

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Trick-or-treating is a great adventure for children. Parents, keep it fun by preparing yourself and your children for a safe night out, beginning with these safety tips.



You or a responsible adult should always accompany children 12 and under when trick-or-treating.

Children over the age of 12 who are responsible enough to go without you, should stay in groups, follow an agreed upon route, and watch for cars.

WATCH the ROAD. Kids are twice as more likely to be hit and killed by a car on Halloween than on any other day of the year.



Walk, don't run from house to house. Have your trick-or-treater wear reflective clothing or carry a

light or glow stick.

Ensure costumes fit well and never obscure visibility.

Remind your children to stay in well-lit areas, never take shortcuts, and never go into isolated areas.



Teach your kids to bring treats home before eating them. Eat only factory-wrapped

treats unless you know the giver well.



Let your children know to tell you or a trusted adult if they see anything weird or unusual.

Teach your children to say **NO** and **GET AWAY** from any person or situation making them feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused; even if it means yelling, kicking, attracting attention or any other means of resisting.

Teach your children to never enter any home without you or without your permission.



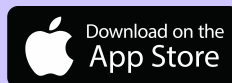
Before Halloween, do these three steps to help make trick-or-treating safe this year:

1. **Visit your local sheriff or police department's website** and click on their sex offender link. Check an address for registered sex offenders nearby.
2. **Register for email notifications** so you get notified if a registered sex offender moves into your neighborhood.
3. **NEW App launch on October 15th!**

Download the free **OffenderWatch App** to

see where registered sex offenders are located in your area, near you or your children, and be able to track your child's phone. We will be offering 30 days FREE online monitoring and alerts if a registered sex offender contacts your child through texts, emails, calls or if they linger near a registered offender's address. The App will also have a new Watch List feature of adding a phone number to be blocked.

You can download the app for iPhone in the Apple Store and for Android on Google Play.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

Although we are no longer in the midst of the Covid pandemic, it is still good to play it safe. Below are CDC recommended COVID guidelines for Halloween, and for those not wanting to participate in traditional Trick-or-Treating, we've listed some fun, family-friendly alternatives that are sure to make your Halloween celebration fun!



Make Trick-Or-Treating Safer:

- Avoid direct contact with trick-or-treaters.
- Give out treats outdoors, if possible.
- Set up a station with individually bagged treats for kids to take.
- Wash hands before handling treats.
- Use hand sanitizer after touching objects or other people.



Alternative activities to traditional trick-or-treating:

- Have a scavenger hunt-style trick-or-treat search inside your house.
- Decorate pumpkins and bake goulash goodies at home with your family.
- Have a Halloween movie night with your family:
 - *The Addams Family*
 - *It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown*
 - *Ghostbusters*
 - *Hocus Pocus*
 - *Hotel Transylvania*
 - *The Haunted Mansion*
 - *Casper*
- Attend a church or community trunk-or-treat.

