



Delicious Halloween Treats

Best Ever Popcorn Balls

3/4 c. white corn syrup
1/4 c. margarine
2 t. cold water
2 5/8 c. confectioners' sugar
1 c. marshmallows
5 quarts plain popped popcorn

Directions: In a saucepan over medium heat combine corn syrup, margarine, cold water, confectioners' sugar, and marshmallows. Heat and stir until the mixture comes to a boil. Carefully combine the hot mixture with the popcorn, coating each kernel. Grease hands with vegetable shortening and quickly shape the coated popcorn mixture into balls. Wrap in cellophane or plastic wrap and store at room temperature.

Spiced Pumpkin Seeds

1 1/2 T. margarine, melted
1/2 t. salt
1/8 t. garlic salt
2 t. Worcestershire sauce
2 c. raw pumpkin seeds, rinsed and dried

Directions: Preheat oven to 275 degrees. Combine the margarine, salt, garlic salt, Worcestershire sauce, and pumpkin seeds in a medium bowl. Stir until the pumpkin seeds are well coated and place in a shallow baking dish. Bake for 1 hour, stirring occasionally.

AFTER TRICK-OR-TREATING:

- Wait until children are home to sort and check treats. Though tampering is rare, a responsible Adult should closely examine all treats and throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.
- Try to apportion treats for the days following Halloween.
- Although sharing is encouraged, make sure items that can cause choking (such as hard candies), are given only to those of an appropriate age.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Halloween Safety Tips



Mint Hill Police Department

7200 Matthews-Mint Hill Rd.

Mint Hill, NC 28277

Chief Tim W. Ledford

The following safety tips are recommended by the Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the Mint Hill Police Department:

- Don't let children go "Trick or Treating" alone. Be sure older children use the BUDDY SYSTEM. An adult should accompany young children.
- Accompany young children to the door of every house they approach. Stay within sight of the door.
- Parents should be familiar with every house and with all people from which the children receive treats.
- Children should be cautioned never to approach any vehicle, occupied or not, unless they know the owner and are accompanied by a parent.
- Children should be cautioned never to enter any home without prior permission from their parents.
- Make sure that all children carry a glow stick or flashlight and wear reflective clothing.
- When using facemasks, make sure the child can see and breathe properly and easily.
- All costumes and masks should be clearly marked as flame resistant.
- Children should be warned to never approach any house that isn't well lit and that does not have a porch light on.
- Parents should inspect all treats and dispose of anything that has been opened or has never been wrapped and police should be notified if something has been tampered with.



- Children should be cautioned to remember any suspicious incidents and report them to their parents or the police.
- Children should be instructed to scream and make a scene if anyone tried to grab them or force them into a home or vehicle or make them go with them.
- Children should be cautioned to run away immediately from people who try to lure them with special treats.



Costumes

Costumes should be made of flame-retardant materials. They should be short to prevent tripping. Use light colors and reflective materials. Try using make-up on the child's face instead of a mask, as a mask can obstruct a child's view.



Treats

Feed children a meal before trick-or-treating. Check all treats at home in a well lit place. Inspect fruit and homemade treats very carefully and eat only unopened candy.



Fun Halloween Facts

- Jack 'o Lanterns originated in Ireland where people placed candles in hallowed-out turnips to keep away spirits and ghosts on the Samhain holiday.
- Tootsie Rolls were the first wrapped penny candy in America.
- Signs of a werewolf are thought to be a unibrow, hairy palms, tattoos, and a long middle finger.
- Halloween candy sales average about \$2 billion dollars annually in the United States. It is the 2nd most commercially successful holiday, with Christmas being the first.
- Halloween is on October 31st, the last day of the Celtic calendar. It was originally a pagan holiday honoring the dead and was referred to as All Hallows Eve.
- The ancient Celts believed that the dead came back to Earth on All Hallows Eve and began wearing costumes and masks to disguise themselves.
- The official colors of Halloween, black and orange, came from orange being associated with the fall harvest and black being associated with death.
- Samhainophobia is the intense fear of Halloween.

