



# HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

*Halloween is a cherished tradition. The excitement of the night, however, can cause children to forget about the importance of safety. The real dangers are not from witches and goblins but rather from such things as the treats themselves, falls, increased neighborhood traffic, and careless drivers. Here are a few safety guidelines provided by the National Safety Council as well as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).*

***Motorists*** need to remain especially alert.

- *Watch for children darting out from between parked cars.*
- *Watch for children walking on roadways, medians, and curbs.*
- *Enter and exit driveways and alleys with extra care.*
- *At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing as they will be more difficult to see.*

***Parents*** should prepare for their “trick or treat” rounds.

- *Make sure an adult or older youth will be supervising the outing.*
- *Trick or treating should be done as part of a group, not alone.*
- *Plan and discuss the route to be followed.*
- *Instruct children to travel only in familiar areas and along established routes.*
- *Tell children to stop only at houses or apartment buildings that are well lit.*
- *Establish a return time.*
- *Tell trick or treaters not to eat any of the treats until they return home and the treats are inspected.*
- *Talk about pedestrian and traffic safety rules.*
- *Pin a slip of paper with child’s name, address, and phone number inside a pocket in case the youngster gets separated from the group. If available, a cell phone should be taken.*

## ***Costume Safety***

- *Only fire-retardant materials should be used in costumes.*
- *Costumes should be loose so warm clothes can be worn underneath.*
- *Costumes should not be so long that they are a tripping hazard.*
- *Outfits should be made with light colored materials. Strips of reflective tape should be used to make children more visible.*
- *Shoes should be well fitting and sturdy. Mom’s high heels are not a good idea for safe walking.*
- *Hats and scarves should be tied securely to prevent them from slipping over children’s eyes.*

## ***Face Design***

- *The eye holes in masks must be large enough to allow for good peripheral vision.*
- *Make up should be marked “Made with U.S. Approved Color Additives,” “Laboratory Tested,” “Meets Federal Standards for Cosmetics,” or “Non-Toxic.” Be sure to follow the manufacturer’s instructions for application.*
- *Avoid the use of decorative contact lenses.*

## ***Accessories***

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

## ***On the Way – Children must understand and follow these rules.***

- *Do not enter a home without adult supervision.*
- *Walk, do not run, from house to house.*
- *Do not cross yards where unseen objects or uneven terrain can present tripping hazards.*
- *Stay on sidewalks, not in the street.*
- *Walk on 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.*
- *If a commercially wrapped treat shows signs of tampering (discoloration, pinholes, wrapper tears), discard it.*
- *Home made candy, baked goods, and fruit from unknown sources should be discarded.*
- *When in doubt, throw it out.*

## ***Pets***

- *Keep your pets safely in your backyard or inside.*
- *Do not take pets on trick or treat rounds.*



## Help - Dog Attack

**Below is an appeal from Mike Brady, one of Woodview's residents. If you have any information that might prove useful to Mr. Brady, please contact him or our association's office at 829-7202 or via email at [ams41@ams-sa.com](mailto:ams41@ams-sa.com).**

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On Friday, October 12, 2007, my wife was bitten multiple times on the hand while trying to save our German Shepherd dog who was attacked by 6 Pit Bulls. Our dog was being walked on leash. **The purpose of this bulletin is to get help in finding the rabies vaccination status of these dogs.**

The attack occurred in the greenbelt area to the west of the Summit at Bulverde Creek subdivision and to the west of a new church under construction. It is also northwest of the Bulverde Creek Elementary School. The attack occurred on a trail/service road going about 350 yards north off of Bulverde Parkway close to the cross-country power lines.

The pit bulls were off leash and accompanied by a man and a woman. They were on the same trail/service road coming from the north. After the attack on our dog, the woman was barely able to restrain 2 of the pit bulls. The woman said, "he is going after the truck". The dogs could be from the nearby neighborhoods or they could have gained access to the area from a service road off of Bulverde Road.

My wife eventually was able to get these dogs to back off. She promptly left the area fearing the dogs might attack again. Unfortunately, she was unable to get any information from the man and woman before she left the scene of the attack.

Our dog will hopefully fully recover. He is doing much better after being treated at the VREC facility on Friday and being released on Monday afternoon. He will have a long recovery.

**Again, we are trying to find out if these dogs have been vaccinated for Rabies.** We are trying to avoid my wife needing to get the painful series of rabies shots. The lead dog in this attack was a large brown and black female pit bull. If you have any information on the owners or the dogs please call 210-497-1064. **Please help.**

**Thank you,**

**Mike Brady**