



Mundelein Police Department

Chief Raymond J. Rose

Helpful Facts About

Halloween Crime Prevention



This brochure has safety tips to help keep your children safe during Halloween.

INTRODUCTION:

Halloween is an exciting time of year and a particularly special treat for children. However, on this day, mean tricks and unnecessary hazards sometimes occur. Halloween may be a fun holiday for children, but for parents Halloween time can be stressful. Concerns about child security can ruin the joy of Halloween. The following crime prevention tips can help make Halloween safe and more enjoyable for everyone.

- Do not leave your home unattended
- Keep pets inside your home, garage or other safe place
- Walk through your neighborhood with others to discourage acts of malicious mischief and speeding motorists
- Instruct your children never to enter the home of a stranger
- Never invite children into your home
- Set a specific time limit for your children to be out
- Give only commercially wrapped treats to the trick or treaters
- Instruct children not to stray from their group
- Children should never be allowed to go out alone. Either escort your children yourself or select another trusted adult to escort them for you
- Adult escorts should carry flashlights
- Children should walk, not run, to avoid falling
- Children should never accept a ride from a stranger
- Turn your porch light on to let children know it's alright to visit your home
- Instruct your children to stay in their own neighborhood and to trick or treat at homes that have a porch light on
- Know the exact route your children will take
- Children should never take shortcuts through backyards, alleys, or parks
- A child should carry a trick or treat bag that has a strong strap or handle. This allows the child to carry the bag in one hand leaving their other hand free.
- Children should trick or treat during early evening hours when it is still light, if possible
- At night, children should stay on well-lit streets
- Children should wear a costume made of white or light colored material. The costume should be fire retardant. If the costume is made of dark material, attach reflector tape on the costume to increase nighttime visibility
- Children should wear comfortable, proper fitting costumes and shoes. Oversized costumes, shoes, boots, or loose fitting high heels can make it difficult for children to walk



retardant. If the

- Props such as toy guns, swords, and knives should be made of soft rubber, Styrofoam, cardboard or other pliable material
- Replica firearms that could be mistaken for real firearms should be avoided
- Children should use non-allergenic facial make-up instead of a mask. A mask can restrict vision. Apply a thin coat of cold cream before application of any make-up; this will allow for easier removal. If your child does wear a mask, make sure they can remove it when crossing a street
- Older children should attend an adult supervised party instead of trick or treating
- Children should obey all traffic signs and look before crossing the street and cross only at corners. Never cross between parked cars, in the middle of the block or diagonally across an intersection. They should always walk on sidewalks instead of the street. If no sidewalks are available, children should stay as far left of the roadway as possible and walk facing traffic

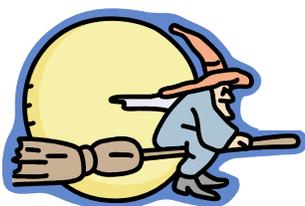


Many crime prevention measures can be taken to protect children during Halloween. This informational pamphlet is meant to contribute to children's security during the Halloween season. Children can never be too careful, prepared, or aware. Halloween is a time for ghosts and goblins and fun with friends. Almost everyone is nice but sometimes a few people play mean tricks on children at Halloween. These tricks include putting dangerous things in candy and treats. Play it safe on Halloween and follow the advice in the Halloween Crime Prevention Quiz.

Place a circle on the answer you feel is the best.

1. **Someone gives you candy that is not wrapped and sealed by a candy company. You should....**
 - A. Eat the Candy
 - B. Save the candy for another day
 - C. Throw away the candy
 - D. Give the candy to your dog or cat
2. **A Treat you were given has something suspicious sticking out of it. You should...**
 - A. Bite into the candy to see what it is
 - B. Tell your Mom and/or Dad immediately so they can report it to the police
 - C. Do not tell anyone and save the candy for later
 - D. Give the candy away
3. **The safest way to go trick or treating is...**
 - A. Alone
 - B. Late at night
 - C. On your bicycle
 - D. With your parents
4. **The best place to go trick or treating is...**
 - A. In a strange neighborhood
 - B. In your own neighborhood where people you know live
 - C. Where there is a pumpkin in the window
 - D. Where the most houses are

Trick or Treat Hours for the
Village of Mundelein are:
4:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Monday, October 31, 2011



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Halloween Crime Prevention Quiz Answers

1. C 2. B 3. D 4. B