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**For Release: Immediate**

**Date: Wednesday, October 25, 2017**

***MAYOR GARY McCARTHY  
ANNOUNCES HALLOWEEN TRICK-OR-TREAT  
HOURS FOR SCHENECTADY***

**Schenectady, NY** - Mayor McCarthy announced today that Halloween *trick-or-treating* in the City of Schenectady will be officially observed on Tuesday, October 31, 2017 from 2:00 ~ 8:00 p.m., with earlier *trick-or-treat* hours provided for younger children.

“As has been the case in previous years, we are asking that *trick-or-treaters* conclude their door-to-door visits prior to 8:00 p.m.,” said McCarthy. “We are also asking that residents turn off their porch lights and stop handing out goodies at this time.”

The Schenectady Fire Department will be supplementing Halloween festivities by handing out candy, activity books and fire safety information at all four of its locations.

The locations are:

Station #1 – 360 Veeder Avenue

Station #2 – 1515 State Street

Station #3 – Third Avenue

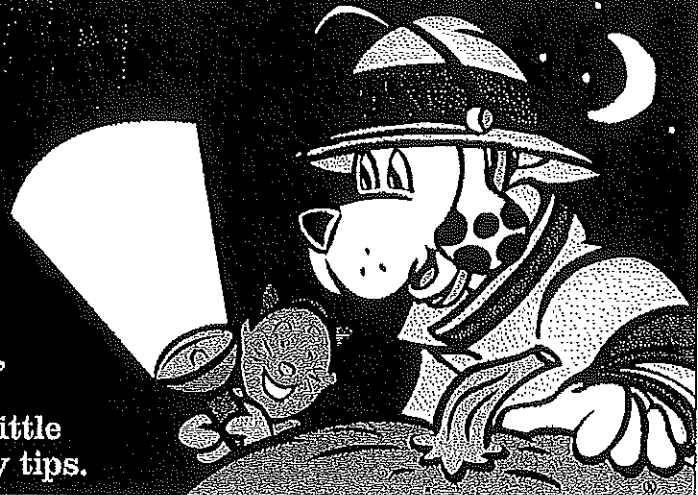
Station #4 – Avenue A & Nott Street

For a list of Halloween safety tips, visit our website at [www.cityofschenectady.com](http://www.cityofschenectady.com)

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# BE Safe

Halloween is a fun, and spooky, time of year for kids. Make trick-or-treating safe for your little monsters with a few easy safety tips.



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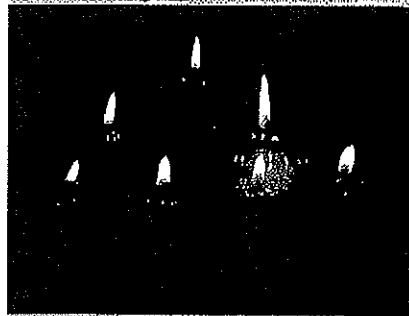
## Halloween Fire Safety Tips

- ))) **When choosing a costume**, stay away from billowing or long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so they can see out.
- ))) **Provide children** with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.
- ))) Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper are highly flammable. **Keep** these and other decorations well away from all open flames and heat sources, including light bulbs, and heaters.
- ))) **It is safest to use** a flashlight or battery-operated candle in a jack-o-lantern. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside jack-o-lanterns, use long, fireplace-style matches or a utility lighter. Be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn and far enough out of way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways and yards.
- ))) **Remember** to keep exits clear of decorations, so nothing blocks escape routes.
- ))) **Tell children** to stay away from open flames. Be sure they know how to stop, drop and roll if their clothing catches fire. (Have them practice, stopping immediately, dropping to the ground, covering their face with hands, and rolling over and over to put the flames out.)

**Use** flashlights as alternatives to candles or torch lights when decorating walkways and yards. They are much safer for trick-or-treaters, whose costumes may brush against the lighting.

If your children are going to **Halloween parties** at others' homes, have them look for ways out of the home and plan how they would get out in an emergency.

### Did you know?



Decorations are the first thing to ignite in more than 1,000 reported home fires each year.



Your Source for SAFETY Information  
NFPA NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

[www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)

# Halloween Safety Tips

- When choosing a costume, stay away from billowing or long trailing fabric. If you are making your own costume, choose material that won't easily ignite if it comes into contact with heat or flame. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so they can see out.
- Provide children with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.
- Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper are highly flammable. Keep these and other decorations well away from all open flames and heat sources, including light bulbs and heaters.
- It is safest to use a flashlight or battery-operated candles in a jack-o-lantern. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside jack-o-lanterns, use long fireplace-style matches or a utility lighter. Be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn and far enough out of way of trick-or-treaters, doorsteps, walkways and yards.
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- Tell children to stay away from open flames. Be sure they know how to stop, drop and roll if their clothing catches fire. (Have them practice stopping immediately, dropping to the ground, covering their face with hands, and rolling over and over to put the flames out.)
- Use flashlights as alternatives to candles or torch lights when decorating walkways and yards. They are much safer for trick-or-treaters, whose costumes may brush against the lighting.
- If your children are going to Halloween parties at others' homes, have them look for ways out of the home and plan how they would get out in an emergency.



[Download these NFPA safety tips for Halloween](#) (PDF, 348 KB)