

Town of Nutley

New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

FRANCIS T. BUEL
CHIEF OF POLICE

AREA CODE 201
667-3300

PUBLIC BULLETIN

October 21, 1976

Due to the serious problems of vandalism throughout our country, the Nutley Police Department would like to make an urgent appeal to the parents, school teachers, clergy, responsible citizens, and especially the youth of our community to do away with the so called "Mischief Night" Saturday, October 30, 1976.

The senseless malicious destruction and marking of private and public property on the nights of Mischief Night and Halloween night will not be tolerated and all those who are apprehended shall be so charged.

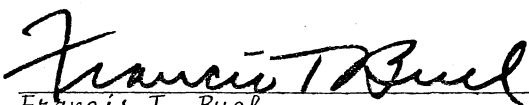
In the last few years we have appealed to parents, school teachers and clergy to instil into our youngsters that it is legally and morally wrong to destroy or vandalize property on those two nights; that if done on any other night of the year would be a criminal offense. Our Department wishes to commend these people for their fine cooperation in educating our young children as to the moral wrong of the destruction of property on these nights.

Our Department requests that parents keep their children off the streets on Mischief Night, October 30, 1976, and that they inform their children to respect the property of others on the night of Halloween.

Halloween is a fine old tradition that children can really enjoy and have a great deal of clean, wholesome fun. Let the children enjoy themselves and those too old to dress in costume, find some other way of participating on Halloween night without the terrible destruction of property.

We have great faith in the youths of our community, and I know if forewarned, the senseless destruction of property such as throwing eggs, marking windows, or the dangerous practice of setting off false alarms will be heeded by the majority. Those who do not, will have to learn the hard way, through police action.

Your full cooperation, especially from the youths in this matter, will be greatly appreciated.



Francis T. Buel
Chief of Police
FTB:ml

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PRECAUTIONS FOR A SAFE HALLOWEEN

HALLOWEEN - A time for fun as children act as merry masqueraders - as long as no accident occurs to injure any impulsive trick or treater. A few safety hints for a safe Halloween:

PARENTS - are responsible for their children's safe conduct during Halloween. They should make sure the children are properly costumed for their activities and the weather; accompany their preschoolers unless entrusted to a competent adult; enforce a reasonable code of behavior, courtesy to others and care of self; support local programs that will insure safe and wholesome outlets for youngsters Halloween spirits, without willful, senseless, defacing and destruction of property.

- . . . If you allow your children to be transported in a vehicle, select a driver known to have a good driving record.
- . . . Hours of "trick or treating" should be definitely set... (9:00 p.m. being the deadline)
- . . . Dogs and other animals should be especially cared for so as to not create hazards among the children.
- . . . Safeguard against the hazard of children carrying money. Small as the amount may be, it is a temptation of some people to steal from the collector.
- . . . Children should be instructed not to go into a house or apartment without adult supervision.

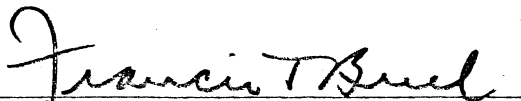
ACCIDENTS - are likely to occur for two reasons: first, poor visibility, where the child cannot see where it is going because of wearing a mask, or the motorist cannot see the child. Secondly, lighted candles, matches, or sparks may result in flammable clothing fires. Vandalism tricks or dangerous pranks can bring their own bruises and breaks. Here are several ways to prevent these accidents:

1. Provide a make up mask which does not block a child's vision. Make up face with non-toxic paints. Apply color over cold cream. With this type of mask the child will be able to see danger in time to avoid it.
2. Make him "bright at night" - by wearing light colored costumes, clearly visible to motorists, or use reflectorized tape to dress up dark costumes. Keep length short so as not to trip when walking or running.

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3. Use flame-retardent process - Dip the fabric in a solution of nine (9) ounces of borax, four (4) ounces of boric, and one (1) gallon of warm water. Wring by hand and hang to dry. Ironing does not reduce the flame resistance. When purchasing costumes, beards, etc., inspect labels for statements of treatment for flammability.
4. Provide flashlight - for safe walking or to light up a jack-o-lantern, never permit the use of a lighted candle.
5. Inform children to use sidewalks - explain how accidents are caused and why soaping of windshields and windows of cars lead to accidents.
6. Pedestrian and vehicle practices:
 - . . Always cross the street in marked crosswalk.
 - . . At protected intersections - walk only with the signal light or direction of a police officer.
 - . . Before leaving curb, stop and look both ways and especially for turning cars.
 - . . Walk directly across the street - do not loiter in the center of the street, talking, etc.
 - . . At night, cross where lights are bright and visibility is good.
 - . . Stand on curb, not in street, while waiting to cross.
 - . . Be as alert and careful in a group as when you are alone.
 - . . Get into or out of a car on curb side.
7. Adults who wish to join the merry masqueraders should illuminate a porch light for safety to welcome youngsters.
8. Those homes which are not lighted should be by-passed by the children as there may be elderly or sick people who are unable to answer the many responses of the children.
9. Inform your children to bring all their goodies home so that you may inspect the contents of their trick or treat bags.
10. Again, we request parents, school teachers, clergy, responsible citizens and especially the youth of our community to do away with the so called "Mischievous Night". The senseless destruction and defacing of private and public property will not be tolerated and those apprehended shall be charged.

Your cooperation for a safe Halloween for your children and the youth of our community is requested.


Francis T. Buel
Chief of Police