

## PARTIES/CELEBRATIONS SAFE HALLOWEEN CHECKLIST

### Costume:

- Doesn't obstruct vision in any direction
- Doesn't obstruct breathing
- Fireproof, flame resistant
- Props are not sharp or dangerous
- Fits properly (doesn't drag on ground)
- Easily visible at night
- Can safely and easily maneuver
- Bathroom friendly (and have the child go before leaving the house)
- Proper layers so overheating or becoming cold is avoided
- Makes sure your child wears or carries something that lights (such as a flashlight with fresh batteries)
- Well fitting shoes
- Place emergency ID somewhere on child
- Consider non-toxic or hypoallergenic face paints instead of a mask

### Trick or Treat Bag:

- The bag or container should fit the size of the child
- Make sure bag is not too long that it drags on the ground
- Make sure the bag is not too heavy for the child to carry
- Make sure the bag does not have any sharp edges

### Home Decorations and Safety:

- Pumpkins or other items with candles should be located away from trick-or-treaters
- Save pumpkin carving for adults and let the kids clean out the pumpkin and decorate with paints
- Put pets away during trick-or-treat hours
- Make sure your home is well lit
- Remove tripping hazards on the way to your door

### Etiquette:

- Explain the difference between tricks and vandalism
- A thank you is always welcome
- Only go to homes that have outside lights turned on

### Treat Safety:

- Feed the kids before trick-or-treating to cut down on the need to eat the candy
- Examine candy and treats before turning them over to your kids; let your children know not to eat any items until you have had a chance to make sure they are safe (this is especially true if children have food allergies); make sure treats are age appropriate
- Consider giving alternatives to candy like card games, notebooks, pencils, crayons or decals

### Other Safety Tips:

- Avoid letting children bicycle, roller-blade or skateboard; it's dangerous to them and others
- If no sidewalk is available, walk on the farthest edge of the street facing traffic
- Remind older children on their own to stay in a group
- Review traffic safety rules
- Opt for school or community parties, especially for younger children
- For older kids, know where they plan to trick-or-treat if not going with them and set a time they are to return home
- Trick-or-treat only in neighborhoods and at homes you feel comfortable
- Let your children know to never go into a home without you being present