Celebrating Halloween Safely

Pay Attention to Your Surroundings When Heading Out

• Plan your route ahead of time and make sure you know how to get back home.
• Watch out for each other – if someone around you looks like they need help, check in with them and consider pairing up before you head out to avoid confusion later.
  o Sticking together helps ensure no one is left behind.
  o If you decide to leave a party with someone else, tell all your friends.
• When you arrive to an event, make sure you make note of emergency exit locations. If you hear gunfire, shouting, screams or commotion, react immediately and get out if possible.
• Call 9-1-1 first in an emergency. If on campus, also call Public Safety or use one of the over 50 emergency blue call towers located throughout the Lincoln Park campus.
• Charge your phone before you go and add Public Safety number to your contacts list (773-325-7777 at Lincoln Park and 312-362-8400 at Loop).

If You’re Going to Drink, Have a Plan

• Eat a meal and drink water before and during your night out to help mitigate harmful side effects of alcohol.
• Consider bringing a water bottle. Already having a drink in-hand may make it easier to decline an offer from someone you don’t know.
• Don’t leave your drink unattended or accept drinks from someone you don’t know and trust. This can help to ensure you don’t consume something you didn’t intend to.
• Take note of your and your friend’s behavior and intoxication level throughout the night. If you see something is off, say something and ask for help.
• Know your limits, make a plan, tell your friends, and hold each other accountable.

Be Safe While Traveling

• When heading home, travel in groups through well-lit and high traffic areas. Also:
  o Only carry essentials when going out. Bring your ID, phone, keys, credit card and a small amount of cash. While you don’t want to get stuck somewhere without a way to get home, you don’t want to have many valuables on you.
  o At the Lincoln Park campus, use the safety escort service to travel between buildings and parking lots/garages, available from 6 p.m. – 6 a.m., seven days a week by calling 773-325-SAFE (7233). Note: a mini-bus may be your safety escort.
  o To travel to residential destinations just outside the boundaries of Lincoln Park, use the Vinnie Van service. Find more information at: go.depaul.edu/vinnievan