

Virginia Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry (SOR)

Halloween Safety



Can a convicted sex offender participate in Halloween/Trick-or-Treat activities?

If the convicted sex offender is on supervision – which means restrictions have been placed on them as they relate to probation/parole and not state law – then they may not be permitted to participate in trick-or-treat activities (i.e. porch lights must be turned off; not permitted to open the door to trick-or-treaters, etc.). This restriction only applies if that offender's conditions of probation/parole prohibit contact with children.

If the convicted sex offender is not on supervision, then they are entitled to participate in trick-or-treat and other Halloween activities. This does apply to convicted sex offenders featured on the Virginia Sex Offender Registry. The only exceptions relate to [Code of Virginia 18.2-370.5](#) which restricts an offender's access to school property.

Questions regarding an individual's probation/parole status and any restrictions placed on them as a result of that status should be directed to the local [Probation and Parole](#) office or the [Virginia Department of Corrections](#).

What can I do to protect my children?

Parents and guardians are encouraged to visit the [Virginia Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry](#) to identify the relevant addresses of convicted sex offenders. This enables adults and guardians to make informed decisions on what residences/businesses to approach for trick-or-treating.

Halloween night, the Virginia State Police Sex Offender Investigative Unit will be working with the Virginia Department of Corrections Probation and Parole to check on supervised sex offenders.