#### Tips for Parents

#### Halloween and trick-or-Treat Safety Tips:

- Supervise the outing for children especially under age 12.
- Establish a curfew for older children and teens
- Inspect all treats for safety before children eat them.
- Encourage children to use face paint and/or makeup rather than hoods, wigs or masks that can block vision.
- Turn on porch lights and yard lights.
- Do not accept anything from anyone in a vehicle.
- Watch for children in the street and on medians.
- Exit driveway and alleyways carefully.
- Have children get out of cars curbside, not on the traffic side.
- Serve your children a healthy meal before to discourage them from eating candy without inspecting it first.
- Consider attending an organized function instead of going door to door.

#### **Pumpkin Carving Tips:**

- Carve pumpkins on stable flat surfaces with good lighting.
- Have children draw a face on the outside of the pumpkin, and then parents can do the cutting.
- Place lighted pumpkins away from curtains and other flammable objects.
- Do not leave lighted pumpkins unattended. Consider using a flashlight or glow stick to light your pumpkin.



For more information on this and other department services, contact

Flathead County Sheriff's Office 406.758.5585



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- Crime mapping
- Crime stoppers
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#### Flathead County Sheriff's Office

Professionals in Law Enforcement since 1894

#### HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Make your Halloween a treat



Sheriff Brian Heino Flathead County Sheriff's Office

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# A Safety Thought....

Many children look forward to Halloween far in advance. The last thing a parent, guardian or your Sheriff's Office wants, is for something bad to happen on that day. Additionally, many Halloween activities occur at night, increasing the risk of injuries, especially to walking children. Children are actually more likely to get injured walking on Halloween than any other night of the year. Many of these injuries can be prevented if those that are supervising them follow some basic tips and guidelines.

We hope this pamphlet can provide you and your family with some helpful hints to stay safe on this this night.

### Tips for Kids

- Go only to well-lit houses and remain on porches. Do not enter a stranger's house.
- Travel in small groups and make sure there's at least one adult with you.
- Know your parent's phone number and take a cell phone for emergency phone calls.
- Bring your treats home before you eat them so your parents can inspect them.
- Only use plastic costume knives and swords that are flexible.
- Use flashlights, stay on sidewalks, and avoid crossing through yards.
- Cross streets at the corner, use cross-walks when available, and do not cross between parked cars.
- Stop at all corners and stay together in a group before and while crossing.
- Always look left, right, and left again before crossing the street.
- Wear clothing that is bright, reflective, and flame-retardant.
- Consider using face paint instead of masks, which can obstruct your vision.
- Avoid wearing hats that will slide over your eyes.
- To prevent tripping, avoid wearing long, baggy, or loose costumes or oversized shoes.
- Tell your parents or a trusted adult if anything makes you uncomfortable or scared.

# Tips for Treaters

- Prepare your home for trick-or-treaters by cleaning porches, lawns, and sidewalks and by placing jack o'lanterns away from doorways and landings.
- If you are <u>not</u> planning to give out treats, turn off your porch light as to discourage children from coming to your door.
- Avoid giving choking hazards as treats such as gum, peanuts, hard candies, or small toys.
- Consider purchasing non-food treats, such as coloring books or pens and pencils.
- Keep pets in doors or secured in the back yard.



# **REPORT IT!**

Report suspicious activity to the Flathead County Sheriff's Office:

In progress: 9-1-1

Not in progress: 406.758.5585

For more information visit our website:

www.flatheadcountysheriff.com