

Halloween Safety Tips

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10/29/2014

Incident: Halloween Safety Tips

Location: City of Ventura

Date/Time Occurred: October 31, Halloween

Narrative:

It's that time of year again and the Ventura Police Department (VPD) wants to wish you a safe and Happy Halloween. We also want to remind parents, children, and our community of the following Halloween Safety Tips.



For parents and children:

If you can't go out with your child then make sure they are chaperoned or in a large group with other friends and relatives.

Remind children to be careful when crossing the street – cross only at intersections/corners and do not run out from between parked cars as sometimes drivers can't see you.

Remind children to never enter a stranger's home.

Have your child carry a flashlight.

Have a cellular phone handy in the event you or your child needs to make an emergency call.

Check your children's costumes to make sure they aren't too long and make sure the costume is fireproof.

Have your child wear light colored clothing at night, use reflective tape (or other means), to ensure costumes can be seen in the dark.

Masks can inhibit visibility; consider using makeup as an alternative.

Do not use hard plastic or wooden decorations. Instead use foam or rubber that is soft and flexible.

Remind children to stay within their own neighborhood.

Leave early and return early, and try to trick-or-treat during dusk and/or early evening hours.

Have a planned route, and make sure family and friends know the route too.

For older kids, give them a curfew and tell them to be home on time.

Make sure children wait until they get home to go through their treats. Parents should inspect the candy when they get home. If you are suspicious of any candy, throw it away!

For community members:

Be careful while driving on Halloween. Drive slower and be mindful of trick-or-treaters.

Use packaged candy, not homemade treats.

Make sure your yard, and the front of your home (such as the porch), are clean and free of debris.

Put trashcans away.

Turn on your porch light.

Keep your pets inside and safe.

Avoid jack-o-lanterns with burning candles.

Bring in your pumpkins at the end of the night.

If you are planning on having a party, notify your neighbors.

Helpful Links:

<http://www.halloween-safety.com/>

<http://www.halloweensafety.com/>

<http://www.nfpa.org/categoryList.asp?categoryID=299&URL=Safety+Informati...>

All of us at the VPD hope these safety tips help you to have a safe and Happy Halloween.