

Halloween Safety Tips from Dixon Law Office

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As Halloween approaches, excitement is in the air for the young and the young at heart. But there are also risks that can turn a fun night into a fright. Here are some simple ways to keep everyone safe:

1. Costume Safety

- · Check the fit: Ensure costumes fit properly. Costumes that are too long can lead to trips and falls, which are common injuries on Halloween night.
- · Flame-Resistant Fabrics: Look for flame-resistant labels to protect against accidents around candles or jack-o'-lanterns.
- · Visibility is Key: If costumes include masks, make sure they allow full vision and breathing. Reflective tape or glow sticks can improve visibility to drivers.

Safe Trick-or-Treating Tips

- · Walk on sidewalks, not in the street, and cross at crosswalks.
- Report bad behavior: As the song goes, "If there's something strange in your neighborhood, who you gonna call?" If you see any bad behavior, contact local authorities before serious trouble happens.
- · Adults should supervise younger children. While kids might think they are old enough to handle it themselves, supervision is key to safety. Play them the song "Somebody's Watching Me" by





Rockwell as you're doing it, just to annoy them.

3. Drive with Extra Caution

- · Slow Down in Neighborhoods: Children can dart out unexpectedly, so keep speeds low in residential areas. A study in the journal *Pediatrics* found that children ages 5 to 14 have a 43% higher risk of pedestrian death on Halloween compared to other evenings.
- · Look Twice: Use extra caution at intersections and driveways, and double-check for pedestrians.

4. Don't Drive, Use Rideshare

· Halloween ranks as one of the days with the highest incidence of drunk driving incidents. If you are enjoying the evening with adult beverages, make sure to use a rideshare service or find a sober buddy to drive.

5. Candy Safety

- · Check Before Eating: Examine candy for any signs of tampering. Stick to factory-sealed treats.
- · Avoid Homemade Treats: Unless they come from someone you know and trust, it's safest to skip homemade items.
- Pace the consumption: poison control centers report an uptick in calls on Halloween due to overeating.
- Don't let Rover devour: many types of candy can be poisonous to animals so make sure the treats are out of reach of your non-human animals.

If you or someone you know has questions about safety or personal injury, we're here to help. At <u>Dixon Law Office</u>, we're dedicated to helping families stay safe and informed year-round.



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