

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF



Dear Friend,

Autumn is a wonderful time of year for our families and community, but it can also be a time for fire and other safety hazards. Parents, make this Autumn a safe one— do not let a fire or accident ruin this wonderful time of season. Follow these safety tips to ensure a safe and memorable season.

Sincerely,
Sheriff Michael Mastronardy

KIDS ARE #1 IN OCEAN COUNTY

Ocean County Sheriff's Office

(732) 929-2044

Emergencies Police/Fire &

First Aid Dial : 9-1-1



Be Prepared this Autumn

- ✓ Stay informed of your kids activities and health.
- ✓ Take steps to prevent the flu. Wash your hands often and cover your nose and mouth with a tissue.
- ✓ Make fall activities fun, safe and healthy for kids and guests.
- ✓ Get smart about antibiotics. They can cure bacterial infections, but not viral infections. The common cold and flu are viral, so avoid using antibiotics. Using them when they are not needed can cause some bacteria to become resistant and therefore harder to combat. See your doctor to find out if your illness is bacterial or viral.
- ✓ Test and replace batteries. Check your fire and carbon monoxide batteries twice a year. Replace them when you change the clocks as a reminder.
- ✓ Keep food safe. Autumn festivities brings great culinary dishes. Be sure to cook them properly. Always clean your hands and surfaces promptly.
- ✓ Be prepared for chilly temperatures and dress accordingly.
- ✓ Wash your hands often. Keeping your hands clean is one of the most important steps you can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs.



Fire Safety Tips



- ✓ Be sure to keep fall decorations and costumes away from fireplaces, stoves, cigarettes, matches and candles. Also keep away from ignition sources such as fire pits or grilling stations.
- ✓ Pumpkins and other decorations should never be lighted with candles, whether they are to be carried by children to see in the dark or as a decoration.
- ✓ Fireworks are illegal in New Jersey. Besides the physical and fire hazards involved, they are dangerous.

Autumn Driving Tips

- ✓ Dangers of driving into the sun. This time of year, the sunrise and sunset can shine directly into a driver's eyes, causing a glare.
- ✓ Use your sun visor
- ✓ Slow down and leave room between vehicles
- ✓ Drive with your headlights on to increase visibility to other drivers



Wet Weather Driving Tips

- ✓ Stay aware of the dangers of wet pavement and leaves/debris. With safety evident, your goal should be to see and be seen.
- ✓ Make sure your vehicle equipment is working properly. All lights, wipers, tire tread/inflation are imperative to maintaining proper travel.
- ✓ Slow down and leave room; avoid hard braking.
- ✓ Do not drive through leaf piles; a child may be playing or debris may be present.





Costume Safety Tips

- ✓ For festivals and other activities, be sure to follow these safety tips:
- ✓ Costumes should be light in color to ensure clear visibility to motorists. Apply fluorescent or reflective tape which will glow in the beam of a car's headlights. You can find reflective tape at hardware, sporting goods and craft stores.
- ✓ Avoid costumes that are big and baggy with excessive material. This material may come in contact with candles or other sources of ignition.
- ✓ Use cosmetics to establish a mask instead of a material mask. If a mask is used, make sure the eyeholes are large enough to allow full vision.
- ✓ Make sure costume accessories are made of soft or flexible material.

Autumn Sports Safety Tips

- ✓ Prevent and recognize concussions. A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury. You can not see a concussion. Even the smallest "ding" can be serious.
- ✓ Practice good sportsmanship. Ensure proper protective equipment. Follow all sports safety rules.
- ✓ If you think your child has sustained a concussion, don't assess it yourself. Take him/her out of play. Seek the advice of a health care professional.



Safety tips for Adults

- ✓ Make sure all materials are flame retardant or are not easily ignited if near an ignition source.
- ✓ Never allow children to go out alone after dark. Start early and return home early.
- ✓ Keep heat sources, light bulbs and other ignition sources away from decorations
- ✓ If necessary, allow older children a cell phone to call home, a neighbor or your local police department.
- ✓ If driving, take special care this time of year for children who will be too busy with festivities to watch out for you.

Goodies/Treats Safety Tips



- ✓ Smaller children should always be accompanied by an adult. If an adult is unavailable, then an older responsible teenager should accompany the small child.
- ✓ Children should canvass one side of the street at a time, rather than criss-cross. They should use the sidewalk, rather than walk in the street, and they should walk, not run, from house to house.
- ✓ Only visit homes where residents have outside lights on as a sign of welcome. They should never enter a home unless they are accompanied by an adult.
- ✓ Examine all treats to avoid any tampering. Warn children not to eat any treats before they get home.



OCEAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

AUTUMN SAFETY TIPS



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or find us at

<http://www.co.ocean.nj.us/OCsheriff/>

