

City Page
October 29, 2009

City Facilities Offer Safe Candy Friday October 30th

City Hall, the Police Department, and the Animal Shelter will have safe candy for children in costume from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. this Friday October 30th. Children must be accompanied by an adult, so feel free to bring your little trick or treaters for some Halloween treats with no tricks!

City of Joshua Bond Election November 3rd

The last day for early voting in the City bond election is Friday October 30th from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at City Hall. On Election Day, Tuesday, November 3rd, voters can cast their ballots at the Joshua Community Room located at 901 South Broadway from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Your vote counts!

Sex Offender Link on City Website

Parents are reminded that while taking children Trick or Treating, homes that do not have the front porch lights on should not be approached by children. Sex offenders are forbidden to participate in trick or treating activities. As such, law enforcement officials have instructed sex offenders to have the front porch lights of their residence off Halloween night. For a list of sex offenders in the Joshua area, please visit the city website at www.cityofjoshuatx.us and click on the registered sex offender link.

Halloween Safety Tips

For Adults...

Know the routes your children are taking if you are not going with them.

The safest bet is to make sure an adult is going with them. If you can't take them, see if another parent or teenage sibling can go along.

Know what other activities your children may be attending such as parties, school functions or other functions.

Make sure you set a time for your children to be home.

Explain the differences between tricks and vandalism. Throwing eggs at a house may seem like fun, but they need to know the other side of the coin as well. Clean up and damages can ruin Halloween.

Explain to your children that animal cruelty is not acceptable. Children may know this on their own but peer pressure can be a bad thing. Make sure that they know that harming animals is not only morally wrong but is punishable by law and will not be tolerated.

For Children...

Children should go out in the daylight hours only, unless accompanied by a responsible adult.

Visit only familiar houses unless accompanied by an adult.

Children should not eat any treats until they bring them home to be examined by parents or guardians.

Children should never get into a strangers car.

Children should carry a flashlight, glow stick or have reflective tape on their costume to make them more visible to cars.

Children should stay together as a group.

Fire Safety...

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 well away from all open flames and heat sources, including light bulbs, heaters, etc.

Use flashlights or battery-operated candles when illuminating Jack-o-lanterns. Use extreme caution when decorating with candle lit Jack-O-Lanterns, and supervise children at all times when candles are lit. When lighting candles inside Jack-O-Lanterns, use long, fireplace-style matches and be sure to place lit pumpkins well away from anything that can burn including doorsteps, walkways and yards.

Use the proper grade of the proper fuel for your liquid-fueled space heater, and never use gasoline in any heater not approved for gasoline use. Refuel only in a well-ventilated area and when the equipment is cool.

Remember to keep exits clear of decorations, ensuring nothing blocks escape routes.

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.) Cool the burn.

Use flashlights as alternatives to candles or torch lights when decorating walkways and yards. They are much safer for trick-or-treaters, whose costumes may brush against the lighting.

Make sure fuel-burning equipment is vented to the outside, that the venting is kept clear and unobstructed, and that the exit point is properly sealed around the vent, all of which is to make sure deadly carbon monoxide does not build up in the home.

Instruct children who are attending parties at others' homes to locate the exits and plan how they would get out in an emergency.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting	November 2, 2009	7:00 p.m.
Election Day – City Bond Election	November 3, 2009	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
4A Economic Development Board	November 9, 2009	6:30 p.m.
4B Economic Development Board	November 10, 2009	7:00 p.m.
Veterans Day – City Facilities Closed	November 11, 2009	
City Council Meeting	November 19, 2009	7:00 p.m.