

Pelican Point HOA  
Halloween/Trick or Treat Safety Tips



Pelican Point will celebrate trick or treat in compliance with Ascension Parish Council on October 31, 2018 during the hours of 6:00pm to 8:00pm. In addition to the regularly posted security guards, two Ascension Parish Sheriff Deputies will be detailed to Pelican Point on Halloween night.

Below are tips for trick or treaters and their parents, homeowners, and drivers. Have a safe and happy Halloween!

**Trick or Treat Preparation:**

- 🍂 A responsible adult should accompany children under 12 years of age at all times. (Parents Magazine)
- 🍂 All parts of the child's costume should be brightly colored and contain the child's name, address, and a contact telephone number in case a young trick or treater is separated from their parents.
- 🍂 Costumes should fit properly. Masks should be sized as to not inhibit vision. Shoes and garments should be properly sized to prevent tripping. If make-up is to be used, test it on the child for irritation and allergic reactions.
- 🍂 All components of a costume should be certified flame retardant and contain reflective materials to make each person visible. Children should be equipped with flashlights or glow sticks.
- 🍂 Plan a route that is mutually acceptable with scheduled times to be at certain locations and times for cell telephone contacts.

## Precautions While Trick or Treating:

- 🍁 There is strength in numbers. Older children and parents should agree on group size, and who will be included in the group.
- 🍁 Ensure children are aware not to approach or enter any vehicles occupied by strangers no matter how tired they get.
- 🍁 Approach homes that are clearly lit up in neighborhoods that they are familiar with. Children should be made aware not to enter any homes while trick or treating.
- 🍁 Ensure children, no matter how tempting this is, not to consume any candy until they return home and parents can inspect the stash. Any items that are not factory sealed, appear to be compromised, or hand wrapped should be discarded.
- 🍁 Assume that all vehicles do not see trick or treaters and refrain from running or darting from residences onto the vehicle roadway.
- 🍁 Since Pelican Point has no sidewalks, trick or treaters should move about the street facing oncoming traffic. Flashlights or reflectors should be displayed on the side closest to the center of the roadway.
- 🍁 Responsible adults should ensure children should walk and not run through the neighborhood and use extra caution when exiting driveways and emerging from shrubbery.
- 🍁 Adults should not drive trick or treaters from house to house. This can create a traffic jam on already busy streets.

### **Homeowners:**

- 🍂 Keep the front of your home well lit, and curbs and driveways free from obstructions including decorations, vehicles, and decorative plants. This will ensure visitors will not trip while approaching and prevent damage to property.
- 🍂 When handing out treats do not allow visitors to take as much as they want. Homeowners should actively hand out candy to each person. Children can become aggressive when given the opportunity to take all they want.
- 🍂 Use flameless candles, battery or electric forms of illumination when decorating for Halloween.
- 🍂 Restrain pets properly.

### **Drivers:**

- 🍂 If choosing to celebrate Halloween in an adult fashion, do not drive under the influence. For everyone's safety, please have a designated driver.
- 🍂 Drive at a slower than normal speed, as children are prone to run from behind parked cars, driveways, and shrubbery. Use extreme caution when pulling into driveways and garages.
- 🍂 Use hands free mode if communicating with children who are on foot.
- 🍂 Do not text while driving.
- 🍂 Refrain from allowing young or less experienced drivers to operate a vehicle this night.
- 🍂 Adults should not drive trick or treaters from house to house. This will cause traffic jams.
- 🍂 If any extreme vehicle activity is observed, notify the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office immediately. 911 if an emergency, 225-621-8300 opt. 1 for non-emergency.