

# CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



**CONTACT:** Karen Terrill  
Public Information Officer  
(916) 653-5123

**RELEASE**  
**DATE:** October 22, 2003

## Halloween Fire/Safety Tips

**Sacramento-** The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) and State Fire Marshal John Tennant remind everyone to enjoy a Fire Safe Halloween.

Helpful tips for a safe Halloween:

[http://www.fire.ca.gov/php/education\\_content/downloads/halloween.pdf](http://www.fire.ca.gov/php/education_content/downloads/halloween.pdf)

Choose the right costume:

- Use only costumes made of flame retardant material.
- Keep hemlines short enough to prevent tripping and avoid loose, baggy sleeves, or billowing skirts.
- Costumes should be made of a light color material to be seen easily. Also, use glow in the dark reflective tape on the costume.
- Masks can obstruct vision. Use make-up instead.

On Halloween night:

- To light Jack-O-Lanterns use battery powered lights – never candles.
- Remind children to stay away from open flames.
- Remove objects from the yard that present a hazard to children (garden tools, hoses, etc.).
- Be extremely careful with cornstalks and other harvest-season items. Keep them away from sources of heat. Don't let them block doorways or stairs.
- Do not allow children to carry sharp sticks or other objects that could cause injury.
- If you are driving on Halloween, take care...watch out for trick-or-treaters who will be too busy to watch out for you.
- Closely inspect all candy before allowing children to eat it. Discard any unwrapped treats from a stranger. If in doubt, throw it out.

The CDF and State Fire Marshal wish everyone a happy and safe Halloween.

