

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

2009



STATE CAPITOL POLICE
DEPARTMENT

IN COOPERATION WITH THE

CONNECTICUT GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
WELLNESS COMMITTEE



STATE CAPITOL POLICE DEPARTMENT HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Know who your children are going trick or treating with. Have the cell phone # of the adult watching them.
- Inspect the candy and treats that your children bring home before allowing them to eat it.
- If you are driving during prime trick or treating hours, use extreme caution. Children may not always look both ways even if you do!
- If you decide to not distribute treats, turn your porch lights off. Please teach your children to avoid homes with the porch lights off.
- Check your children's bags before they leave. Don't let them take lighters, matches, firecrackers, baseball bats, eggs, water balloons,
- 9:00 PM is an appropriate time for children to stop trick or treating. Teach them to adhere to this out of respect for your neighbors.
- Teach your children (especially the older ones) to respect the property of others. Be aware of C.G.S. 52-572.

C.G.S. 52-572 - Parental liability for torts of minors

- (a) The parent or parents or guardian, other than a temporary guardian appointed pursuant to section 45a-622, of any unemancipated minor or minors, which minor or minors wilfully or maliciously cause damage to any property or injury to any person, or, having taken a motor vehicle without the permission of the owner thereof, cause damage to the motor vehicle, shall be jointly and severally liable with the minor or minors for the damage or injury to an amount not exceeding five thousand dollars, if the minor or minors would have been liable for the damage or injury if they had been adults.
- (b) This section shall not be construed to relieve the minor or minors from personal liability for the damage or injury.
- (c) The liability provided for in this section shall be in addition to and not in lieu of any other liability which may exist at law.
- (d) As used in this section, 'damage' shall include depriving the owner of his property or motor vehicle or of the use, possession or enjoyment thereof.



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HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR HOME

- Clear all hazards from the front of your property. Remove garden hoses, flower pots, or anything that may be a trip hazard for children as they run from house to house.
- Keep your garbage cans behind your home (they are an easy target!)
- If you decide to not distribute treats, turn your porch lights off. If children do ring your doorbell, politely explain the 'porch light rule'.
- Have a fire extinguisher available. We all hope that no 'trick' will cause a fire, but it is better to be prepared.
- If you leave your home, make sure doors and windows are locked.
- If you see a suspicious adult or vehicle in your neighborhood, please call your local police department. Give a clear and accurate description/location.
- Keep your pets away from the front door. No matter how well behaved they are, constant doorbell ringing, yelling, and masks may cause them undue stress and a possible reaction.

Helpful Phone Numbers

Local Police Department

Find it at www.ct.gov/post/cwp/view.asp?a=2058&q=291936

Poison Control

1-800-222-1222

Adult/Guardian escorting your children



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HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS FOR KIDS

- 👤 If you are trick or treating without a parent or older sibling, make sure your parent knows the streets you will be walking.
- 👤 Don't trick or treat alone. Always go with a friend or parent. At the end of the night, make sure someone picks you up or drops you off at home.
- 👤 Only visit homes with porch lights on or other Halloween decorations.
- 👤 Always walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk, stay as close to the side of the road as possible. Cross the road at locations where oncoming cars can see you in advance.
- 👤 Don't eat your treats as you walk. Have a parent check your candy when you get home before eating it!

Never enter a stranger's house or car for a treat! Treats should only be given out at the front door! Tell an adult if anyone attempts this!

CHECK YOUR COSTUME

- ? Can you see through your mask?
✓ Remember to take your mask off before crossing the street!
 - ? Can you breathe through your mask?
✓ Always make sure your nose and mouth have holes to breathe!
 - ? Are your ears covered?
✓ Make sure you can hear traffic as it comes by!
 - ? Are your hands and/or feet covered?
✓ It is important to maintain your ability to catch yourself if you fall or if you need to get away from something dangerous
 - ? Do you have bright colored clothing?
✓ If not, you should apply reflective tape so that vehicles see you!
- 🔦 Always carry a flashlight or glow stick with you!



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HALLOWEEN SAFETY TAGS FOR KIDS

- If you have a child under the age of 12 that will be trick or treating, fill out and pin one of these tags somewhere on their costume.
- This tag is not meant to give away your child's information, but to reunite them should they separate from their group

<u>CHILD INFORMATION TAG</u>	<u>CHILD INFORMATION TAG</u>
NAME _____	NAME _____
ADDRESS _____	ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____	PHONE _____
PARENT NAME _____	PARENT NAME _____
<u>CHILD INFORMATION TAG</u>	<u>CHILD INFORMATION TAG</u>
NAME _____	NAME _____
ADDRESS _____	ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____	PHONE _____
PARENT NAME _____	PARENT NAME _____