything that would involve extensive communal touching of surfaces.
7. If possible, set up a trick or treating station outside. Consider setting up a table and placing your treats out for the children. Please try to stay away from communal candy bowls, bobbing for apples, homemade treats etc.
8. Please maintain social distance between trick or treating parties and yourself. Social distancing means maintaining a minimum of 6 ft. between individuals.
9. Use hand sanitizer or wash your hands with soap and water frequently.
10. Please try to not touch your face.
11. If you are unable to set up outside, consider sanitizing hand rails, door bells, door knockers, etc. throughout trick or treating hours.
12. It is recommended that you wear a face covering when interacting with trick or treaters.
13. Keep interactions with trick or treating groups brief.