

# SPOOKTACULAR ACTIVITIES, TRICK-OR-TREATING AWAIT

October 25, 2018 at 9:41 am | By [Ryan Silvola \(mailto:rsilvola@beloitdailynews.com\)](mailto:rsilvola@beloitdailynews.com)



Staff photo by Shaun Zinck Charlotte Hatleberg dressed up as a ladybug for the annual Halloween Costume Parade in Downtown Beloit on Saturday. Hundreds of people from all over the Stateline Area lined up at Horace White Park Saturday morning and made their way down to the farmer's market collecting candy on the way.

BELOIT- Downtown Beloit is about to get spooky with the 29th annual Halloween Costume Parade and Party.

The fun kicks off at 10 a.m. Saturday when the trick-or-treating parade begins. Families should meet at Horace White Park, on College Street and Grand Avenue, at 9:45 a.m. to prepare for the parade.

Promotions Coordinator Crystal Cribbs said depending on the weather the Downtown Beloit Association expects around 600 kids clad in a wide variety of costumes, along with their families.

Cribbs said the children will line up at the park and make their way to downtown Beloit to trick-or-treat at local businesses and participating vendors at the final Farmers Market of the year. Just look out for the orange flags.

She said the event is perfect for smaller children.

"There are a lot of safety concerns when we have our regularly scheduled trick-or-treating," Cribbs said. "(The parade) allows parents to be more comfortable."

Cribbs said an additional bonus is being able to see everyone's costumes in the daylight.

"You get to see people's creative costumes along with all the adorable children in costumes," Cribbs said. "It's nice to have an additional event for families to experience the Halloween spirit."

Cribbs notes the event offers much more than just trick-or-treating, though. There will be free pumpkins at State Street and Grand Avenue - while supplies last - from Paul and Cindi Paulson who have been donating pumpkins for the last 10 years, Cribbs said.

The event also will feature Zack Percell, of TnZ Magic, who will be performing magic tricks and making balloon animals at around 10:45 a.m. at the First National Bank Plaza. There also will be spooky stories read from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Turtle Creek Bookstore.

For a small fee, there will be face painting with Pickles the Clown, the opportunity to get photos taken at the Gantry (if weather permits) by Photography by April for \$5 and a fun zone with a bounce house, obstacle course and more at the corner of State Street and Grand Avenue starting at 9 a.m. on Saturday.

While there are plenty of activities for the kids, adults can explore last Farmers Market. Though the seasonal produce vendors are finished for the year, many vendors still will be at the market.

"Whether it's cheese, meats or baked goods, we still have our crafters and other vendors who are ready to come," Cribbs said.

The fun will go until 1 p.m. Cribbs notes that pets are not allowed in the Farmers Market area.

For more information, go to [DowntownBeloit.com](http://DowntownBeloit.com).

Trick-or-treating hours on Halloween

City of Beloit- 5 - 7 p.m.

Town of Beloit- 5 - 7 p.m.

Clinton- 5 - 7 p.m.

Janesville- 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

South Beloit- 5 - 7 p.m.

Rockton- 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Roscoe- 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

## Safety tips from the City of Beloit Police Department

- Wear light colored clothing; add reflectors.
- Give children flashlights and glow sticks to help them see and be seen by drivers.
- Make sure costumes are flame retardant.
- Make sure children can see well through face masks or head coverings.
- Parents should accompany their children and go only to homes with outside lights on.
- Stay within the neighborhood and only visit homes where you know the residents.
- Walk on the sidewalk.
- Only give or accept wrapped candy and treats, and examine candy before eating it.
- Drive slowly and yield to young pedestrians.