



MISSISSIPPI STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MIKE CHANEY
State Fire Marshal

PRESS RELEASE

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Fire Safety No Trick on Halloween

Jackson, MS – As tiny ghosts, goblins, pirates, cowboys, and princesses prepare for trick-or-treating this Halloween weekend, Commissioner of Insurance and State Fire Marshal Mike Chaney reminds parents that fire safety is no trick on Halloween.

The latest data from the United States Fire Administration shows that between 2011 and 2013 there were 10,300 fires during the three-day period around Halloween that caused about 25 deaths, 125 injuries and \$83 million in property loss.

“A child’s safety should always come first on Halloween. We should help our communities have a safe Halloween holiday by practicing fire safety,” Chaney said

The Mississippi State Fire Marshal’s Office recommends these fire safety tips for this weekend’s festivities:

- Choose a costume without long trailing fabric. This can cause a child to trip or may touch flames in jack-o’-lanterns or other decorations.
- If you make your own costume, use materials that won’t catch on fire easily if they come in contact with heat or flame.
- Give your children flashlights or glow sticks so they can see where they are walking.

- Keep decorations away from candles, light bulbs or heaters.
- Consider using flameless candles or glow sticks in your jack-o'-lantern.
- Keep exits clear of decorations.

For more information about Halloween fires and fire safety, check out the [U.S. Fire Administration's website](#) . Safety tips will also be available by following MID on Twitter - @MSInsuranceDept and on Facebook at Mississippi Insurance Department.