



HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Halloween is an exciting time for everyone. As the festivities begin, concern about child safety should be foremost on your mind. Here are crime prevention tips to make your family's night FUN and ghoulish!

SAFETY TIPS

- ✓ Check your children's candy before they eat it! Send them out with safe "starter" candy.
- ✓ Remind children to NEVER enter anyone's home or car.
- ✓ Have all children trick or treat in groups.
- ✓ Set a time for trick or treaters to be home and remind them to call 911 if there is unlawful or suspicious activity.
- ✓ Tie small glow sticks or use reflective tape on your child's costume so they are easily seen in the dark.
- ✓ Always walk. Never run across a street.
- ✓ Have adults walk the neighborhood to discourage malicious mischief and keep children safe.
- ✓ Remind children to stay in populated places and not use back alleys or fields.
- ✓ Avoid replica toy guns - They may be mistaken for the real thing!
- ✓ Children should obey all traffic signs and look before crossing the street. Never cross between parked cars, in the middle of a block or diagonally through intersections.
- ✓ Do not leave your home unattended - Keep pets inside.
- ✓ Use Jack-O-Lanterns or high intensity glow sticks to light porch steps. Make sure trick or treaters are safe.
- ✓ Only give out commercially wrapped treats.
- ✓ Have an old fashioned neighborhood Halloween block party to get to know neighbors.
- ✓ Obey all traffic and pedestrian regulations.
- ✓ Only trick or treat in neighborhoods where you know residents and at houses with porch lights on.
- ✓ Make sure young children are accompanied by an adult or responsible teenager when they go door-to-door.



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For Emergencies: Call 911



Halloween Safety Tips

Trick-or-Treaters

- Carry a flashlight
- Walk, don't run.
- Stay on Sidewalks
- Obey traffic signals
- Stay in familiar neighborhoods
- Don't cut across yards or driveways.
- Wear a watch you can read in the dark.
- Make sure costumes don't drag on the ground.
- Shoes should fit (even if they don't go with your costume)
- Avoid wearing masks while walking from house to house.
- Carry only flexible knives, swords or other props.
- (If no sidewalk) walk on the left side of the road facing traffic
- Wear clothing with reflective markings or tape.
- Approach only houses that are lit.
- Stay away from and don't pet animals you don't know.



Parents

- Make your child eat dinner before setting out.
- Children should carry quarters so they can call home.
- Ideally, young children of any age should be accompanied by an adult.
- If your children go on their own, be sure they wear a watch, preferably one that can be read in the dark.
- If you buy a costume, look for one made of flame-retardant material.
- Older children should know where to reach you and when to be home.
- You should know where they're going.
- Although tampering is rare, tell children to bring the candy home to be inspected before consuming anything.
- Look at the wrapping carefully and toss out anything that looks suspect.



Homeowners

- Make sure your yard is clear of such things as ladders, hoses, dog leashes and flower pots that can trip the young ones.
- Pets get frightened on Halloween. Put them up to protect them from cars or inadvertently biting a trick-or-treater.
- Battery powered jack o'lantern candles are preferable to a real flame.
- If you do use candles, place the pumpkin well away from where trick-or-treaters will be walking or standing.
- Make sure paper or cloth yard decorations won't be blown into a flaming candle.
- Healthy food alternatives for trick-or-treaters include packages of low-fat crackers with cheese or peanut butter filling, single-serve boxes of cereal, packaged fruit rolls, mini boxes of raisins and single-serve packets of low-fat popcorn that can be microwaved later.
- Non-food treats: plastic rings, pencils, stickers, erasers, coins.