

Parents: What to Tell Your Children:

- ◆ Give your children a specific time to be home. Also designate a specific route for them to take.
- ◆ Tell your children to never trick-or-treat alone. Make sure they go with at least two friends for the entire evening.
- ◆ Make sure they carry a flashlight or glow stick and they use it so drivers can see them and they can see hazards in the street as well as other people.
- ◆ Tell them to never accept a ride from a stranger.
- ◆ Tell them to never go inside anyone's house. They should remain on the porch or front door stoop at all times.
- ◆ Tell them not to eat any candy until they arrive back home.
- ◆ Instruct them to check in with you during the evening. Make sure they have access to a cell phone, and they know how to reach you.
- ◆ Caution them: If they feel like they are in a bad situation, they probably are; tell them to get out of it as soon as possible, and call for help.

Halloween Safety Tips for Kids and Parents



Office of Plymouth County
District Attorney

Timothy J. Cruz

**32 Belmont Street
P.O. Box 1665
Brockton, MA 02303**

Phone: 508-584-8120

www.mass.gov/da/plymouth

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**Plymouth County
District Attorney
Timothy J. Cruz**

*32 Belmont Street
Brockton, MA 02301*

508-584-8120



A Message from
District Attorney
Tim Cruz:

The season of autumn has arrived. Our children are back to school, and Halloween is fast approaching. As our children think about what costume they want to wear, we as parents must think about ways in which to protect them and keep them safe.

I have developed this brochure to aid in this protection. It offers some important safety tips for children and parents to promote a safe and enjoyable night.

My best wishes to you and your family.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Cruz
District Attorney

Safety Tips for Kids

- * Carry a flashlight, or a glow stick
- * Walk, don't run;
- * If there are no sidewalks, walk on the left side of the road facing traffic
- * Obey traffic signals
- * Stay in familiar neighborhoods
- * Don't cut across yards or driveways
- * Wear a watch you can read in the dark
- * Make sure your costume doesn't drag on the ground
- * Lift up your mask while walking from house to house
- * Carry only flexible knives, swords or other props
- * Wear clothing with reflective markings or tape
- * Approach only houses that have their front light on
- * Stay away from pets, that you do not know

Safety Tips for Parents

- * If you buy a costume, look for one made of flame-retardant material.
- * Have your child eat dinner before going out to trick or treat
- * Young children should always be accompanied by an adult
- * Older children should be given a specific time to be home.
- * If your children go out on their own, be sure:
 - you know the route they will be taking
 - they wear a watch
 - they have access to a cell phone
 - they know where you are so they can check in
- * Although tampering is rare, tell your children to bring their candy home to be inspected before they consume anything
- * Look at the wrapping carefully and toss out anything that looks suspicious

