



NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: CAPT. NANCY RASMUSSEN
FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL
(850) 617-2301

PATROL OFFERS TIPS TO MAKE THIS HALLOWEEN SAFE

~ Giggling ghosts and winsome witches will be visiting ~

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – As we prepare for the excitement of Halloween, motorists should be particularly mindful that children will be out trick-or-treating Wednesday evening. We all need to do our part to make this a safe, memorable Halloween for everyone.

The Florida Highway Patrol offers these useful tips for drivers and parents:

DRIVERS

- Stay alert. Pedestrian and bicycle traffic will increase in many neighborhoods on Halloween.
- Keep an eye out for trick-or-treaters who may suddenly dart into traffic from between parked cars.
- Watch for children walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood.
- Be patient and slow down. Give children lots of time to cross the street. Their costumes may impair their ability to see and hear you and to get out of your way quickly.
- Remember that children will be excited and may forget to "stop, look and listen" before they cross the street.

PARENTS

- Talk to your child about looking both ways before crossing the street.
- Purchase or make costumes that are light colored and clearly visible to motorists.
- Decorate (and get the kids to help) or trim costumes, goody bags and other containers with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of a car's headlights.
- Make sure costumes are short enough so they do not cause children to trip or fall.
- Children should wear well-fit, sturdy shoes.
- Masks should not impair a child's hearing or field of vision. If necessary, enlarge ear and eyeholes or use makeup to create special effects.
- Tie hats and scarves securely to prevent them from slipping over your child's eyes.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provides highway safety and security through excellence in service, education and enforcement. The Department is leading the way to a safer Florida through the efficient and professional execution of its core mission: the issuance of driver licenses, vehicle tags and titles and operation of the Florida Highway Patrol. To learn more about DHSMV and the services offered, visit www.flhsmv.gov or follow us on Twitter @[FDHSMV](https://twitter.com/FDHSMV). You can find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FDHSMV), too.

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