



The New Jersey Poison Information & Education System

Serving New Jersey Since 1983

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Designated regional poison center
for New Jersey by New Jersey
Department of Health and Senior
Services and the American
Association of Poison Control
Centers

PRESS RELEASE

Date: HALLOWEEN 2008
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Halloween

Ground Rules for "Trick or Treating"

Halloween is right around the corner and *CANDY* is on the minds of every trick or treater. Parents/caregivers should pay attention to the following Halloween safety tips to reduce the risk for unintentional poisoning injuries.

- Children should be accompanied by an adult when "trick or treating".
- Go only to homes of people known to you.
- Homemade treats are nice, but unless the maker is well known, should never be eaten.
- Use non-toxic makeup to paint faces and body parts.
- Teach children not to consume food items, drinks or treats that may be offered, until an adult has thoroughly checked them.
- Throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious treats.
- Make sure any items that can cause choking, such as hard candy, are given to children of an appropriate age to avoid choking.
- Keep all candy away from pets. Do not let children give treats to pets; *chocolates* and *raisins* may be poisonous to animals.
- Dispose of tin foil and cellophane candy wrappers properly to avoid children and pets choking on them if swallowed.
- Keep all medicines out of children's reach.
- Teach you child that medicine is not candy.

The New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES) reminds parents, grandparents and other child care providers that poisonings often occur **when children mistake pills for candy**. Post the Poison Control Center Help Hotline number **1-800-222-1222** by your telephone. Call the Poison Help Hotline to speak with a poison information specialist 24 hours a day/7 days a week. It's Not Just Poisons! The Poison Control Center is here for Information and Questions Too!

Remember Help Is Just A Phone Call Away! 1-800-222-1222

located at University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey

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