

Keep ghouls and goblins safe on Halloween

Everyone loves a good scare on Halloween, but not when it comes to child safety. Follow these precautions to make sure the only screams are those of fun.

For trick-or-treaters:

- Children should carry or wear something lit like a flashlight, glow bracelet or light-up shoes.
- Don't go inside a stranger's house, even if they ask you to come in while they go and get candy.
- Watch out for cars. Don't assume that drivers will see kids and stop.
- Only trick-or-treat at houses with their lights on. Some neighbors don't want to be bothered, so it's polite to respect their wish and move on to the next house.
- Inspect all the candy before letting children eat it. Check for goodies that are expired, unwrapped or homemade.

For residents handing out candy:

- Never let strangers inside your home. This is the most common cause of crime on Halloween. You can never be too sure!
- Clear away any objects on your driveway or sidewalk. Items such as tools, hoses or extension cords can create safety issues if they're left in the way.
- Secure your pets. Some pets don't respond well to doorbells ringing and strangers arriving at their house. They can become aggressive and territorial which can frighten trick-or-treaters.

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