

Halloween Safety Tips

Local leaders offer a few tips to make Halloween a real treat for the entire family. Citizens are urged to be especially alert and to make safety a priority.

- Make sure that an adult or an older responsible youth will be supervising the outing for children under age 12.
- Travel only in familiar areas and along an established route.
- Stop only at houses that are well lit and never enter a stranger's home.
- Establish a return time.
- Pin a slip of paper with the child's name, address and phone number inside a pocket in case the child gets separated from the group.
- Costumes should be loose so warm clothes can be worn underneath.
- Costumes should not be so long that they are a tripping hazard.
- Costumes should be made with light colored materials. Strips of retro-reflective tape should be used to make children visible.
Masks can obstruct a child's vision. Use facial make-up instead.
- If masks are worn, they should have nose and mouth openings and large eyeholes.
- Knives, swords and other accessories should be made from cardboard or flexible materials. Do not allow children to carry sharp objects.
- Carrying flashlights will help children see better and be seen more clearly.
- Walk – do not run, from house to house. Do not cross yards and lawns where unseen objects or the uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.
- Walk on sidewalks, not in the street.
- Insist that treats be brought home for inspection before anything is eaten.
- When in doubt, throw it out.
- Motorists should watch for children darting out between parked cars and walking on roadways, medians and curbs. Motorists should enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.