

Arlington Heights Police Department

HALLOWEEN SAFETY



Halloween can be a fun and exciting holiday - **ONLY** if we follow some simple safety rules. Remember that our children are going door to door in costumes at night taking treats from possible strangers. Even if we only go to the houses we know there are still some safety concerns. *BE CAREFUL AND ENJOY HALLOWEEN.*

COSTUME SAFETY TIPS:

- Highly visible during dusk or darkness. Decorate costumes and treat bags with reflective tape. Attach a glow stick.
- Properly fitted and short enough to prevent children from tripping and falling.
- Made with flame resistant materials.
- Masks may limit or block eyesight – consider using non-toxic and hypoallergenic makeup.
- Swords, knives and similar accessories should be made of soft and flexible material.
- Carry a small flashlight to light your way.
- Wear a watch.

TRICK or TREATING:

- Stay in neighborhoods you are familiar with.
- Only visit homes with outside lights on.
- Plan your entire route and make sure your family knows it.
- Accept treats only in the doorway. **NEVER** go inside a house.
- Stay away from open fires or candles.

PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS:

- Walk, **DO NOT RUN!**
- Stay in groups – never trick-or-treat alone.
- If you are with a parent do not get too far ahead.
- Don't let strangers take your picture without your parent's permission.
- Stay on sidewalks and driveways – it is not polite to cross through the yard.
- Cross the street at the corner or in a crosswalk.
- Look left, right and left again to make sure the way is clear.
- Watch for vehicles – drivers may have trouble seeing you.
- Return at the agreed upon time.
- Carry a cell phone for emergencies or to let someone know you will be late.
- Call 911 to report suspicious activity.

CANDY and TREATS:

- No treats should be eaten until they are thoroughly checked by the child's parent or guardian.
- Non factory packaged items such as popcorn, fruit or small candies – Throw Away!
- Candy with loose or torn wrappers – Throw Away!

Follow these holiday safety tips to help make your Halloween a *frightfully enjoyable* experience!