



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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FALL AND HALLOWEEN FESTIVITIES IN PURCELLVILLE

Purcellville, VA, October 16, 2020—Many of the traditional Fall and Halloween festivities, such as trick-or-treating, have been deemed high risk for spreading COVID-19 by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and the [Virginia Department of Health](#). To help the community enjoy the season, with these health agency recommendations in mind, the Purcellville Parks and Recreation Division created some fun alternatives. Check the Fall Festivities page in the Events and Activities section of the Town website for more details.

Outdoor Movie Night, October 30

On October 30, the last of the Town's three outdoor movies will be shown in Dillon's Woods. The movie is "Hotel Transylvania." Attendees are encouraged to come in costume for a contest. Winners of the costume contest will receive two \$10 vouchers to be used at any of the businesses in Town participating in the voucher program. Candy will also be given to attendees. Space is limited and reservations are required in advance. Please be sure to have a face covering and maintain proper social distance. For more information and the link to reserve a space, visit the [Events and Activities](#) page of the Town website.

Pumpkin Scavenger Hunt, October 25 – October 31

To give families something fun to do and support local businesses, we are having a pumpkin scavenger hunt. Businesses that want to participate sign up online. These businesses will receive small pumpkins to place inside or outside their establishments. [Businesses in Purcellville that would like to participate complete the online application by October 20](#). From October 25 through October 31, families can search for the pumpkins throughout town. A list of the participating businesses will be provided on the Town's website and on the Purcellville Parks and Recreation Facebook page on October 25 so people know where to search. When they find a pumpkin, they take it home with them, snap a picture, and get the code written on the pumpkin, then complete the online form with picture and the code. One \$10 voucher to be used at any of the businesses participating in the voucher program will be given out for each pumpkin found and registered.

Virtual Costume Contest, October 25 – October 31

Show off your best Halloween costume online! On October 25, there will be a post on the [Purcellville Parks and Recreation Facebook page](#) asking residents to post a picture of themselves, their kids, the family, or their pet in a Halloween costume. Costumes submitted for the contest must be in good taste and appropriate for a family audience. Costumes should not focus on religious, political campaigning, ideological, or controversial themes or issues. To join in the fun, post a picture in the comments section of the post. The three pictures that receive the most likes by October 31 will receive two \$10 vouchers to use at any business participating in the voucher program.

Spooky Driving Tour, October 25 – October 31

Many folks in Town go all out to decorate their homes for Halloween. We are going to create a map of homes decorated for Halloween so people can drive or walk to see the spooky homes. Decorations must be in good taste and appropriate for a family audience. Decorations should not focus on religious, political campaigning, ideological, or controversial themes or issues. [To have your home listed on the map, complete the online application by October 22.](#)

To enjoy the season safely, the Town would like to remind residents of the guidance shared by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), the [Virginia Department of Health](#), and the [Loudoun County Health Department](#) for Fall and Halloween festivities this year. To help prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19, these health agencies do not recommend door-to-door trick-or-treating because it is considered high risk for COVID-19 transmission for both the trick-or-treater and for the person handing out candy, along with the activities noted below:

- Traditional trick-or-treating where treats are handed to children who go door to door.
- Trick-or-treating at houses where individuals are not wearing a mask and where 6 feet of physical distance is not maintained between individuals.
- Trunk-or-treating where treats are handed out from trunks of cars lined up in large parking lots.
- Crowded costume parties held indoors and any events where social distancing is difficult to maintain.
- Indoor haunted houses where people may be crowded together and screaming.
- Hayrides or tractor rides with people who are not in your household.
- Rural fall festivals outside your community.
- Using alcohol or drugs, which can cloud judgement and increase risky behaviors.
- Traveling to and from areas outside your community, particularly to and from areas with community spread of COVID-19, to attend fall festivals and holiday activities.

The Town of Purcellville, Virginia

“Purcellville-your small Town, where history and progress intersect and people prosper,” is an award-winning town of over 10,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 50 miles west of Washington, DC. Having received the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities, Purcellville continues to be honored for its green initiatives with most recently being the Tree City USA recipient for the 12th year. The Town was reaffirmed as a AAA rated community by S&P Global Ratings, the highest credit rating possible, and is ranked “Safest City” in Virginia in 2020. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, which has been converted to a multi-use trail from Alexandria, VA to Purcellville, the Town has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, equestrian activities, farmer’s markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at www.purcellvilleva.gov.

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