**October Safety Awareness**

Halloween is a fun and exciting time for children, and this can impair their judgement. These safety tips for parents and homeowners will help keep everyone safe and happy this Halloween.

## **Children Safety**

* Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and choose light colored costumes for your children if possible.
* Provide your children with glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
* Opt for face paint and makeup whenever possible instead of masks, as masks can obstruct a person’s vision. Remember to remove your children’s face paint or makeup before bedtime to prevent possible skin and eye irritation.
* Costumes should fit properly to prevent trips and falls.
* Dress your children for the weather. You can layer warmer clothing underneath your children’s costumes for added warmth.
* Keep in mind that gum and hard candy can pose a choking risk.
* Remember road safety still applies on Halloween night, ensure you and your children are crossing the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks. Ensure you look left and right when crossing the road and continue to look as you cross. If possible, make eye contact with the driver before crossing in front of them.

## **Homeowner Safety**

* Remember to turn on outdoor lights and replace burnt-out bulbs.
* Remove items from your yard or porch that might pose a tripping hazard for children.
* Sweep leaves away from your steps and driveway.
* Remember that some children have food allergies.

## **Driving Safety**

* Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30p.m. to 9:30p.m.; ensure you are alert for children during those hours.
* Slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods.
* Eliminate any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.
* Drive slowly, anticipate heavy pedestrian traffic and turn your headlights on earlier in the day to spot children from greater distances.

