



WINCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF KEVIN L. SANZENBACHER
MAJOR DAVID H. WHITE
CAPTAIN KELLY S. RICE
CAPTAIN LEONARD M. BAUSERMAN
CAPTAIN DOUGLAS R. WATSON

231 EAST PICCADILLY STREET, SUITE 310
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601
PHONE: (540) 545-4700 OR (540) 545-4730
FAX: (540) 542-1314
EMAIL: WPDCHIEF@CI.WINCHESTER.VA.US
WEBSITE: WWW.WINCHESTERPOLICE.ORG

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

WATCH OUT FOR CHILDREN ON HALLOWEEN!!

As children take to the streets on Halloween, the Winchester Police Department would like to remind all citizens and drivers to remain alert. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that Halloween is consistently one of the top 3 days for pedestrian injuries and fatalities and that children are more likely to be struck by a vehicle in motion. Excited trick-or-treaters often forget about safety and motorists and parents must be even more alert. Here are some tips for keeping children safe on Halloween:

Motorists – Slow down in residential neighborhoods and obey all traffic signs and signals. Drive at least 5 mph below the posted speed limit to give yourself time to react to children who may be in the street. Watch for children in dark costumes as they will be harder to see at night. Carefully enter and exit driveways and streets and also scan by looking left to right into yards and on front porches for children. They may not be paying attention to traffic and cross the street mid-block or between parked cars.

Parents – Ensure an adult or responsible youth is available to supervise children under 12. Plan and discuss the route your trick-or-treaters will follow. Tell your children to travel only in familiar areas along established routes. Stop only at well-lit houses and never enter a stranger's home or garage. Plan a time for children to return home. Tell your children not to eat any candy until they return home. Make sure costumes are flame retardant and visible with reflective material.

Trick-or-treaters – Be bright at night to improve visibility to motorists and others. Carry a flashlight with fresh batteries and place it face down in the treat bucket to free up one hand. Never shine it into the eyes of oncoming drivers. Stay on sidewalks and avoid walking in streets if possible. If no sidewalks are available, walk to the left facing oncoming traffic. Always look both ways and listen for traffic before crossing the street. Cross streets at corners and never cross between parked vehicles. Stay in groups and always tell your parents where you are going.

The Winchester Police Department is committed to improving the quality of life for all people by preventing crime in the city. We will accomplish this by enforcing the law with impartiality, creating partnerships through communication, education, and problem solving using innovative policing strategies.