

NEWS RELEASE



GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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The Garden City Police Department wants everyone to have a **SAFE, HEALTHY & HAPPY HALLOWEEN.**

For families who will be taking part in trick-or-treating, the Garden City Police Department recommends the following:

- 👻 Trick-or-treaters are asked to please be respectful of others and their decisions to take part/not take part in trick-or-treating.
- 👻 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.
- 👻 Homeowners should clear their sidewalks and yards of obstacles and decorations which may be difficult to see in the dark. Pets should be kept away from children; costumes often frighten a pet.

Parents should remind their children of the dangers of pranks and mischief. Merchants are requested to limit sales of products that can be used to create mischief. As always, additional police patrols will be on hand.

To assist parents in teaching their children to be safe during Halloween, safety materials provided by the AAA Northeast are available at Garden City Police Headquarters.

Be alert for any unusual circumstances. Notify the Police Department of suspicious activity immediately by calling 911. As a reminder, the Police non-emergency line is 516-465-4100.