

FORT GORDON SAFETY GRAM 16-02

HALLOWEEN

Halloween Safety Tips for Kids and Adults

Halloween is a highly anticipated holiday for adults and kids alike. For many people, Halloween marks the beginning of the autumn and winter holidays. Halloween is not only popular with little kids, but is also growing in popularity among adults. Nearly 1 in 3 adults will attend a Halloween party this year. Whether going to a party or trick-or-treating with the kids, don't forget to think about safety.

Trick-or-treating with the Kids

- If you are the designated adult “candy dispenser” on trick-or-treat night, be sure to turn all porch and exterior house lights on so folks don't trip on the steps leading to your house or sidewalk.
- Map out a safe neighborhood route for your children to follow. It's even a good idea to walk it ahead of time with your kids.
- On Fort Gordon, children, Grade 5 or below, are required to have supervision by an adult, baby sitter, or student in 8th Grade and up.
- Warn children never to go inside a home. All trick-or-treating should be done in full view of the porch.
- Reinforce traffic safety rules with your children, including looking both ways before crossing a street and following all traffic signs.
- Make sure costumes are easy to see in the dark. While dark colors are often used to create a scary costume they are not visible to drivers unless there are reflective patches. Ensure costumes are flame retardant.
- Be sure you have fully charged cell phones or walkie-talkies in case of an emergency. Test before the kids leave the house.
- Instead of masks, which can impair vision, try using non-toxic face paint.

For the Halloween Party Crowd

- Designate a sober driver in advance. If intending to drink alcohol, plan ahead to get home safely by selecting a designated driver or ensuring cab service is available from the party location.
- Consider an overnight stay. If attending a party at a friend's home, consider asking to stay overnight or look into hotel accommodations within walking distance. Many hotels offer special Halloween weekend rates and promotions.
- Exercise extreme caution when driving a vehicle. If possible, try to avoid cutting through residential areas where trick-or-treaters are likely to be present. If providing directions to a party, try not to route guests through residential areas unnecessarily.
- Watch for children in the street. Be on the alert for excited youngsters, whose vision may be obscured by masks. Trick-or-treating children may not pay attention to traffic and might cross mid-block or between parked cars.
- Obey the speed limit. Motorists should obey the posted speed limit. When driving through residential areas where trick-or-treaters are likely out and about, consider driving under the speed limit when kids are present.

Halloween is a fun-filled holiday. Follow these safety tips to avoid any unwanted Halloween scares. Make Halloween a safe, fun, and happy time that is enjoyed by all!



INSTALLATION SAFETY OFFICE

706.791.7233 or ftgordon.safety@us.army.mil

