Hints for Halloween

The Oregon Poison Center wishes you a happy and safe Halloween! Below are Halloween tips for parents with young children.

- Wear brightly colored costumes that are made of flame-resistant materials. Use reflective tape on trick or treat bags.
- Carry a flashlight after the sun goes down. Watch for cars. Try to finish before dark.
- An adult should go with young children. Stay in local and familiar neighborhoods.
- Stay away from barking dogs or other upset animals.
- Parents should check all treats before they are eaten.
- Eat only those treats in their original and unopened wrappers. Throw away candy if wrappers are faded, have holes, tears or signs of re-wrapping.
- Throw away all unwrapped candy or treats.
- Carefully check fruits and homemade goodies for foreign objects that may have been inserted or injected, such as: pins, metal needles or razor blades. Fruit can be cut into several sections to check for foreign objects.
- Some treats, especially chocolates, can be poisonous to pets.
- If your children use makeup rather than a mask, watch for possible skin irritation, such as a rash or itching. If this occurs, remove the makeup immediately and completely wash the area with soap and water.
- Blocks of dry ice can be used in punch bowls but small pieces should not be used in individual glasses. Frostbite can occur if dry ice touches the skin or mouth.
- Candle-lit Jack-o-Lanterns should be kept off doorsteps to avoid contact with children’s costumes.

If you think your child has been poisoned, call the Oregon Poison Center immediately. The toll free phone number is 1-800-222-1222.