

KANKAKEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE: Halloween and Trick-or-Treat Safety

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

(10/30/2013)

TO: Kankakee County Residents
FROM: Kankakee County Sheriff's Office
RE: Halloween and Trick-or-Treat Safety Tips

Kankakee County Sheriff's Office: **OffenderWatch**@a sex offender mapping and alerting service aids citizens in avoiding dangerous homes



In Kankakee County, there is approximately 207 registered sex offenders (over 130 of which register with the Sheriff's Office), and we want you to know where they reside so that you avoid those houses when trick-or-treating. *"We do the best we can in making sure sex offenders live where they tell us, so it is crucial that our citizens visit our website www.kankakeecountysheriff.com, to see who the registered sex offenders are and where they are living."* says Sheriff Tim Bukowski. Citizens are encouraged to check any addresses where they or their family spend time. Sheriff Bukowski says "The mapping and address feature found on the website pinpoints exactly where an offender lives."

You will also find many other beneficial tools such as the ability to sign up for FREE automatic email notifications informing you if an offender moves within a specified radius of any address you register. *"If you aren't planning on trick-or-treating in your neighborhood, but will be in a family or friend's neighborhood, register their address beforehand so you know which houses to avoid. You can register any and all of the addresses where your children spend a lot of time; for example friend's, grandparent's, or babysitter's addresses"* says Bukowski. The alerts are in real-time and sent out via e-mail as soon as a new offender has registered with the Kankakee County Sheriff's Office (or other local law enforcement agency). Sheriff Tim Bukowski says *"The benefit of registering for this free confidential e-mail alert service is that it allows us to monitor your important addresses for you, thereby keeping you up to date of newly registered offenders and making it unnecessary for you to have to check your important addresses daily or even weekly"*.

The website for the Kankakee County Sheriff's Office is www.kankakeecountysheriff.com. Citizens should click on the link "locate registered sex offenders" and follow the instructions to check their neighborhood and sign up to receive FREE e-mail alerts.

Sheriff Bukowski encourages everyone to have a fun and safe Halloween. Knowledge is power and knowing where the registered sex offenders reside in your area can help you make the best choices for safe and enjoyable Halloween activities.

For further information, please call the Kankakee County Sheriff's Office at (815) 802-7100 or KanComm Dispatch at (815) 933-3324.