

NEWS

TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE



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WOODBIDGE MAYOR JOHN E. McCORMAC ENCOURAGES SAFE "TRICK-OR-TREATING FOR UPCOMING HALLOWEEN EVENTS

Sat., Oct. 27 is "Haunted Halloween" in Woodbridge...

***Annual Halloween Parade, Costume Contest & Trick-or-Treat on Main Street...
Spooktacular fun at the YMCA Family Halloween Festival... WHS Haunted House &
Fright Fest...***

WOODBIDGE – Mayor John E. McCormac today announced that Woodbridge Township is under the spell of a haunted Halloween as trick-or-treaters take to the neighborhoods and special Township-wide events to celebrate the annual recognition of "All Hollows Eve."

"As Halloween has grown in popularity, so have the responsibilities to safeguard and protect our 'trick-or-treaters' as they go from house to house and to the many special events sponsored by the Township, the YMCA schools and other organizations," Mayor McCormac said. "While the Woodbridge Police Department will be watching out for 'ghosts and goblins' as part of special Halloween patrols and the Health Department is available to provide information on healthy treats, the safety of our youngest 'trick-or-treaters' falls to parents and older children. We encourage everyone – young and older alike – to attend and participate in the many special Halloween events scheduled for Sat., Oct. 27."

Mayor McCormac announced that on **Sat., Oct. 27** the annual Woodbridge Township Halloween parade and costume contest will get underway on Main Street (Farmer's Market at Town Hall, One Main Street) at 10:00 a.m. Bring the "trick-or-treaters" and watch them march on Main Street as they show-off their unique costumes. Later in the day, the YMCA at the Woodbridge Community Center, 600 Main Street, will hold their annual Family Halloween Festival & Haunt Fest from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Featuring Witchy Sweep Hockey, Monster Hoops, Mummy Wrap, Eyeball Pong, games, crafts and refreshments. And, for the older "trick-or-treaters," Woodbridge High School is sponsoring its 10th Annual Haunted House and Halloween Festival at Office Max at St. George Crossing from 4:00 to 9:30 p.m... scary fun for everyone... and the proceeds benefit the Woodbridge High School Choir.

Mayor McCormac noted that while scary fun is great, special safety reminders and precautions need to be in place in order to keep Township “trick-or-treaters” safe throughout Halloween, The Woodbridge Police Department reminded parents and their Halloween goblins of several important safety precautions:

TRICK-OR-TREATERS:

- Consider using make-up rather than masks. Masks may obstruct a child's vision making it difficult for them to see oncoming traffic;
- Wear light-colored clothing or add reflective tape to darker costumes. Always carry a flashlight at night. Inexpensive battery-operated strobe lights are now sold in many drug stores and convenience stores;
- An adult should always accompany small children while trick-or-treating. Older children should travel in groups for safety;
- Make sure trick-or-treaters know to only approach familiar houses that have outside lights on and **NEVER ENTER A STRANGER'S HOUSE OR VEHICLE**;
- Trick-or-treat in daylight hours;
- Consider handing out something other than candy - fast food coupons, pens, sports cards, make safe treats; and
- Trick-or-treaters should wait until they return home to open candy and other treats – any previously opened candy should be thrown out. It is sad to think people may tamper with food and candy given to children... but it's better to be safe.

ADULTS & MOTORISTS:

- Stay alert at all times for young children who may dart in front of your vehicle unexpectedly. In the excitement of the day, trick-or-treaters probably won't be paying attention to passing motor vehicles, so slow down and drive cautiously;
- If you attend a Halloween party where alcohol is served, make sure you have a designated driver for the trip home. Alcohol, even in small amounts, slows reaction time and dulls the senses. With small children running from house to house, driving while under the influence can have a deadly result; and
- If you are transporting trick-or-treaters, remember that “buckling-up” is a proven lifesaving measure...costume or not, buckle up!

Mayor McCormac and the Woodbridge Municipal Council encourage all township residents and visitors to safely enjoy the Halloween holiday and to make every day safe and secure.