

CHECK YOUR TREATS TO AVOID TRICKS

- Do not eat any treats until you get home so mom or dad can examine them.
- Parents should examine all treats for any signs of tampering. Beware of treats that are opened or not in their original wrappers, or that look or smell strange - and don't eat them. Avoid homemade items unless made by someone you know personally.
- Some hospitals offer x-rays of Halloween treats. Take advantage of it if possible.
- Remind children not to eat all of their Halloween treats at one time - or they'll be feeling ghoulish themselves.
- Keep novelty items and candies small enough to present a choking hazard away from very small children.

A NOTE TO PARENTS

When it comes to Halloween, we all want children to enjoy the treats of the holiday without any of the tricks. By following the simple safety tips included in this brochure, you can help to banish the black cats and give the gate to the ghastly ghouls that might ruin a safe and happy Halloween.

Go over the hints you find here with your children and remind them that it's **SAFETY FIRST** on Halloween. By following this formula for safety, Halloween activities will be boo-tiful for everyone in the family!

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Safety tips for HALLOWEEN

An activity guide for parents and children

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BE CAREFUL WITH COSTUMES

- Be sure to choose a costume that is flame retardant - that means it won't catch fire.
- Make sure your costume is light and bright so motorists can see you, or wear reflective tape on the costume. Also, carry a flashlight - but never a candle.
- Keep costumes short and avoid baggy, billowy skirts and sleeves to prevent trips, falls and bumps in the night.
- Consider make-up instead of a mask. It is often more comfortable and allows you to see better. If wearing a mask, make sure you can breathe properly and you can see in all directions.
- If carrying costume accessories like fake knives, swords or guns, be sure that they are made of flexible materials or cardboard that will not harm anyone.



TRICK OR TREAT AS A TEAM

An adult or a responsible older brother or sister should always accompany young children as part of a trick or treat team. If older children are trick or treating with friends, parents should map out a safe route so they know where children will be. Children should never go trick or treating alone.

Go only to homes of people you know - and then only if outside lights are on as a sign of welcome. Children should not enter homes or apartment buildings unless an adult is with them.

Never enter strange houses or strangers' cars.

Try to get an early start while it is still light and you can get home before it is too dark. Pick well-lit streets and have someone on the "team" carry a flashlight.

Walk on sidewalks and cross streets only at intersections. Be sure to look both ways and observe all pedestrian safety rules.

Residents are requested to keep breakable items and obstacles from paths and walkways to prevent accidents.

JACK O' LANTERN SAFETY

- Mom or Dad should always handle the knife to cut the face of the pumpkin.
- Use flameless tea lights rather than a candle to light up your jack o' lantern to prevent fire hazards.
- If using a candle to light your jack o' lantern, keep it away from landings and doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flame.
- Keep lit jack o' lanterns away from curtains.
- Make sure your jack o' lantern is completely out before leaving the house or going to bed.