



GUARDIAN SECURITY SYSTEMS

Locally owned and operated. Established 1974

Anchorage
274-5275
Mat-Su Valley:
376-4700
Kenai Peninsula:
283-5652
Fairbanks:
459-5275
Statewide:
1-800-478-1898

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Account Update Policy:

Changes must be made in writing. A telephone followup to verify your identity with your passcode will then occur *before* changes take effect.

Plan accordingly for contact list updates, or your personal contact information.

Changes can be made via mail, email, the website, or at the main office in Anchorage.

Expect a phone call verification of these changes!

It's our policy to protect your account at all times.

Update online at <https://www.guardiansecuritysystems.com/support/update-emergency-contact-list/>

Preparing for Winter

It won't be long at all before the snow starts falling. Soon yards and driveways will be buried until spring. Now is the time to get last-minute things done to ready your yard and home for winter.

If you bundle up, there's still time to work outside. Fall mulching makes for a cleaner garden in the spring by suppressing weed growth and suffocating seeds. This only works if the mulch used is also weed-free. Bark, leaves, corn husks and even rock can be used as mulch. Reduce your spring prep time by mulching in the fall.

There's still time for daffodils and tulips. Plant bulbs according to package directions; bulbs are picky about the depth.

Before the first snow, there's time to aerate and fertilize the lawn. Use a core aerator or walk your lawn in spiked golf shoes to poke

holes in the thatch and allow water and fertilizer to penetrate more deeply into the soil.

Rake leaves regularly, as it's no fun picking up the last leaves in the snow, and a blanket of leaves left over winter can kill grass. More likely to happen, however, is bugs, bacteria, and fungus, which grow well under damp leaves. These can do serious damage to your lawn.

Check that outdoor lighting is adequate. Install motion-sensitive lighting or an automated driveway light for the coming darkness. Be sure pipes are buried and/or insulated, and install freeze/thaw sensors in crawl spaces and near water heaters. Installing moisture sensors will also help to protect your home. Please give us a call if we can help you ready your home for winter. We're Guardian, and we're here to serve.



Guardian offers:

*local monitoring
by a local
company

*24/7 monitoring
of your home or
business

*free
training on all
system
components

*video
surveillance

*web-based home
automation

*free consultations

*access control

*patrol services

*burglar, fire,
temperature and
moisture alarms

*interactive
security

*alarm response
program

*more!



It's just around the corner: miniature Alaskans will take over the night, stepping out in their finest pirate, princess, and zombie attire. Halloween generally proves to be a night of fun, albeit with the possibility of a stomach ache. The American Confectioners' Association estimates that 600 million pounds of candy will be purchased for Halloween. That's more than \$4 billion in candy sales alone! While families are no doubt already planning costumes and fun activities for the evening, a few tips will help to keep the holiday safe for everyone.

Most importantly, don't allow younger children to trick or treat alone. Recalling the armed robbery of seven children on Halloween in Alaska in 2007, bear in mind that a scare for fun is one thing; an injury or crime is quite another matter. Accompany children to the door rather than wait in the car. Parents will be colder, but the children will also be safer.

Reflective tape on costumes and bags will help drivers see children. Be sure swords, knives, and other costume accessories are short, soft, and flexible to avoid accidental injury when playing. And be sure that costumes have room for cold weather gear. The average evening temperatures for October are from 13°F to 35°F.

Once home, parents should inspect candy. Throw out anything that appears to have been tampered with, but rest assured that there has not been a confirmed case of candy poisoning since 1974 (and in that case, a relative was responsible). There was a case in Minnesota in 2000 of hypodermic needles being shoved into candy, and one teenager got poked, but again, this is mostly urban legend.

Come to think of it, costumes don't always fit well over snowsuits, so perhaps this is the year for indoor fun. Trick or Treat Town has been going on in Anchorage for over twenty years. Family-friendly, age-appropriate activity stations and, yes, candy, abound. Families are encouraged to dress up and could even earn a prize.

In other parts of the state, Juneau offers the annual Halloween Spooky Skate, where children get dressed up and go ice skating. Fairbanks holds a Trick-or-Treat Town in which the whole town gets involved.

For something completely different, maybe your kids will want to try out the East Pool Pumpkin Splash. They jump in and swim for a pumpkin, then decorate it!

These activities and more can be found online. There is no doubt that Alaska's ghosts and goblins will have fun. Regardless of how you choose to spend the holiday, a little planning and common sense will ensure that it is enjoyed by all.



Pumpkin News

If you're tired of the same old jack o'lantern, the same two triangles for eyes, another triangle for the nose and a banana-with-teeth smile, then the following websites ought to help you come up with something new and fun for you and the kids. Look at <http://www.rd.com/home/decorating/pumpkin-carving-patterns-ideas/> or <http://pumpkinmasters.com/free-patterns.html> for ideas. Also consider these:



Carving Kits:

A kitchen knife is yesterday's carving tool. Target and other retailers carry prepackaged kits that include a saw, scoop, carving tool, and patterns. Search online for pumpkin carving templates.

Just paint it:

All white. Metallic silver. Or paint a face on it (the same carving templates mentioned above can be used as painting patterns). Paint it with glue and sprinkle glitter all over it.

Speaking of glue:

Glue stuff to your pumpkin, like plastic spiders as shown, or googly eyes. Use a hot glue gun and glue to your heart's content. Small candies, pompoms, tissue paper or yarn!

A word about seeds:

Roast your pumpkin seeds for a fast, easy, and super-nutritious source of protein and fiber. Simply separate the seeds from the pumpkin guts and rinse well. Measure seeds into a pot of boiling water; add 1 teaspoon of salt per cup of seeds. You might also add garlic or chili powder, depending on your tastes. Allow seeds to simmer for ten minutes, then spread on a cookie sheet toss with olive oil until well coated, then bake at 400°F until lightly browned. Depending on the amount and size of seeds, this could take 5-20 minutes. Cool and enjoy!

New Product at Guardian



Interlogix Global Security Products has created an innovative new system that we at Guardian are proud to offer to our customers. Zerowire allows the user to choose the components of security, surveillance, and home automation that best suit his or her needs, and purchase those components. Homeowners can install the products themselves, or Guardian is happy to do the work for a set fee.

Once the system is installed, security and home management can be conducted from any device with an internet connection, or from an app on your smartphone. It is possible to observe real-time security occurrences (such as home entry), lock or unlock doors, turn on or off lights, adjust thermostats and more. You can even grant temporary access to your home, say for a repairman or housekeeper, with a simple click.

The best part is that Zerowire is an award winner in leading security product technology. We at Guardian recognize that automation is the home management tool of the future, and are happy to offer Zerowire as an option to our customers. And be assured that the Guardian standard still applies. With the purchase of 24/7 monitoring, you'll rest easy knowing that should your home go into alarm, Guardian will be there to help you handle the situation in the safest and fastest way possible. Please call a Guardian Security Consultant today to learn more!

Around Alaska

Fright Night Haunted House, Northway Mall, Anchorage. October 20-31, 6-9pm Sun-Wed, 6-11 Thurs-Sat. The largest haunted house in Alaska! This is an all-ages event with parent's discretion. Coupons available at any Carr's. More information at www.fivestaralaska.com.

Family Fun Days at the Reindeer Farm, Palmer, October 17, 24, 31. 10am-5pm. \$10 each includes reindeer farm tour, live music, spooky walk (haunted house for younger kids), reindeer barrel train, rubber duck races, hay bale maze, and more. Food, a pumpkin, and photos available at additional cost. For more information, www.reindeerfarm.com.

Kids' Harvest Carnival, Peninsula Grace Brethren Church, Soldotna. October 30, 6:30-8pm. Free! Games, hot dogs, puppet show and candy. www.pgkids.webs.com for more.

Halloween Trick or Treat Town, Fairbanks, Pioneer Park. October 25, 12-7pm. Lots going on all over town, many free activities and plenty of entertainment. See www.hallowentrickortreattown.com for schedule of events.

