



News Release

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City of McKinney News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

McKinney Fire Department provides Halloween safety tips

McKINNEY, Texas (Oct. 9, 2017) – The McKinney Fire Department (MFD) has prepared safety tips for families to heed during the Halloween holiday. Halloween is a fun and spooky time of year for kids. Make trick-or treating safe for your little ones with a few easy safety tips provided below:

- When choosing a costume, stay away from long trailing fabric.
- If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eye holes are large enough so he or she can see out.
- Provide children with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costume.
- Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper catch fire easily. Keep all decorations away from open flames and other heat sources like light bulbs and heaters.
- Use a battery-operated candle or glow-stick in jack-o-lanterns. If you use a real candle, use extreme caution. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit.
- Remember to keep exits clear of decorations so nothing blocks escape routes.
- Make sure all smoke alarms in the home are working.
- Tell children to stay away from open flames including jack-o-lanterns with candles in them.

Practice with your child: have them stop immediately, drop to the ground, cover their faces with their hands and roll over and over to put the flames out.

“Halloween celebrations are designed for fun, but safety is a priority,” said Elizabeth Agan, Public Education and Information Coordinator.

Fact: Each year, 900 reported home fires are caused by decorations igniting. Two of every five of these fires were started by a candle.

More safety information can be located at www.mckinneyfire.org or www.nfpa.org.

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About McKinney

McKinney, Texas, is unique by nature. As one of the fastest growing cities in America, McKinney has a current population of more than 168,000. The city was #1 on the list of Best Places to Live in America in 2014, published by *Money Magazine*. Established in 1848, the city is located 30 miles north of Dallas and is the county seat of Collin County. McKinney offers award-winning schools, a vibrant historic downtown, diverse housing options, a robust economy and a uniquely beautiful natural setting, with rolling hills and lush trees. Visit the city’s website at www.mckinneytexas.org.

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