

Kings Mountain Police give Halloween safety tips

Kings Mountain Police Department offers these tips for treaters, parents and kids to assure a safe and happy Halloween.

Tips for Treaters

If you want trick or treaters to come to your home, keep your outside and front room lights on, or have Halloween decorations.

Give store wrapped or non-edible treats such as crayons, stickers, and small party favors. If you must give homemade goodies, put your name and address on each treat and give them only to children who know you.

If you don't wish to participate simply say so and the vast majority of callers will leave immediately. Most trick or treaters will respond politely and with respect to a simple, "No, thank you, I do not wish to participate." Vandals and other troublemakers are simply taking advantage of an occasion which should be fun and need not be tolerated. Anyone unwelcome or refusing to leave, pumpkin smashers, vandals or others causing problems should be reported to a law enforcement agency immediately.

Tips for Parents

Make sure our child's costume allows freedom of movement and good visibility. It should either be a light color or have reflective strips on it. Kids love to carry flashlights, which make them more visible. If possible, have children trick or treat before dark.

Insist that your children trick or treat with a friend, a group or an adult. Young children should always go with an adult or responsible teenager.

Insist that your children stay in their own neighborhood and on an agreed route.

Check all treats before your child eats anything. Use your discretion about any homemade treats even with

an address label. The safest rule is to throw away anything that is not store wrapped and in good condition.

Cut fruit into pieces before eating and check for tampering.

Sponsor a party in place of trick or treating. Sometimes shopping malls will sponsor a party with each shop owner providing treats. Use your imagination.

If you find anything suspicious in your child's treat bag, report it to your local law enforcement agency immediately.

Tips for Kids

Stay in your own neighborhood
Go with a friend, a group or an adult.

Only go to houses with lights on or Halloween decorations.

Don't eat any treats until your parents have checked them.

Watch for cars when crossing the street.

Leave immediately if any person you call on asks you to do so. If for any reason, you do not feel welcome or feel uncomfortable, or scared, simply say, "thank you" and leave.

Tell your parents about anything that makes you scared or uncomfortable.

Tricks are for fun. Vandalism is against the law. Vandals and troublemakers spoil everyone's fun and damage caused costs a lot of money and makes people not want to participate next year. Tell your parents about people you have seen smashing pumpkins, vandalizing, destroying property or causing problems. Your parents then will be able to report this activity to the police, making Halloween safer and happier for everyone.



CAREER DAY - Sgt. Jim Spencer speaks to over 2,000 high school juniors and seniors during the seventh annual Career Day at Cleveland Community College. Professionals from 45 career areas shared information about their jobs including education requirements, salary range and day-to-day duties.




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