



Ottawa Sheriff's Office Urges: Celebrate Halloween Safely

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Celebrate Halloween Safely

Soon our streets, sidewalks, and walkways will be scattered with young people trick or treating this Halloween. Please check community social media outlets and websites for the established trick or treating times in Ottawa County. The Ottawa County Sheriff's Office offers the following safety tips.

- Update or add your family profile at [Smart911](#).
- Please remember when designing or purchasing your children's costumes that masks should not be too restrictive. The masks should have adequate holes for proper respiration and provide a wide opening for sufficient peripheral vision.
- Everyone is strongly encouraged to wear reflective clothing, an adequate flashlight, or utilize glow sticks. Carrying these items will make everyone more visible.
- An adult should always accompany young children. Also a parent or older child should stay within close range at all times and children should never be allowed to walk or run 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.
- Remember, if you are driving trick or treat areas throughout Ottawa County or surrounding areas; please be alert and aware that children will be especially active on bike paths, crosswalks, sidewalks, and driveways.
- Older children should travel in pairs or in groups at all times while trick or treating and never venture down a dark empty street. 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 in a crosswalk. Homes without interior or exterior lights turned on should be avoided.
- Have children save their candy until they return home so you can inspect it. Discard any unwrapped or suspicious looking goodies. If your child does become ill, call your doctor or the hospital emergency room immediately and save all packaging or candy wrappers. It is also helpful to determine what he or she ate and where it came from.
- Also, remember to keep flammable items, such as a jack-o-lantern away from small children and flammable materials such as draperies, furniture, and paper decorations. Please remember to never leave a burning candle unattended.

Halloween is meant to be a fun time, let's make it safe time as well.