



## Town of Amherst

**Brian J. Kulpa**  
Town Supervisor

### **PRESS RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:** Joe McMahon, Chief of Staff  
Office: 716-631-7032 / Mobile: 716-628-0710

### **HALLOWEEN CHANGES FOR 2020**

**AMHERST, NY** – This year, the Town of Amherst is discouraging traditional trick-or-treating. Covid-19 is still prevalent in our community, yet the Town understands the desire for kids and families to celebrate the holiday.

If residents do choose to participate by handing out candy, we ask that you keep your porch light on between 6pm and 8pm on Halloween night, wear a mask at all times, and wash/sanitize hands frequently and before handling treats. We encourage residents to be creative in how they can safely distribute candy; for instance, giving out treats outdoors and/or setting up a station on the porch or driveway with individually bagged treats for kids to take. If you choose not to participate, turn your porch light off and don't answer the door if kids arrive.

If residents choose to take their kids out trick-or-treating, the Town recommends that you do so while following CDC guidelines during 6pm and 8pm on Halloween. That includes only approaching homes with a front light on, making a face mask part of the costume (a costume mask is NOT a substitute for a cloth mask), limiting the size of your group, and bringing hand sanitizer with you and use frequently. Also, it's important to socially distance from other trick-or-treaters, be respectful, and avoid homes without a front light or if the owner is not wearing a face covering.

While Halloween is a fun tradition, kids and residents can still have fun in a non-traditional way. For more information on safe guidelines and ideas on how to enjoy Halloween, visit the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus> and search for 'Halloween'.

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