

NEWS RELEASE



GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
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Police Department Shares Halloween Safety Tips to Ensure a Fun and Safe Holiday

As Halloween approaches, the Garden City Police Department is reminding residents of important safety tips to ensure a fun and safe holiday for all.

For those who plan to decorate their homes, the police department advises using battery-operated candles instead of real ones to prevent fire hazards. It is also important to keep decorations away from doorways and walkways to avoid tripping hazards for trick-or-treaters. Furthermore, the police department reminds residents to be mindful of their pets and keep them indoors to prevent them from getting scared or lost during the festivities.

Commissioner Jackson stated, "Halloween is a fun and exciting holiday, but it's important to prioritize safety. We encourage everyone to follow these tips to ensure a safe and enjoyable Halloween for all. We will have extra patrols in the neighborhoods to increase the safety of our community, but we urge residents to report any suspicious or illegal activities."

-  Motorists are advised to drive slowly and with extreme caution on neighborhood streets. They should be mindful that children trick or treating may not pay attention to moving vehicles. Be mindful that some children may cross in the middle of a block rather than at corners.
-  Children should wear light-colored clothing with reflective material, short enough to prevent tripping. Parents should ensure masks do not obstruct a child's vision. It is safer to go out during daylight hours; however, children should carry a flashlight in case of delay.
-  Adults should accompany young children. Place emergency identification tags discreetly in young children's clothing in case they become separated from their group.
-  Young children should stay within their neighborhood and only visit homes they know. Children should be instructed never to enter a home or vehicle of a stranger and to have a planned, safe return route home.
-  Children should be instructed to watch for traffic, stay on sidewalks where available, obey traffic signals, stay in well-lit areas, and avoid cutting across rear yards, alleys, and fields. For safety reasons, children should visit houses on one side of the street at a time, crossing only at corners and crosswalks.
-  Only give and accept wrapped or packaged candy. A responsible adult should inspect all candy before consumption.
-  Children should be instructed to be courteous and respectful of others when trick or treating and not be a nuisance or annoyance to neighbors. Children should be reminded to avoid pranks such as, but not limited to, ringing doorbells, throwing eggs, and spraying shaving cream or silly string. These can be very dangerous and result in serious injuries to others. Hard plastic or wood props such as daggers or swords should be avoided.

The Garden City Police Department is dedicated to keeping the community safe and hopes that these tips will help residents have a fun and safe Halloween. For emergencies dial 911; any concerns, please contact the police department at (516) 465-4100. Let's work together to make this Halloween a memorable and safe one for everyone.