



Ft. Pierce Police Department News Release



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R. Sean Baldwin

Chief of Police

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Fort Pierce Police join local businesses and organizations to offer safe environment for trick-or-treaters

FORT PIERCE – Police officers are teaming up with local businesses and other community organizations to offer family-oriented and festive Halloween events.

The police department's Community Response Bureau will be on hand to lend members of the Downtown Business Association and the Lincoln Park Business Mainstreet with events the groups have planned for the night of bewitching.

The Downtown Business Association will be hosting "Trick-or-Treating Downtown" on Friday, October 31, at 6:00 p.m. The event will be held in conjunction with the monthly "Classic Car Cruise In" car show. Car show participants will be dressed in costumes and their cars will be decorated for the event. In addition, downtown businesses will be open and decorated. The business owners and employees plan to dress in costumes as well.

Downtown businesses will be giving out candy to trick-or-treaters and there will be prizes for best costume and other giveaways throughout the evening.

At the downtown event, the police department plans to have a display of its SWAT van, marine vessel and a police cruiser. There will be appearances by McGruff the Crime Dog. Crime Prevention and Bike Unit Officers will be hand distributing crime prevention materials and providing an increased police presence.

In conjunction with the Lincoln Park Main Street, Crime Prevention Officer Cheryl Glenn-Reed and School Resource Officer Troy Giovengo have planned variety of activities between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. for area youth looking for a safe and fun environment to trick or treat. There will be a Halloween party and visits to a haunted house set up at the corner of 14th Street and Avenue D in Fort Pierce.

Police remind parents there are many things they need to think about before their children go trick-or-treating.

"Trick-or-treating is one of the great adventures of Halloween for kids but it can also be a dangerous one, especially after dark," said Chief R. Sean Baldwin. "Our community has come together to offer fun activities so our kids can trick-or-treat safely."

Halloween Safety Tips for Trick-or-Treating

- Children should go out during daylight hours only unless accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Plan a safe route so parents know where their older kids will be at all times. Set a time for their return home. Make sure that your child is old enough and responsible enough to go out by themselves.
- Let your children know not to cut through back alleys and fields. Make sure they know to stay in populated places and don't go off the beaten track. Stay in well lighted areas.
- Stop only at familiar houses in your own neighborhood unless they are accompanied by an adult.
- Small children should never be allowed to go out alone on Halloween. Make sure an older sibling or adult is with them.
- Instruct your children not to eat any treats until they bring them home to be examined by you.
- Instruct your child to never go into the home of a stranger or get into their car.
- Make sure your child carries a flashlight, glow stick or has reflective tape on their costume to make them more visible to cars.
- Let them know that they should stay together as a group if going out to Trick-or-Treat without an adult.