



Police Department

TOWN OF HYDE PARK

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Halloween Safety for Children

As parents and children walk the streets of the Town of Hyde Park this Halloween, the Town of Hyde Park Police Department wishes to promote the safety and security of all those who will be walking on our roads and through our neighborhoods that day and evening. The American Academy of Pediatrics and Town Police offers these simple tips:

- **Choose costumes that are bright and reflective.** Add reflective tape or striping to costumes and treat bags to make children more visible.
- **Remember, masks can hinder or block eyesight.** Non-toxic makeup and decorative hats are safer alternatives. Hats should fit properly to prevent them from sliding over children's eyes.
- If a sword, cane or stick is part of a child's costume, make sure it's not sharp or too long.
- Provide children and escorts with **flashlights with fresh batteries.**
- **Have a parent or responsible adult accompany young children** when they're trick-or-treating.
- Trick or treat only at homes with a porch light on. **Never enter a home or a car for a treat.**
- **Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk.** If there's no sidewalk, walk at the far edge of the road facing traffic. Never cut across yards or use alleys. Never cross between parked cars. Never assume the right of way — it can be difficult for motorists to see trick-or-treaters.
- **Kids are famous for getting too far ahead and then running from house to house, crossing the street and never looking both ways before they cross.** Do NOT allow kids to get too far ahead of you.
- When your children return home, sort and check their treats. **Throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.**
- **Homeowners: remove tripping hazards from the front yard and porch,** such as toys, bikes, lawn decorations and garden hoses. Sweep wet leaves from sidewalks and steps, make sure outdoor lights are working, and keep pets under control.

Let's have a safe and fun Halloween this year!