

Sheriff wants to keep ghosts and goblins safe on Halloween

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PONTIAC, Mich (WXYZ) - Before you know it ghosts and goblins will be running in the streets to trick-or-treat and Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard wants to make sure your kids stay safe this Halloween.

To keep kids safe, Sheriff Bouchard recommends parents be aware of where sexual predators and offenders live, by [advertisement](#) checking the Michigan Sex Offender Registry . Photographs of registered sex offenders and detailed conviction information are also available on the registry.

In addition to checking the registry, here are some simple tips that should be followed when children are out trick-or-treating.

- Children's costumes should not be too restrictive--they should have adequate holes for proper respiration and peripheral vision.
- All trick or treaters should be visible in the dark--wear some sort of reflective clothing, carry a brightly colored bag and a flashlight or glowstick.
- An adult should always accompany young children. A parent or older child should stay within close range at all times and children should never be allowed to go down a street alone. Walk with your children to each house and wait near the porch or front entrance of the home until they return.
- Older children should travel in pairs or in groups at all times while trick or treating and never venture down a dark, empty street. Parents should know the route that their children are following. Children should always walk together to the front door of each house and only cross the street at crosswalks. Dark, unlit homes should be avoided.
- Inspect your child's candy before they eat it. Discard any unwrapped or suspicious looking goodies. If your child does get sick, call your doctor or the hospital emergency room immediately and save all wrappers. It is also helpful to determine what he or she ate and where it came from.
- Also remember to keep flammable items, such as your jack-o-lantern, away from small children and flammable materials such as draperies, furniture and paper decorations. Never leave a burning candle unattended.

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