

HALLOWEEN SAFETY

How To Be Active While Staying Safe On Halloween

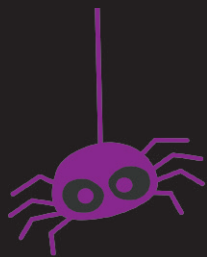
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As Halloween approaches, many students are gearing up for parties, trick-or-treating, haunted houses, and late-night hangouts. While Halloween is a favorite holiday for most kids and teens, it tends to be a least favorite for parents. With the constant fear of their kids being in danger that night, they have come up with their own ways to ensure their kids stay safe the entire night.

Halloween has been deemed as the “scary” and “dangerous” holiday since it was first created in the year 835. According to the Rosenbaum Injury Law, twice as many kids die on Halloween than they do any other day of the year. There are 2.6 child fatalities during the year and 5.5 on Halloween. 23% of the deaths on Halloween occur from drunk drivers. Alcohol is more likely to be served on Halloween from all of the parties going on causing more drunk driving accidents and fatalities. This is also the busiest time for hospital emergency rooms with an average of around 3,200 people that visit every year with Halloween related injuries. As you can see, Halloween is proven to actually be the most “scary” and “dangerous” day of the year.

“[My kids] are never allowed to be alone,” Business teacher Kari Richardson said. “They are only allowed to be out for 30 minutes before checking in with me at home. They are not allowed out after dark on their own. Only allowed to eat treats that are prepackaged and unopened.”

It is very important that teens understand how to stay cautious when it comes to personal safety with social gatherings like parties. Being in a familiar, safe environment and staying with a trusted group of friends is essential. Additionally, before you head out for the night, make sure your phone battery is fully charged! Keeping an eye on your surroundings and making sure you have access to a phone in case of emergencies can make all the difference in a potentially dangerous situation.



While Halloween is a night of excitement, fun, and spooky celebrations it's important to balance

enjoyment with safety. Whether you're trick-or-treating, attending a party, or simply hanging out with friends, taking a few extra precautions can ensure the night ends with only good memories. By being mindful of road safety, avoiding risky situations, and sticking with a group that you trust, you can have a Halloween that's both safe and fun. A little planning goes a long way in making sure everyone makes it through the night without a scare of the wrong kind.



Halloween Safety Tips for Teens: Ensuring a Spooktacular and Secure Experience

Choose safe costumes...Opt for costumes that are flame-resistant, well-fitted, and don't obstruct vision. Use non-toxic makeup instead of masks that can hinder breathing or obstruct sight. Ensure costumes are short enough to prevent tripping and falling.

Stick to well-lit areas...It is crucial to stick to well-lit areas with plenty of pedestrian traffic. This will help minimize the risk of accidents and ensure others can see you clearly.

Stay in Groups...Teens should always go trick-or-treating in groups, rather than alone. There's safety in numbers and being with friends allows for better vigilance and support. Set a designated meeting point in case anyone gets separated from the group.

Be Cautious of Traffic...It's essential for teens to be cautious of traffic, use crosswalks wherever available, and follow traffic signals. **Make eye contact with drivers before crossing and to avoid distractions like smartphones** If you are the one driving, be cautious. Remember: There tends to be more dangerous drivers on the road during holidays, so increased vigilance is essential.

Examine Treats Before Consuming... You must remember to examine your treats before consuming them. This is more than merely checking expiration dates. Discard any unwrapped or suspicious-looking items. Special Note: Teens + Parents should also be aware of “rainbow fentanyl”. The DEA has issued warnings about this trend which appears to be a new method used to sell highly addictive and potentially deadly fentanyl made to look like candy to children and young people.

Information contributed by school resource officer Brandon Noel.