



**SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

**RALPH A. CALDWELL JR.
Chief of Police**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTES HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Mayor Tim Davlin and Police Chief Ralph A. Caldwell Jr. today reminded Springfield residents to be aware of children walking in the neighborhoods as they trick or treat on Halloween.

“The safety of our children is very important and this can help them in having a fun filled Halloween,” said Mayor Davlin. “We also want to remind adults they should accompany the trick or treaters as they go about their neighborhoods.”

The recommended hours for trick or treating in Springfield are 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, October 31.

“Motorists should be cautious and be alert for children in and around the street,” said Chief Caldwell. “Drive slowly and watch for the children.”

Caldwell also pointed out that “the Neighborhood Police Officers will be in their respective areas should they be needed.”

Anyone wanting a police officer to talk to children about Halloween safety may contact the SPD Community Relations Office at 788-8391, Caldwell added.

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Here are some additional Halloween safety tips:

- Children should always be accompanied by parents or an older responsible adult.
- *Trick or Treating* should be confined to local neighborhoods and the homes of friends and relatives. Springfield residents who wish to be visited by the *Trick or Treaters* should turn on their porch lights. Children should only visit those homes that have the porch lights on.
- Face masks may obscure vision so the use of face paint or makeup should be considered as an alternative.
- Children should carry lighted flashlights or light sticks. Their costumes should have visible reflective strips and be light in color.
- Children should always cross at corners and crosswalks. They should walk and not run across the street. They should look both ways before crossing.
- Springfield residents who wish to treat children should only hand out items that have been factory wrapped or sealed. Children should only accept items that are factory wrapped or sealed. Any other items, such as fruit, popcorn balls or homemade goods should be discarded. Children should not eat any treats until they have been checked by an adult. If parents suspect any treats of having been tampered with, they should contact the Springfield Police Department at 788-8311.

SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

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