



## The Amazing Pumpkin Carve 2017 Carver Participation Rules and Event Details

Thank you for your interest in carving at the third annual *Amazing Pumpkin Carve*. The Hopewell Valley Arts Council is looking for imaginative and truly AMAZING pumpkins and so we encourage you to think outside of the traditional pumpkin-carving box!

It is important that you read the following rules and event details **before** registering so you fully understand your commitment:

1. *The Amazing Pumpkin Carve* will be held “rain or shine” unless there is an extreme weather event. The pumpkins will be carved and displayed under a large event tent. Extreme weather-related closures will be made on a day-by-day basis and announced on the Hopewell Valley Arts Council website.
2. ***New Location!*** Carving will take place at Woolsey Park, 221 Washington-Crossing Pennington Road, Titusville NJ on Wednesday, October 11 between the hours of 10:00 am and 8:00 pm. Carvers must check-in upon arrival to be directed to their pumpkin under the large event tent. Since you will be carving an AMAZING pumpkin, make sure you leave ample time to complete your design and be cleaned-up by 8:00 pm. Carving time has been extended so that you may see your pumpkin in the dark to tweak your carving as needed prior to judging. The public will enter the pumpkin-viewing tent starting at 7:00 pm.
3. An individual or team of up to three Carvers are permitted on-site to carve the pumpkin. Carvers between the ages of 12 and 18 **MUST** be on a team with a parent or guardian.

4. Once the Arts Council has selected 50 carvers, additional carvers will be put on a waiting list. **If a carver has not started their pumpkin by 5:30pm on carving day, their pumpkin will be forfeited and reassigned to a carver from the waiting list that will be on stand-by.**

5. Pumpkins will be pre-positioned on straw bales. **Pumpkins may not be moved off of the straw bales.** Pumpkins MAY be spun around or propped-up for enhanced viewing and ease of carving. Some bricks and rocks will be available to use as props. Carvers may also bring their own material for propping.

6. **Only battery or manually operated tools are permitted.** No electricity will be provided or allowed for general carving purposes. A charging station will be available to recharge battery-operated tools.

7. Pumpkin designs must be the original work of the carver or carving team and not infringe upon the copyright or any intellectual property rights of others. Websites like may Pinterest be used for inspiration, but specific designs should not be copied.

8. The use of stencils is permitted, but commercial pumpkin kits and pre-purchased pumpkin stencils are strongly discouraged.

9. Carvers must keep in mind that the audience will be broad-based and of all ages, so designs must be appropriate for public display. **Designs that are religious, political or sexual in nature are not permitted.** Corporate logos or advertisements, other than logos of the participating non-profit organizations, are NOT permitted. Carved pumpkins that do not conform to these guidelines will not be displayed. If you are uncertain about your design's conformity, please contact us.

10. *Note change from last year:* DUE TO FIRE SAFETY RESTRICTIONS, ABSOLUTELY NO CANDLES OR OPEN FLAMES ARE PERMITTED UNDER THE TENT. YOU MUST BRING YOUR OWN BATTERY-OPERATED ILLUMINATION. The Rayovac Alkaline with 530 Lumens and 260 hours of runtime, or a similar product, work well and are widely available at home improvement stores. Multiple light sources are permitted. Please put your name on your lanterns so they can be returned to you at the close of the event. If you will be using batteries with a shorter life span, please provide back-up batteries in a bag with your name on it. We ask that you cut an easy-access spot into your pumpkin so that lanterns can be turned on and off in the evening with relative ease.

11. *Note change from last year:* Completed pumpkin designs MAY include visible man-made materials and components. In addition, natural material such as smaller pumpkins, gourds, cornstalks or sticks may be incorporated into your design. Components other than the main pumpkin may be pre-carved or painted in advance.

12. *We encourage you to think creatively!* Your completed pumpkin design may extend up to 4 feet beyond each side of your pumpkin or 6 feet above the top of your pumpkin. Designs may also extend below the straw bale to the ground. Safety is of utmost importance, so please ensure that your pumpkin is assembled securely.

13. The use of products/treatments to extend the life of your carved pumpkin is encouraged.

14. Carvers may be asked to make minor repairs to their pumpkin if needed over the course of the event.

15. No vehicles are permitted around the Pumpkin Tent. Please be prepared to transport all necessary tools from the parking lot drop off area. There will be one cart available, but you may need to wait while it is in use. We suggest you bring a rolling cart, wagon or some other non-mechanized form of transportation.

16. Carvers are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets to sit on while carving. Trash containers and buckets will be provided to help contain pumpkin refuse and facilitate cleanup. You are responsible for cleaning up your own pumpkin guts and surrounding area.

17. No alcoholic beverages are permitted during carving. Alcohol and carving do not mix well. 😊

18. Regular and vegetarian hotdogs and water will be available to Carvers at lunch time, but feel free to pack your own lunch or snack.

19. No pets are allowed in the Pumpkin Patch at any time. No Exceptions.

20. Carvers give unlimited permission to the Hopewell Valley Arts Council to use images of their pumpkins for promotional purposes.

21. All pumpkins are the property of the Hopewell Valley Arts Council and will be sold in a “live” auction to the general public on Sunday, Oct 16 at 5:00 pm.

22. Individual carvers or carving teams will receive 1) a \$150 honorarium for participating in the Carve, 2) one complimentary ticket for a friend, and 3) be eligible to participate in a \$750 prize pool.

23. Carvers will be permitted to enter the Pumpkin Viewing Tent to check on the condition of their pumpkin at any time during the public hours of the Carve.

## **The Amazing Pumpkin Carve 2017 Carver Time Line**

| <b><u>Activity</u></b>             | <b><u>Date</u></b>  |
|------------------------------------|---|
| • Carver Registration Deadline     | Midnight Sun, Sept 17, 2017   |
| • Selection Notification via email | By Wed, Sept 20, 2017   |
| • Carving Day                      | Wed, Oct. 11<br>Between 10am & 8:00pm   |
| • Pumpkin Judging                  | Wed, Oct 11 7:30pm to 8:30pm  |
| • Public Viewing of Pumpkins       | Wed, Oct 11 7:00pm to 9:00pm<br>Thur, Oct 12 3:30pm to 9:00pm<br>Fri, Oct 13 3:30pm to 10:00pm<br>Sat, Oct 14 10:00am to 10:00pm<br>Sun, Oct 15 10:00am to 6:00pm |
| • “Live” Pumpkin Auction           | Sun, Oct 15 5:00 pm   |