

TULLAHOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFERS HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS; HALLOWEEN TO BE OBSERVED, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31 IN TULLAHOMA

Trick-or-treating witches, ghosts, goblins, superheroes and fairy princesses will be making their way through Tullahoma's neighborhoods on SATURDAY, October 31, the date Tullahoma will observe Halloween. The Tullahoma Police Department offers the following safety tips to children and parents to help make this night a safe and fun event.

- 1) Younger children should **always** be accompanied by a parent or guardian while making treat-or-treat rounds.
- 2) Don't trick or treat alone. Children should trick-or-treat in their neighborhood or with friends or relatives who are familiar with the area. Parents – caution children about strangers.
- 3) Parents should help their trick-or-treaters plan a route and establish times to report in and be home. Kids – stick to your route and don't go inside houses.
- 4) Wear a watch and carry a flashlight. Don't carry sharp objects as part of your costume.
- 5) Cross the street at corners or in a crosswalk. Look both ways. Never cross between parked cars. Try to stay on sidewalks and not cut across yards.
- 6) Visit only houses where the outside lights are on.
- 7) Place reflective tape on costumes or wear reflective clothing to increase visibility. Wear costumes that don't drag the ground and wear shoes that fit. If possible, wear flame-retardant costumes.
- 8) **Walk** don't run.
- 9) Don't approach other people's pets.
- 10) It's better to use face paint or makeup instead of a mask or things that will cover eyes. If you do wear a mask, take it off when going from house to house.
- 11) Parents should closely inspect all children's treats. Ask them to wait until they get home to open their treats and caution them not to eat homemade treats or treats that have been unwrapped. If tampering with treats is suspected, contact the Tullahoma Police Department through the Coffee County Communications Center at 455-3411. For emergencies, call 911.
- 12) Be careful with and around lit jack-o-lanterns. They should be placed away from the areas where trick-or-treaters will come. Battery-powered jack-o-lantern candles are safer.

Police ask that motorists be particularly alert for children that may be out for Halloween. Drivers are cautioned to remember to have everyone in the car buckled up and to make sure trick-or-treaters get in and out of cars on the curbside of the street. Additional officers will be on patrol to help monitor vehicular and pedestrian traffic as well as to protect against vandalism. Police remind everyone that vandalism is a crime. Additionally, the statutes concerning parking, pedestrians, and motorized vehicles are still applicable. In addition to the established parking and vehicle operation statutes, the following restrictions are emphasized:

1. No parking within 25 feet of a fire plug.
2. No parking within 30 feet of a stop sign.
3. No parking within an intersection.
4. Golf carts are not authorized to travel on roadways or sidewalks

In previous years the Police identified the Kings Ridge and the Fairways subdivisions as areas of congestion and parking hazards. In the Kings Ridge area vehicles were parked on both sides of the road resulting in a travel lane too constricted for the passage of Fire or EMS vehicles. At the Fairways entrance on Ovoca Rd vehicles were parked at the entrance blocking the passage of any vehicle larger than a passenger car. Officers will be paying special attention to these areas to insure the travel lanes are not constricted to prevent the safe and rapid response of emergency vehicles. The Police Department encourages all to have a good time at their activities while remaining mindful of safety at all times.