

## TIPS FOR A SAFE HALLOWEEN

As the sun starts setting and darkness approaches, trick-or-treaters begin leaving their houses to walk the block gathering goodies. As innocent as this is, it can make Halloween a dangerous night for both drivers and trick-or-treaters. A lack of inattention on both parts helps make it one of the deadliest nights of the year.

The best tips that I can give you about Halloween are

- Teach your child the dangers of not paying attention. This means, looking both ways to cross the street. Keeping their heads up and not buried in their bags looking for that favorite piece of candy.
- Make sure costumes/outfits can be seen by drivers as well as other trick-or-treaters. This may mean putting reflective tape on your pants, shoes, shirts, hats, candy bags, or all of the above.
- Stay in well-lit areas and on sidewalks if at all possible. If you have to walk in the street, make sure you are facing traffic. Just remember, if you can't see them, then they can't see you.
- Using flashlights or glow sticks not only helps your children see better at night but it also helps drivers see them. Who knows, you can even make them a part of their costume.
- Help their visibility by opting for make-up or face paint rather than a vision impaired mask

For all the drivers out there, you may be distracted looking at all the little ghosts, witches, vampires, etc. and miss the little one all dressed in black not paying attention and have to slam on your brakes. Here are some precautions to take so that this doesn't happen to you.

- ***Put down the cell phone.*** Because children are excited about Halloween, they may not be paying attention so you have to.
- Go slowly through neighborhoods. You know they will be out so pace yourself.
- Keep your headlights on, so that others can see you.

Here's hoping this helps those reading. Stay safe and have a Happy Halloween.

