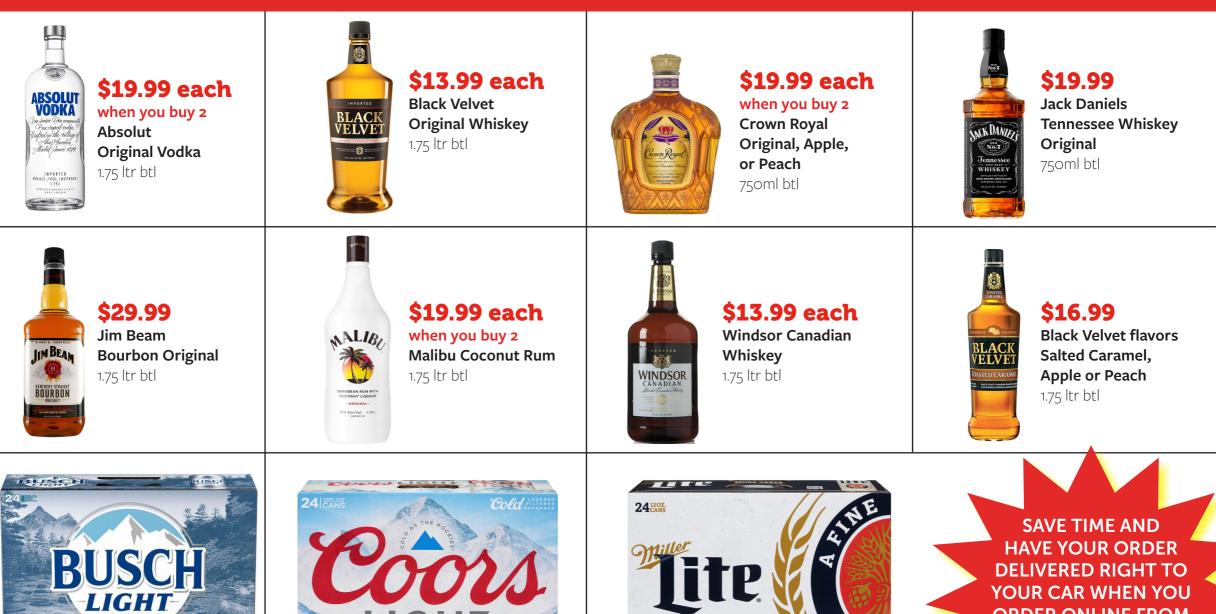




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#### **THE AD-VISOR**

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## FARMERS MUTUAL INSURANCE FIRE **DEPARTMENT GRANT PROGRAM 2023**

In honor of Fire Prevention Week Farmers Mutual Insurance of Hull is providing a \$1,250 grant to the Alton fire department. This grant was made possible by a nomination from the Perspective Insurance agency. Pictured above presenting the \$1,250 check is Breanne Van Gelder and Brenda Richardson. Accepting the check is Quintin Van Es and Kevin Langel from the Alton fire department. As a local insurance company, we recognize the importance of the volunteer fire departments in our area, and want to support them. Thank you to the Perspective Insurance agency for nominating the Alton fire department for this grant!





Tuesday, October 24, 2023

# **Creepy... but safe!**

The enthusiasm of little ghosts, super heroes and terrifying monsters during Halloween can sometimes cause them to forget some basic safety rules which they have already been taught. Parents are there to remind them of these rules but also to enforce a few instructions in order to make Halloween celebrations in the street or at home as creepy as they are safe.

Yampires

#### ADVICE ON TRICK OR TREATING

1. Children should always be accompanied by an adult.



Even if they are creepy and menacing, your little monsters need you to protect them.

2. Clothing should be brightly coloured or be made of reflecting fabric.

Ghasts

- 3. Children should only trick or treat in neighbourhoods they know well.
- 4. Check all the candy. If anything is suspect, consult the police.
- 5. Avoid masks which hinder vision. Use makeup instead.
- 6. Avoid costumes which are too long. Children can trip and fall.
- 7. Dress your children in warm clothing and give them flashlights.

#### ADVICE ON WELCOMING GHOSTS

- 1. Switch on outside lights so visitors feel welcome.
- 2. Be careful with candles and where you place them. Avoid putting them in a busy area, as candles, illuminated pumpkins and vampire candlesticks are fire hazards.
- 3. Trying to scare your visitors by wearing contact lenses which change the colour of your eyes is not recommended. These should only be worn under the supervision of an eye specialist.
- Your bowls of candy should not contain any products which could cause choking such as gum, peanuts and hard candy.

# **Everyone should think safety for Halloween!**



#### **HALLOWEEN COSTUME SAFETY TIPS:**

- Make sure your Halloween costume is colourfast so the colour doesn't run onto your clothes if it rains.
- Try on costumes before Halloween to allow time for alterations.
- Make-up should be hypoallergenic and non-toxic.
- Wear comfortable, practical shoes even if they don't fit with the costume.
- Keep your costume and wig away from candles.
- If your costume includes an authentic-looking accessory such as a fake sword, gun, knife etc., make sure that it is made of plastic, is flexible and cannot harm anyone.

#### **CHILDREN'S SAFETY TIPS:**

- Wear identification that's easy to read.
- Follow a curfew and bring a watch you can read in the dark.
- Cross only at intersections and designated crosswalks.
- Walk. No running.
- Watch out for open flames in jack-o'-lanterns.
- Trick or treat in familiar neighbourhoods.
- Walk with your head up and be aware of your surroundings.
- Carry a spare Halloween bag in case yours breaks or you fill your original one.
- Don't cut across yards and stay out of back yards.
- Follow traffic signals and don't jaywalk.
- Always watch out for cars backing up or turning.
- Review the "stop, drop and roll" procedure in case your costume catches on fire.
- Never accept rides from strangers.
- Respect other people and their property.
- Be polite and say "thank you."
- Avoid candy that has loose wrappings, is unwrapped, has puncture holes, or is home-made.

# and the pumpkin

The success of any party or celebration lies in its preparation. So, celebrating Halloween is, above all, about preparing the pumpkin; carving the face, painting and decorating, to create masterpieces of terror or something to make the children laugh. Whatever type of creation you decide on, always choose a nice, round specimen with a long, strong stem.

Prepare the celebration... /

#### PAINTING

To paint the surface of a pumpkin, a thick paint should be used. Paint which is too liquid will need multiple coats to cover the orange skin. If you are keeping the pumpkin inside, gouache will be enough. But if you want to put it outside, be sure to choose an acrylic paint.

#### Children love carving pumpkins and watching the faces come alive in the candlelight...

#### CARVING

For those who prefer to carve their pumpkins, you should be aware that before Halloween, stores stock up on all sorts of carving tools: knives with straight or serrated blades, tools for making spirals, gouges, punches for stamping out different shapes... But before getting started on the carving, it's always a good idea to draw your design on the surface of the pumpkin.

#### DECORATING

To stay with an autumnal theme, why not use seasonal vegetables to create a face? Red peppers can, for example, be used to form the eyebrows and lips. An ear of corn makes a funny nose and a bunch of flowers stuck in the top of the pumpkin creates a beautiful hairdo.

- Hard candy is a choking hazard for small children.
- Report any suspicious or criminal activity to an adult or the police.
- Consider having a party instead of trick or treating.
- If there are no sidewalks, walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic.

#### **PARENTS' SAFETY TIPS:**

- Let your child eat a meal before setting out.
- Someone in the group should carry a cell phone to call home or 911.
- Ideally, young children of any age should be accompanied by an adult.
- Other children should know where to reach you and when to be home.

#### **HOMEOWNERS' SAFETY TIPS:**

- Make sure your yard is clear of such things as ladders, hoses, dog leashes and flower pots that can trip the young ones.
- Pets get frightened on Halloween. Keep them indoors to protect them from cars or from inadvertently biting a trick-or-treater.
- Battery-powered jack-o'-lantern candles are preferable to a real flame.
- If you do use candles, place the pumpkin well away from where trick-or-treaters will be walking or standing.
- Make sure paper or cloth yard decorations won't be blown into a burning candle.
- Non-food treats such as plastic rings, pencils, stickers, erasers and coins can be a great alternative to candy.

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Tuesday, October 24, 2023



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Attention to detail and superior organization are necessary to be successful in this role. You must also have strong skills in 10key and Excel, experience with Microsoft Access is a plus, and an accounting degree and experience is preferred. On-the-job training will develop the specific processing procedures.

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