

Sheriffs advise Halloween safety

Many people view Halloween as a time for fun and treats. However in the United States, roughly two times as many children ages 5-14 are killed while walking on Halloween evening compared with other evenings of the year, and falls are a leading cause of injuries among children.

Parents can help prevent children from becoming injured on Halloween by following these safety tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Safety Council.

Children should:

- Go only to well-lit houses and remain on porches rather than entering houses.
 - Travel in small groups and be accompanied by an adult.
 - Know their phone numbers and carry a cell phone for an emergency phone call.
 - Carry a note in their pocket with their name and address.
 - Bring treats home before eating them so parents can inspect them.
 - When using costume knives and swords, ensure they are flexible, not rigid or sharp.
- When walking in neighborhoods, they should:
- Use flashlights, stay on sidewalks if available, and avoid crossing yards.
 - Cross streets at the corner, use crosswalks if available, and don't cross between parked cars.
 - Stop at all corners and stay together in a group before crossing.
 - Wear clothing that is

bright, reflective, and flame retardant.

- Consider using face paint instead of masks.
- Avoid wearing hats that could slide over their eyes.
- Avoid wearing long, baggy, or loose costumes or oversized shoes to prevent tripping.
- Always look left, right, and left again before crossing the street.

Parents and adults should:

- Supervise the outing for children under age 12.
- Establish a curfew for older children.
- Prepare homes for trick-or-treaters by clearing porches, lawns, and sidewalks and by placing decorations away from doorways and landings.
- Avoid giving choking hazards such as gum, peanuts, hard candies, or small toys as treats to young children.
- Inspect all candy before children eat it.

To ensure the safety of pedestrian trick-or-treaters, parents and adults should:

- Make sure children under age 10 are supervised as they cross the street.
- Drive slowly.
- Watch for children in the street and on medians.
- Exit driveways and alleyways carefully.
- Have children get out of cars on the curbside, not the traffic side.

Following these tips should help ensure this Halloween is a safe and fun holiday for everyone.

—Lincoln County Sheriff's Office

Burn season opens, backyard burning allowed

Although Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) said that the backyard burning ban was extended until Sunday, Nov. 1, the burn season is now open.

Backyard burning season, also known as open burning, is determined by the Lane County Fire Defense Board.

According to Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue Fire

Marshall Sean Barrett, "Burn season has opened and backyard burning is allowed."

Those allowed to burn in the SVFR district are required to have burn permits, obtained at www.svfr.org or at the main fire station, 2625 Highway 101.

However, there is no open burning allowed in the city.

"As always, call 541-997-1757 each day you want to

burn to make sure it is a burn day," Barrett said. "The fires must be small enough to be out by 5 p.m. each day."

He said that longer burns require a permit from the LRAPA at www.lrapa.org.

Backyard burning is always prohibited inside the Eugene city limits, Florence city limits, and on properties less than half an acre inside Springfield city limits.

Elsewhere in Lane County,

the open burning season will open through June 15.

Extended dry and hot conditions may continue to keep fire danger levels high, even with recent cooler temperatures.

A first offense violation of LRAPA's open-burning rules may result in a \$500 fine.

The public can check for updates by visiting the SVFR and LRAPA websites or calling LRAPA at 541-736-1056.

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Q Advice to an aspiring culinary student in Mr. Lewis's class at Siuslaw High School:
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