Driving on Halloween

Safety tips for drivers...

Kids love Halloween. Is there anything more fun for a child than to be able to dress up in their favorite Halloween costume and stay up past their normal bedtime? With so many trick-or-treaters out at night, the potential for automobile related accidents with young pedestrians increase four times on this night according to a Centers for Disease Control (CDC) study.

Since children are preoccupied with the excitement of the night, motorists need to take extra precautions when driving on Halloween night. Here are a few tips to remember:

- Don't use a cell phone or other electronic device. Even with hands free devices, a driver's attention is not totally focused on driving when talking on the phone.

- Drive below the posted speed limit in residential areas during trick-or-treating hours. Kids are unpredictable and may not look before crossing the street.

- Do not pass other vehicles that have stopped in the roadway. Children could be crossing the street, or parents may be dropping off children.

- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.

- At twilight and later in the evening, watch for children in dark clothing.

- The best way to avoid the hazards on October 31 is don't drive between 5:30 pm and 9:00 pm. This is the time when most trick-or-treaters will be on the street.

- Drive slowly, anticipate heavy pedestrian traffic, and turn on your headlights earlier in the day to spot children from greater distances.

Let's make sure our youngest citizens enjoy a safe and fun-filled Halloween.

If you are out driving on Halloween night make sure to put down all electronic devices, stay alert, and slow down.

"...put down all electronic devices, stay alert, and slow down."

Trick-or-Treaters

Before your child goes out trick-or-treating, make sure to go over some safety tips with him/her. Here are a few to get you started:

- Teach your children about not getting into strangers' cars or talking to strangers no matter what the person says to them.

- If your child is old enough to go out on Halloween with friends, make sure that you child has a pre-programmed cell phone with him/her. Make sure that all important numbers are already there and ready to use.

- Children and adults are reminded to put electronic devices down, keep head up and walk, don't run, across the street.

- If your older children are going out without an adult, plan and review the route that is acceptable to you.

Agree on a specific time when you want them home.

- Tell your child to only go to homes with an outside light on and never enter a home or car for a treat.

- Don't assume the right of way. Motorists may have trouble seeing trick-or-treaters. Just because one car stops doesn't mean others will.

- Tell your child not to eat any of their treats until you have checked them.

- Law enforcement should be notified immediately of any suspicious or unlawful activity.

Halloween Facts and Statistics

Halloween is one of the most anticipated nights of the year for kids. Safe Kids' research shows some scary statistics on Halloween Safety:

- Only 1/3 of parents talk to their kids annually about Halloween safety, although 3/4 report having safety fears.

- On average twice as many child pedestrians are killed while walking on Halloween compared to other days of the year.

- Only 18% of parents use reflective tape on their children's Halloween costumes.

- Twelve percent of children five years of age or younger are permitted to trick-or-treat alone.

- According to a National Safety Council (NSC) study darting or running into the road accounted for about 70% of pedestrian deaths or injuries for those age 5-9 and about 47 percent of incidents for those 10-14.

Keep your kids safe this Halloween by going over some safety rules with them before they head out the door.

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Cyber Crime: Identity Theft, Phishing, Lotteries, Credit Card Fraud, Ransomware...

Technology has changed the way we live and the way some criminals commit crimes. Today cyber crime is on the rise. With almost everyone having a computer or cell phone, we all must be take extra care so that we don't become a victim of cyber crime.

Webopedia defines cyber crime as any criminal act dealing with computers and networks (called hacking). Cyber crime includes traditional crimes conducted through the Internet. This includes hate crimes, telemarketing and Internet fraud, identity theft, and credit card account thefts. These are considered cyber crimes when the illegal activities are committed through the use of a computer and the internet.

Here are a few current and ongoing Internet trends and schemes identified by the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3):

Auction Fraud

Auction fraud involves fraud attributable to the misrepresentation of a product advertised for sale through an Internet auction site or the non-delivery of products purchased through an Internet auction site.

Credit Card Fraud

The unauthorized use of a credit/debit card, or card number, to fraudulently obtain money or property is considered credit card fraud. Credit/debit card numbers can be stolen from unsecured websites, or can be obtained in an identity theft scheme.

Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when someone appropriates another's personal information without their knowledge to commit theft or fraud. Identity theft is a vehicle for perpetrating other types of fraud schemes. Typically, the victim is led to believe they are divulging sensitive personal information to a legitimate business, sometimes as a response to an email solicitation to update billing or membership information, or as an application to a fraudulent Internet job posting.

Lotteries

The lottery scheme deals with persons randomly contacting email addresses advising them they have been selected as the winner of an international lottery.

The email message usually reads similar to the following:

"This is to inform you of the release of money winnings to you. Your email was randomly selected as the winner. Therefore, you have been approved for a lump sum payout of $500,000. To begin your lottery claim, please contact the processing company selected to process your winnings."

An agency name follows this body of text with a point of contact, phone number, fax number, and an email address. An initial fee ranging from $1,000 to $5,000 is often requested to initiate the process and additional fee requests follow after the process has begun.

What you should do if you think you are a victim.

If you believe you may have fallen victim to any of these types of internet scams, file a complaint with the IC3. See the article below for instructions on how to file a complaint.

FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3)

The IC3 accepts online Internet crime complaints from either the actual victim or from a third party to the complainant. In order to provide accurate and complete information, the FBI requests you provide the following information when filing a complaint.

- Victim's name, address, telephone, and email
- Financial transaction information (i.e. account information, transaction date, and amount, who received the money)
- Subject's name, address, telephone, email, website, and IP address
- Specific details on how you were victimized
- Email header(s)
- Any other relevant information you believe is necessary to support your complaint.

You can file an online complaint at: **www.ic3.gov**

Police Department
1051 Junction Blvd.
Roseville CA 95678
(916) 774-5000
www.roseville.ca.us/police

Call 9-1-1
EMERGENCY
IN PROGRESS

Abandoned Vehicle Hotline
(916) 746-1022

Alarms/Alarm Permits
(916) 774-5093

Animal Control
(916)774-5090

Community Events & Neighborhood Watch
(916) 774-5050
PDCommunityServices@roseville.ca.us

Graffiti Abatement
(916) 746-1021

Police News & Crime Alert Emails:
www.roseville.ca.us/enotify

RCONA
(Roseville Coalition Of Neighborhood Associations)
www.RCONA.org