

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Halloween can be a fun holiday for kids but a worrisome one for parents. Concerns about children's safety -- whether they are out in the neighborhood or back home with bags of booty -- can darken the day more quickly than a black cat. But not to worry! To make Halloween a treat, follow these safety tips.

ADULTS

- ✱ Welcome trick-or-treaters with your porch lights and any exterior lights on.
- ✱ Do not give homemade or unwrapped treats to children.
- ✱ Patrol your street occasionally to discourage speeding motorists, acts of malicious mischief and crimes against children.
- ✱ Report any suspicious or criminal activity to the police department immediately.
- ✱ Call 9-1-1 if you suspect any tainted candy.

MOTORISTS

Exercise extreme caution when driving a vehicle. Be on the alert for excited youngsters, whose vision may be obscured by masks, darting out into traffic.

TRICK OR TREATING

Make sure your kids dress up safely

- ✱ Make sure costumes are flame retardant so children aren't in danger near burning jack-o-lanterns.
- ✱ Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls, and other bumps in the night.
- ✱ Try make-up instead of a mask. Masks can be hot and uncomfortable, and they can obstruct a child's vision, a dangerous thing when kids are crossing streets and going up and down steps.
- ✱ Make sure kids wear light colors or put reflective tape on their costumes to make them more visible.

Make trick-or-treating trouble free

- ✱ Create a map of a safe trick-or-treating route and set a time limit for your children to "trick-or-treat."
- ✱ Trick-or-treaters should always be in groups so they aren't a tempting target for real-life goblins. Parents should accompany young children.
- ✱ Make sure older kids trick-or-treat with friends. Together, map out a safe route so you will know where they are going. Tell them to stop only at familiar homes where the outside lights are on.





Naperville

- ✳ Try to get your kids to trick-or-treat while it's still light out. If it's dark, make sure someone has a flashlight and pick well-lighted streets.
- ✳ Do not go inside anyone's home. Remain on the porch at all times.
- ✳ Do not accept rides from anyone, including people you know, without checking first with a trusted adult.
- ✳ Remind kids to keep a safe distance from moving cars.
- ✳ Cross only at street corners, never between parked cars, and never diagonally across an intersection.
- ✳ Look in all directions before crossing the street, and obey all traffic signals. Walk, never run, across the street, and use sidewalks, not the street, for walking.
- ✳ Do not take shortcuts through back yards, alleys or parks.
- ✳ Do not eat any treats until parents have inspected them.
- ✳ Discard any homemade or unwrapped treats.

Check all treats before eating

- ✳ It's hard for kids to hold back from eating their treats until they get home. One way to keep trick-or-treaters from digging in while they're still out is to feed them a meal or a snack beforehand.
- ✳ Check out all candy in a well-lighted place when your trick-or-treater gets home.
- ✳ What to eat? Only unopened candies and other treats that are in original wrappers. Don't forget to inspect fruit and homemade goodies for anything suspicious.
- ✳ Halloween can be a lot of fun for parents and kids alike -- if everybody remembers the tricks and treats of playing it safe.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!!

