



Department of Public Health

MAYOR

Dee Margo

CITY COUNCIL

District 1

Peter Svarzbein

District 2

Alexsandra Anello

District 3

Cassandra Hernandez

District 4

Dr. Sam Morgan

District 5

Isabel Salcido

District 6

Claudia L. Rodriguez

District 7

Henry Rivera

District 8

Cissy Lizarraga

CITY MANAGER

Tommy Gonzalez

HALLOWEEN AND DIA DE LOS MUERTOS GUIDANCE

The City of El Paso Department of Public Health recognizes holidays and current traditions such as Halloween and Día de Los Muertos and recommends taking part of those holidays in a manner that reduces the risk of spreading or becoming infected with COVID-19. Since some of the traditional ways in which these holidays are celebrated are not allowed this year, please consider safer alternatives as the ones listed below.

Current Governor, local directives, and Health Authority Orders prohibit gatherings of more than 10 people not from the same household to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Activities Not Allowed:

- Halloween and Dia de los Muertos gatherings, events or parties with non-household members are **not permitted** even if they are conducted outdoors.
- Carnivals, festivals, live entertainment, and haunted house or Día de los Muertos attractions are **not permitted**.
- Door to door, trick or treating is **not permitted** because it can be difficult to maintain proper social distancing on porches and front doors, individuals answering or coming to the door might belong to at-risk group of people that could pose a threat to their health, and because sharing food or drinks is risky.
- “Trunk or treating” Halloween events where children go from car to car instead of door to door to receive treats is also **not permitted**, since it is difficult to avoid crowding and the sharing of food or drinks.
- Gathering or congregating at cemeteries to celebrate Dia de los Muertos will not be permitted. Haunted graveyard tours will not be permitted as well.

Permitted Activities:

- Virtual online parties/contests (e.g. costume or pumpkin carving, Dia de los Muertos costumes).
- Car parades that comply with local public health guidance for vehicle-based parades including:
 - a. Drive by events or contests where individuals dress up or decorate their vehicles and drive-by “judges” that are appropriately observing social distancing.

Angela Mora – Interim Public Health Director

Department of Public Health | 5115 El Paso Dr. | El Paso, TX 79905

O: (915) 212-6564 | Email: Angela.Mora@elpasotexas.gov





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- b. Drive through events where individuals remain in their vehicles and drive through an area with Halloween displays.

Drive in events where individuals can receive a treat bag (limited to commercially packaged non-perishable treats), take away item from an organizer while the participants remain in their vehicle, or depositing ofrendas for Dia de los Muertos displays avoiding gatherings.

- Halloween or Día de los Muertos movie nights at drive-in theaters (must comply with the public health drive-in movie theater guidance).
- Halloween or Día de los Muertos themed meals at home with same household members or outdoor restaurants (must comply with Local Health Authority Orders).
- Decorating homes and yards with Halloween or Dia de los Muertos themed decorations.

Personal Protection Measures:

Regardless of how you choose to celebrate Halloween or Día de los Muertos it is important to keep the following in mind:

1. Correctly wear a cloth face covering to prevent disease spread when outside your home and around others that are not part of your household.
2. Avoid confined spaces - Actively stay away from indoor spaces that don't allow for easy distancing of at least 6 feet between you and others.
3. Avoid close contact – Stay at least 6 feet away (3 or more adult steps) from all other people who are not part of your own household, especially while talking, eating, drinking and gathering.
4. Wash or sanitize your hands often.
5. Clean frequently touched items regularly.
6. If you are sick, or you have been in contact with someone who is sick with COVID-19 or has symptoms of COVID-19, stay home and away from others to prevent further spread of the virus.

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DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES



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Reliable information sources

- EPstrong.org
- <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/novel-coronavirus-2019.html>

If you have questions and would like to speak to someone please call 21-COVID(26843), or 2-1-1 which is available 24 hours a day.

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