

(Neb.)-Halloween Safety Tips From The Chadron Police Department

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 10/31/2013 09:47 AM

(REGIONAL)-Halloween is here again. It is an exciting time of year for kids of all ages. Before you get your "spook" on, the Chadron Police Department would like to offer some Halloween safety tips to help ensure everyone has a safe and happy Halloween.

- Because masks can limit or block eyesight, consider non-toxic makeup and decorative hats as safer alternatives. Hats should fit properly to prevent them from sliding over eyes.
- Plan costumes that are bright, reflective, and flame resistant. Make sure that shoes fit well and that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping, entanglement or contact with flame.
- Consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and Trick-or-Treat bags for greater visibility.
- Obtain flashlights with fresh batteries for all children and their escorts.
- A parent or responsible adult should **always** accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.
- If your older children are going alone, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you. Agree on a specific time when they should return home.
- Only go to homes with a porch light on and never enter a home or car for a treat.
- Stay in a group and communicate with each other where you will be going.
- Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk if possible. If no sidewalk is available, walk at the far edge of the roadway facing oncoming traffic.
- Never cut across yards or use alleys.
- Only cross the street as a group in established crosswalks. Never cross between parked cars or out of driveways.
- Don't assume the right of way. Motorists may have trouble seeing trick-or-treaters. Just because one car stops, doesn't mean others will.
- Carry a cell phone for quick communication.
- Teach children how to call 911 if they have an emergency.
- Law enforcement authorities should be notified immediately of any suspicious or unlawful activity.
- Wait until children are home to sort and check treats. Though tampering is rare, a responsible adult should closely examine all treats and throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.

For more safety tips, make sure to tune in to AM 610 KCSR for Thursday afternoon's Community Focus program during Live at 4:00 p.m. as KCSR's Roxie Graham-Marski visits with Chadron Police Department school resource officer Aron Chrisman.

--Chadron Police Department