

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Halloween Safety Tips

(Hailey, Idaho) – The Hailey Police Department is urging motorists to use caution on Main Street October 31<sup>st</sup>. Hailey's Halloween Hoopla starts at 3:00 p.m. and ends at 6:00 p.m., and we anticipate up to 3000 trick-or-treaters visiting Main Street businesses.

### Make sure your kids dress up safely

- Make sure costumes are flame retardant so children aren't in danger near burning jack-o-lanterns.
- Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls, and other bumps in the night.
- Try make-up instead of a mask. Masks can be hot and uncomfortable, and they can obstruct a child's vision, a dangerous thing when kids are crossing streets and going up and down steps.
- Make sure kids wear light colors or put reflective tape on their costumes.
- Create a map of a safe trick-or-treating route and set a time limit for your children to trick-or-treat.
- Trick-or-treaters should always be in groups so they aren't a tempting target for real-life goblins. Parents should accompany young children.
- Make sure older kids trick-or-treat with friends. Together, map out a safe route so you will know where they are going. Tell them to stop only at familiar homes where the outside lights are on.
- Try to get your kids to trick-or-treat while it's still light out. If it's dark, make sure someone has a flashlight and pick well-lighted streets.
- Do not go inside anyone's home. Remain on the porch at all times.
- Do not accept rides from strangers.
- Remind kids to keep a safe distance from moving cars.
- Cross only at street corners, never between parked cars, and never diagonally across an intersection.
- Look in all directions before crossing the street, and obey all traffic signals. Walk – never run – across the street, and use sidewalks, not the street, for walking.
- Do not take shortcuts through back yards, alleys or parks.
- Do not eat any treats until parents have inspected them.
- Discard any homemade or unwrapped treats.
- Check all treats before eating.

It's hard for kids to hold back from eating their treats until they get home. One way to keep trick-or-treaters from digging in while they're still out is to feed them a meal or a snack beforehand. Check out all candy in a well-lighted place when your trick-or-treater gets home.