



CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Halloween Safety for Parents

Before children start out on their "trick or treat" rounds, parents should:

- 🎃 Make sure that an adult or an older responsible youth will be supervising the outing for children under age 12.
- 🎃 Plan and discuss the route trick-or-treaters intend to follow. Know the names of older children's companions. Set a time limit.
- 🎃 Instruct your children to travel only in familiar areas and along an established route.
- 🎃 Teach your children to stop only at houses or apartment buildings that are well-lit and **never** to enter a stranger's home.
- 🎃 Feed the kids before they go so they will be less likely to eat the treats before they get home. Warn them not to eat anything before you inspect it.
- 🎃 Review all appropriate trick-or-treat safety precautions, including pedestrian/traffic safety rules.
- 🎃 Pin a slip of paper with the child's name; address and phone number inside a pocket in case the child gets separated from the group.
- 🎃 Welcome trick-or-treaters with your porch lights and any exterior lights on.
- 🎃 Patrol your street occasionally to discourage speeding motorists, acts of malicious mischief and crimes against children.
- 🎃 Report any suspicious or criminal activity to your police department immediately; you can dial 9-1-1.
- 🎃 Candlelit jack-o-lanterns should be kept clear of doorsteps and landings.
- 🎃 Consider using flashlights instead of candles to light jack-o-lanterns.
- 🎃 Keep pets away from doors so children will not become frightened.