



Regulations for Halloween Decorations & Haunted Houses

DECORATIONS

Decorations may not be placed in a manner that obstructs or obscures any fire protection system components (manual pull stations, smoke detectors, bells/horns/strobes, sprinklers, fire extinguishers, etc.), exit signs, emergency lighting, or any means of egress.

The following materials are *prohibited*:

- Bamboo
- Confetti (loose, in large quantities)
- Corn stalks or husks
- Cotton batting
- Cloth drapery (other than flame retardant)
- Crepe paper decorations (other than flame retardant)
- Dried vines, leaves or moss
- Flammable powders or liquids
- Foam or plastic materials (including packing "peanuts")
- Paper streamers
- Plastic sheeting
- Sawdust
- Straw or hay
- Tumbleweeds
- Wood bark, mulch or shavings



All exits and exit
signs must not be
obstructed



Only artificial trees, plants and flowers labeled as "flame retardant/fire resistant" may be used.

DO NOT attach anything to fire sprinklers or sprinkler pipes.

ELECTRICAL

Extension cords must be of heavy gauge and approved by Underwriters Laboratories (UL) or some other nationally recognized testing laboratory. Only extension cords approved for outdoor use can be used to provide power to outdoor equipment or from an outdoor electrical source.

HAUNTED HOUSES

The Fire Marshal's Office must approve the setup or construction of any "haunted house" that is to be operated in a UMD building. The City of College Park Department of Public Services inspects "haunted houses" in buildings in the City. A "haunted house" is defined as the decoration or construction of a structure or part of a structure so that any of the following are present:

- Extremely low levels of lighting (less than 1 footcandle measured at the floor)
- Maze-like paths that confuse occupants as to their location or the location of the exits
- The use of lighting or sound effects to confuse or distract the occupants, including the use of **haze or fog machines**.

For assistance, please contact:

The Fire Marshal's Office at 301-405-3960.

The City of College Park Department of Public Services at 240-487-3570.