



# MINE HILL TOWNSHIP

Municipal Building ~ 10 Baker Street ~ Mine Hill, New Jersey 07803

**Mayor Sam Morris**

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Friday, October 02, 2020

## Trick or Treating Guidelines

Hi all,

As of the date of this letter, Mine Hill has 3 Covid-19 cases in town. 2 are related and know specifically where they got it. So we have 3 people out of 3,800 residents with a positive diagnosis. That is 0.0008% of us.

The Health Department, The Town Council and I feel it is safe to trick or treat using universal safety and health precautions.

The key to safely doing it is avoiding physical contact between the candy givers and candy receivers. Both should **wear a mask covering the mouth AND nose**. People giving out candy should also wear gloves as a precaution.

Here are the guidelines:

1. Wear a face covering/mask over the **mouth and nose**. This is for the kids receiving and the people giving out candy. If you approach a house and they are not masked and gloved, leave. Also do not allow kids who aren't masked to come to your door. If anyone is pulling on a mask at the last minute, avoid them. Set the tone that this rule needs to be followed closely.
2. Receivers of candy should open their bag and the giver should drop the candy in from about 1' away. Again, avoiding contact. NO reaching for candy or handing of candy at all to the child. If the kids are really small, use a plastic pumpkin or something with a large, fixed opening so it can be dropped in without touching.
3. Candy givers should wipe down the candy bag with a cleaner and LEAVE it closed until Halloween night. We all munch prior to the 31<sup>st</sup>, so buy a spare bag. ☺ Only handle the candy with gloves *after thorough hand washing*.
4. No bowls left on the porch for kids to get their own. **This is a bad idea. Do not do it.**
5. Stick to groups who live in the same household if possible while walking around.
6. Keep the kids as distanced as possible. Do not allow trading of candy.
7. Consider Using an "Easy-Up" in your driveway or lawn which keeps all the activity outside.
8. Do not go in and out of houses. Stay outside and distanced.
9. Have fun and enjoy!

Mask Sources – Decorative Halloween masks are available at these web sites and others. Consider making a decorative protective mask part of your child's costume. Here are some links.

[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)   [Halloweencostumes.com](http://Halloweencostumes.com)   [Halloweencostumes.com](http://Halloweencostumes.com)   *Continue on to page 2*



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[www.Zazzle.com](http://www.Zazzle.com)

[spirithalloween.com](http://spirithalloween.com)

A few notes:

The CDC considers close contact to be within 6 feet for 10 minutes or more unmasked.

The Centers for Disease Control and the NJ Department of Health make the following distinctions.

**Example 1:** one-way trick-or-treating where individually wrapped goodie bags are lined up for families to grab and go while continuing to social distance (such as at the end of a driveway or at the edge of a yard) (Moderate Risk)

**Example 2:** Participating in traditional trick-or-treating where treats are handed to children who go door to door. (Higher Risk)

Links for your review.

<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

<https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/09/22/915689646/cdcs-halloween-guidelines-warn-against-typical-trick-or-treating-boo>

This is a personal, individual choice. If you wish to go out or give candy, only you can decide if it is worthwhile for you and your children.

Don't forget our Halloween Fireworks on Friday Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> at Memorial Park on Baker St.

-Mayor Sam Morris