

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 12, 2012

CONTACT: Kimberly Larson, Public Information Manager, 623-930-2989

GLENDALE PROVIDES TIPS FOR HEALTHY & SAFE HALLOWEEN NIGHT

Glendale, Ariz. — Did you know that children are four times more likely to be hit by a car on Halloween than any other night of the year? In addition, seasonal decorations and costumes can be highly flammable and cause harm to your family or your home.

Glendale wants residents to have a “spooktacular” night, so the city is reminding families of the safety messages, “Be Safe, Be Seen” and fire prevention measures during the festivities.

The Glendale Fire Department offers these safety tips for a safe and fun Halloween:

- If trick-or-treating, please remember to wear something reflective. **Through the end of October, the Glendale Transportation Department has partnered with Glendale Libraries to offer reflective bags for trick-or-treating and reflective stickers to apply to costumes. These items can be picked up at any of the three city libraries and are free while supplies last.**
- Drivers should stay on alert, especially in residential neighborhoods.
- Make sure costumes fit to increase the mobility and visibility of children wearing them.
- Children should be reminded not to run and to use crosswalks or street corners after looking both ways.
- *USA Safe Kids* suggests children under the age of 12 be accompanied by an adult.
- Check all treats before they are eaten and report anything suspicious.

~ more ~

Halloween Safety

Add 1.1.1

- For the purpose of lighting jack-o-lanterns, use a flashlight or a liquid light that glows after it bends, **not candles**.
- Purchase only costumes, wigs and props labeled flame-resistant or flame-retardant. When creating a costume, choose material that won't easily ignite if it comes in contact with heat or flame. Avoid billowing or long trailing features.
- Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper are highly flammable. Keep these and other decorations away from all open flames and heat sources, including light bulbs, heaters, etc.
- Remember to keep exits clear of decorations, ensuring nothing blocks escape routes.
- Use flashlights as alternatives to candles or torchlights when decorating walkways and yards. They are much safer for trick-or-treaters, whose costumes may brush against the lighting.
- Instruct children to stay away from open flames or other heat sources. Be sure children know how to **stop, drop and roll** in the event their clothing catches fire. (Stop immediately, drop to the ground, covering your face with your hands and roll over and over to extinguish flames.)
- Instruct children who are attending parties at others' homes to locate the exits and plan how they would get out in an emergency.
- Provide children with lightweight flashlights to carry for lighting or as part of their costume so they can be seen while walking in neighborhoods.

For additional information, visit www.glendaleaz.com or call the Fire Department at 623-930-3400.