



## COMMUNITY ALERT NOTICE

### KENT COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT



## HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

1. On Halloween night, drive slowly through neighborhoods, keeping a careful watch for kids who might dart out into the street unexpectedly.
2. Costumes should be short enough to prevent tripping. Masks should not be too restrictive with adequate holes for proper respiration and peripheral vision.
3. Watch costumed children around pets. The pet may not recognize the child and become frightened, especially if the child is using a prop such as a sword as part of their costume. Also, make sure your pets can't get out when passing out treats to your visitors.
4. Avoid hard plastic or wooden props, opting instead for items that are soft and flexible.
5. Make your child more visible after dark. They should carry a brightly colored bag and a flashlight or glow stick. Add reflective tape to your child's costume.
6. At all times, watch for traffic and avoid walking in the street whenever possible.
7. An adult should always accompany young children. A parent should stay within close range of young children at all times and children should never be allowed to go down a street alone. Walk with your children to each house and wait near the porch or front entrance of the home until they return.
8. Older children should travel in pairs or in groups at all times while trick-or-treating and never venture down a dark, empty street.
9. Parents should know the route that their children are following. Children should always walk together to the front door of each house and only cross the street at crosswalks.
10. Dark, unlit homes should be avoided.
11. Children should save their candy until they get home so you can inspect it. Discard any unwrapped or suspicious looking goodies. If your child does get sick, call your family doctor or the hospital emergency room immediately and save all wrappers. It is also helpful to determine what he or she ate and which house it came from.
12. Keep flammable items, such as your jack-o-lantern, away from small children, pets, and flammable materials such as draperies, furniture, and paper decorations. Never leave a candle burning unattended.