



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

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SCARY ACCIDENTS CAN HAPPEN ON HALLOWEEN *Tricks to Keep Children Safe When Hunting for Treats*

The time for ghouls, goblins and ghosts is here. Halloween should also be safe and enjoyable.

October is Halloween Safety Month and parents and children are encouraged to take precautions to ensure a fun and safe event.

“It is extremely important for parents to be vigilant this Halloween to protect the safety of their children,” said Chairwoman Dianne Jacob, County of San Diego Board of Supervisors.

“Every precaution should be taken to make sure children are safe.”

Some Halloween safety tips for parents include:

- Children should wear age-appropriate costumes made of flame retardant materials to avoid injury
- Children should be accompanied by an adult or older sibling when trick or treating
- Older children should walk in groups and have a set time to return home, if not accompanied by an adult
- Teach children to look both ways when crossing streets and to use appropriate crosswalks
- Encourage children to wear bright costumes or place reflectors on their clothing
- Carry a flashlight
- Encourage children not to enter homes
- Children should not eat candy or treats until they have been inspected by an adult
- Throw away anything that looks tampered with or is unwrapped
- Do not eat home-made treats, unless you know the person who prepared them

“Most candy and treats come from strangers. Parents should inspect them before their children eat them,” said Wilma Wooten, M.D., M.P.H, County Public Health Officer.

Wooten also encourages parents to pass out healthy treats when children come to their door. “Replace candy and chocolate with trail mix, packs of raisins or other healthy snacks,” she said.

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