



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
IREDELL COUNTY
SHERIFF DARREN E. CAMPBELL

Soon our Streets will be scattered with little ghosts, goblins and witches trick-or-treating this Halloween. Sheriff Campbell would like to encourage residents to follow these safety tips:

Motorists:

- Watch for children darting out from between parked cars.
- Watch for children walking on roadways, medians and curbs.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.
- At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing.

Parents:

- Make sure that an adult or an older responsible youth will be supervising the outing for the younger children.
- Plan and discuss the route trick-or-treaters intend to follow. Know the names of older children's companions.
- Instruct your children to travel only in familiar areas and along an established route.
- Teach your children to stop only at houses or apartment buildings that are well-lit and **never** to enter a stranger's home.
- Establish a return time.
- Tell your children not to eat any trick or treat items until they return home.
- Review all appropriate tick-or-treat safety precautions, including pedestrian/traffic safety rules.
- Pin a slip of paper with the child's name, address and phone number inside a pocket in case the child gets separated from the group.



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Costume Design:

- Only fire-retardant materials should be used for costumes.
- Costumes should be loose so warm clothes can be worn underneath.
- Costumes should not be so long that they are a tripping hazard.
- If children are allowed out after dark, outfits should be made with light colored materials. Strips of retro-reflective tape should be used to make children visible.

Face Design:

- Masks can obstruct a child's vision. Use facial makeup instead.
- When buying special Halloween makeup, check for packages containing ingredients that are labeled "Made with U.S. Approved Color Additives," "Laboratory Tested," "Meets Federal Standards for Cosmetics," "Non-Toxic." Follow manufacturer's instruction for application.
- If masks are worn, they should have nose and mouth openings and large eye holes.

Accessories:

- Knives, swords and other accessories should be made from cardboard or flexible materials. Do not allow children to carry sharp objects.
- Bags or sacks carried by children should be light-colored or trimmed with retro-reflective tape if children are allowed out after dark.
- Carrying flashlights will help children see better and be seen more clearly.



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While Trick-or Treating:

- Do not enter homes or apartments without adult supervision.
- Walk; do not run from house to house. Do not cross yards and lawns where unseen objects or the uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.
- Walk on sidewalks, not in the street.
- Walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic if there are no sidewalks.

Treats:

- Give children an early meal before going out.
- Insist that treats be brought home for inspection before anything is eaten.
- Wash fruit and slice into small pieces.
- When in doubt throw it out.

Homeowners / Decorations:

- Keep candles and Jack O' Lanterns away from landings and doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flame.
- Remove obstacles from lawns, steps and porches when expecting trick-or-treaters.
- Keep candles and Jack O' Lanterns away from curtains, decorations and other combustibles that could catch fire.
- Do not leave your house unattended.



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I would like to remind everybody that Halloween is a fun time, and let's make it a safe time as well. The major dangers are not from witches or spirits but rather from falls, pedestrian/vehicle crashes.

If you have any questions or need our assistance. Please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Darren E. Campbell

Sheriff