



"Breathing Life Into Safety"



Halloween Driver Safety

OCTOBER 2015

RISK MANAGEMENT

Upcoming Driver Safety Classes

Distracted Driver:

Thursday Nov. 12, 2015
MSB, 16th Floor, Rm. E
10am-12pm

Distracted Driver:

Thursday Dec. 3, 2015
MSB, 16th Floor, Rm. E
10am-12pm

Defensive Driver:

Tuesday Nov. 24, 2015
MSB, 16th Floor, Rm. Z
8:30am-12:30pm

Rules of the Road:

Thursday Oct. 29, 2015
MSB, 16th Floor, Rm. Y
10am-12pm

To RSVP for trainings, click the following email link:

Corinne.Bailey@phila.gov

For Information on other classes offered by Risk Management see this link:

www.phila.gov/risk

Spooky Truths and Halloween Safety

For many of us, Halloween is perceived as a children's holiday. Halloween should not only be thought of in the context of young children going door to door to get treats, but also as a time where we as drivers should be extra cautious. Those of us who are parents and guardians recognize the fine line between Halloween fun and safety, especially the issue of road and pedestrian safety. According to the 2015 Injury Facts published by the National Safety Council (NSC), in 2013, an estimated 6,100 pedestrian deaths, and 160,000 accidents resulting in medical care occurred among pedestrians and motor vehicles. The reasons for pedestrian deaths and injuries varied with age. One reason in particular, darting or running into the road by children ages 5 to 9 years old accounted for 70% of the total incidents (NSC). Another sobering fact is that October was ranked as the 2nd worst month for vehicle fatalities. As a result of all of these accidents and fatalities over the years, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) has helped compile the following tips for kids.

Halloween Safety Tips for Kids:

- Always have a parent or a responsible adult accompanying young children when they are walking the neighborhood trick or treating.
- If older children are going alone, plan and review a safe route of travel.
- Agree on a specific time when children should return home, and stick to it.
- Instruct children to only go to homes with a porch light on, and with Halloween decorations.
- Don't permit children to enter a home or a car for a treat.
- Have children carry a flashlight or glow stick for extra visibility.
- Provide a cell phone for emergency contact, with relevant phone numbers programmed in it.

Halloween Safety Tips for Motorists:

- Watch for children crossing and walking on roadways, medians, and curbs.
- Come to a complete stop at all stop signs and traffic lights.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys carefully.
- At twilight and later in the evening watch for children in dark clothing.
- Always slow down in a residential area, allowing kids to cross the street.

Remember to have fun out there with the children. Halloween is meant to be an enjoyable activity for our kids. Using some of the tips suggested here, we can all band together and keep it safe, both for the drivers and the children.

Safe travels, and Happy Halloween.

