

# Fall & FRIGHTS & Delights

Sunday, September 28, 2025

## Fall is loaded with opportunities to have fun

It can be bittersweet to say farewell to summer. Months of warm weather and sunshine are hard to beat and provide plenty of opportunities to rest and relax.

Just because summer has come and gone doesn't mean the opportunity to enjoy recreation is in the rearview mirror. Fall is awash in opportunities to enjoy the fresh, inviting air and take part in the various activities that go hand-in-hand with this time of year.

### Apple and pumpkin picking

Heading to a nearby orchard or farm and choosing fresh fruit is a hallmark of fall. In fact, these are some of the most popular places to visit on the weekends, as crowds of people clamber to grab their Granny Smith or Cortland apples. Call ahead to learn which varieties are ripe and plan to arrive early before the trees are picked clean.

Apple orchards and pumpkin patches can be dusty, muddy or messy, so dress accordingly for the environment, including closed-

toe shoes you don't mind getting dirty. Keep in mind that many of these establishments are cash-only. Bring cash and expect to have your bounty weighed upon checkout.

### Wine tasting

September and October are prime months for grape harvesting, which means local vineyards may host special tours and events to take advantage of their growing season.

Fall also is a great time to visit a vineyard that offers tastings, as you can sit out in the sun and cool weather and enjoy a glass or two of the latest vintage. Follow local vineyards on social media or get on their email lists to stay on top of upcoming events.

### Leaf peeping

The gradual depletion of chlorophyll in tree leaves is responsible for the amazing and colorful display Mother Nature puts on each fall. Everyone is treated to vivid panoramas of reds, oranges, purples, and yellows, making them

ideal all-natural photo backdrops.

Plenty of people travel to more rural areas to witness leaves change color, and that means that country areas can get crowded. It always pays to plan a leaf-peeping excursion for early in the day to account for the possibility of traffic along the route. Make an entire day of it by seeing the sights, grabbing lunch, and hitting a farmer's market while out and about.

### Fall fair

Many towns hold off on their annual fairs and carnivals until the cooler months of the year. These are entertaining and boisterous events that can include everything from food and livestock contests to rides and amusements to musical performances.

As these fairs tend to last a

couple of days to a week, it could be fruitful to look into whether they sell multi-day passes at a discount, particularly if you plan to attend a few times and maximize the fun.

Opportunities for fun abound each fall. With inviting weather and calendars full of seasonal offerings, now is an ideal time to enjoy the great outdoors.



## Fall is upon us at

The Green Shepherdess FairTrade Boutique as pumpkins, calaveras (brightly colored Dia de los Muertos skulls), and other fall themed items are beginning to arrive! All of our products are ethically, sustainably, and justly produced by artisans and farmers around the world. Stop in to pick up a glass pumpkin from Egypt, a quilled card from Vietnam, a

bag of pumpkin spice tea blend from Kenya, spooky

metal art from India, or a fall scented beeswax candle from Illinois! When you shop local and fairtrade, your purchase makes a positive difference in the lives of artists, farmers, workers, small wholesalers, and local retailers. Your fairtrade purchase positively touches every part of the supply chain! You can shop online at [www.thegreenshepherdess.com](http://www.thegreenshepherdess.com) or in our store at 36 Public Square in DTW.

## Christmas World in Ashtabula

Enjoy the holidays by taking a trip down Rt.20 in Ashtabula County and visit one of the area's most unique Christmas and Gift Shops where you can find decorations for all seasons!

See us for our Halloween Decorations!



1760 W. Prospect Rd. (Rt. 20), Ashtabula, Ohio



The Green Shepherdess  
Fair-Trade Boutique

36 Public Square,  
Downtown Willoughby

online store:  
[www.thegreenshepherdess.com](http://www.thegreenshepherdess.com)

### Store hours;

Wednesday-Friday 12pm-5pm  
Saturday 9am-3pm

New fall and winter merchandise is arriving weekly! Be sure to mark your calendars for our first winter market to coincide with the DTW Merchant Stroll on December 5th and 6th. More information forthcoming on our website!



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**GREAT SELECTION OF HALLOWEEN DECOR!**

1760 W. Prospect (Rt. 20) Ashtabula

**(440) 992-8843**

Hours: Tues. - Sat. 11-5, Sun. 12-5, Closed Monday





Visiting a local apple orchard and picking one's fill of apples is a quintessential fall activity. Apple picking is an ideal way to spend time outdoors when the weather tends to be cool and pleasant. Gathering fresh-from-the-tree fruit to turn into favorite fall desserts like cobblers and pies is irresistible.

## Apple picking pointers

According to the Economic Research Service, Washington state is the leading apple producer in the United States. It is followed very distantly by New York and Michigan. Apples were first cultivated in Canada by early French settlers, with the first trees planted in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley around 1633. Today, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia have become strong players in the apple business. While other areas may not be apple meccas, those looking to pick their own have plenty of options across North American to enjoy this pastime.

Prior to an apple picking adventure, people can do a little preparation to ensure the afternoon is fun and

fruitful.

- **Do some research.** Before individuals head out, they should do research into the available orchards and which apple varieties they specialize in. Ripening seasons vary, so certain varieties may not be available at all times. Call ahead to learn which apples are ripe and when.

- **Visit early.** The best apples are often available early in the season before the trees have been heavily picked over. It's also a good idea to visit the orchard early in the day, which means cooler temperatures and smaller crowds.

- **Dress appropriately.** Orchards can be dusty, muddy and buggy. The ground also may be uneven. Individuals can wear comfortable clothes and closed-toed shoes that can get dirty. Also, they should dress in layers, as it

can be chilly early in the day and then warmer later on.

- **Pick correctly.** Instead of yanking on the apples, which can damage the tree and apples, people should gently roll or twist the apple upwards from the branch. If the apple is ripe it will detach easily with stem intact.

- **Avoid bruising.** It's wise to inspect the apples to make sure they are firm and brightly colored. Those with bruising or insect damage should be left behind.

- **Don't overload.** Only pick what you need. Apples are delicate, and overloading the apples into bags can crush or bruise the ones on the bottom. Plus, over-picking means that the apples may spoil before they can be eaten.

After a day at the orchard, apples can be stored unwashed in a cool, dark place, which will help them stay fresher, longer.

## Get into the spooky spirit this Halloween

Come October 31, there is extra mischief in the air, and who knows what might be lurking around those dim corners? Halloween is a time when the line between having fun and being scared is easily blurred.

While trick-or-treating and attending parties are ways to enjoy the final day of October, there are plenty of other ways to make Halloween more fun.

- **Read some scary stories.** There's something to be said about reading scary stories or poems on Halloween. Readers' imaginations take

over on Halloween as they envision scary characters and scenarios. Edgar Allan Poe, author of many notably macabre works, is a popular read



come Halloween.

- **Go pumpkin picking.** Most people already make pumpkin picking an annual treat. Don't overlook mishappen pumpkins that can be carved into spooky jack-o'-lanterns. Also, enhance Halloween decor with pitted and warty gourds that lend that scary appeal.

- **Create a haunted house.** Instead of going elsewhere to get chills and thrills, transform your house or yard into a spooktacular vision and invite neighbors to explore.

- **Make creepy crafts.** Children can get a kick out of crafting Halloween decorations. Drape a piece of muslin over a beverage bottle and spray it with laundry starch. Let sit and the muslin will stiffen when it dries. Paint on black circles for eyes and hang your "ghost" from a string.

- **Whip up Halloween treats.** Candied apples, extra-rich brownies and mini hot dogs wrapped in crescent rolls to look like mummies are just some of the ways to

create a scary Halloween feast.

- **Have a costume theme.** Everyone in the household can get in on the fun by planning costumes to fit a theme. For example, everyone can dress like the Addams family.

- **Host a Halloween book club.** Those who love to read can ensure the October gathering of a book club is one that features a discussion of a scary book. Those looking for a scare can explore horror authors like Stephen King, Anne Rice, Dean Koontz, Clive Barker, Shirley Jackson, and Tananarive Due.

- **Host an outdoor movie.** Projectors can now be hooked up to smartphones and tablets, so it's easier than ever to watch movies outside. Simply project a device onto a screen, white fence or even



a bedsheet. Since it gets dark somewhat early in October, the movie doesn't have to start very late. Depending on the audience, choose a movie that is very scary or only mildly so if children will be viewing.

- **Organize a Halloween treat exchange.** Similar to a Christmas "Secret Santa," participants put together a wrapped gift of homemade or store-bought foods and exchange with others.

Halloween can be made even more entertaining with some extra activities that appeal to people of all ages.

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# Halloween Drive-thru at Lake Metroparks Farmpark

## October 10-12, 17-19 & 24-26, 2025 • 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Halloween Drive-thru returns for another season of family-friendly thrills, chills and adventure at Lake Metroparks Farmpark. This special event delivers seasonal magic from the comfort of your car without the need to brave the elements or extra steps, making it an easy and accessible way for everyone to enjoy festive together.

On select October evenings, Farmpark's winding roadways are transformed with glowing lights, oversized decorations and immersive sets ranging from playful to spine-tingling. Dozens of spirited volunteers help bring the scenes to life, stepping into character to surprise and delight visitors along the route. The drive features a mix of returning favorites and brand-new themes for visitors to enjoy.

"It takes a lot of planning, creativity and energy to bring Halloween Drive-thru to life," says Lake Metroparks' Chief of Outdoor Connections Seth Begeman. "Every scene is crafted and brought to life in ways that make the experience entertaining and memorable for all ages."

Halloween Drive-thru runs October 10-12, 17-19 & 24-26 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Presented exclusively by Ken Ganley Subaru Wickliffe and Ken Ganley Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Mentor.

Tickets (\$27.50 per car-load) must be purchased in advance and are only available online at <https://www.showclix.com/tickets/halloween-drive-thru-2025>; terms and conditions apply. Sales begin Monday, September 22 at 8 a.m. for Lake County residents and Farmpark members, with general sales opening Tuesday, September 23 at 8 a.m.

Lake Metroparks Farmpark is located at 8800 Euclid Chardon Rd. in Kirtland (44094).





# BLACK CAT BASH

## JOIN THE FUN!

**Saturday, November 1**  
6:00-10:00pm

*American Croatian Lodge 34900 Lakeshore Blvd. Eastlake*

# HALLOWEEN DRIVE-THRU

**October 10-12, 17-19, 24-26**  
at Lake Metroparks Farmpark

Travel Farmpark's trails and roadways after dark in the comfort of your own vehicle and experience many playfully frightful sites throughout the park.

- All ages, PG-5 (parental guidance suggested)
- Fee: \$27.50 per carload

**Tickets on sale online only at [lakemetroparks.com](https://lakemetroparks.com).**



# ENJOY BROWNS GAME DAY SPECIALS!

**Happy Hour Drinks 3-6 M-F**  
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| <b>LOBSTER TAIL</b><br>SERVED WITH DRAWN BUTTER<br><b>15</b>   | <b>CLAM CHOWDER</b><br>CUP/BOWL<br><b>4/7</b>             |

## CLAM BAKE SEASON!

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Fall hiking can be a unique and exciting experience. Thanks to the vibrant foliage, crisp air and smaller crowds than might be around during summer, fall is a prime time to lace up one's boots and hit the trails.

Beyond the opportunity to check out the amazing foliage displays

synonymous with this time of year, spending time outdoors in fall provides various health benefits. According to UAB Medical West, some benefits of hiking include improved mental well-being, enhanced balance and improved muscle strength.

As with any hiking trip, it is key to plan ahead to enjoy a safe and enjoyable adventure this fall.

- **Layer your clothing.** Fall weather can be unpredictable and dramatic temperature fluctuations can occur between morning and afternoon. The trick is layering

### Fall hiking tips

clothing to provide comfort and safety. Start with a moisture-wicking base layer, add an insulating layer like fleece for warmth, and top it with a waterproof and windproof outer shell. Then you can adjust your clothing as conditions change.

- **Wear proper footwear to ensure ample traction.** Opt for sturdy hiking shoes or boots with significant ankle support and excellent traction. Fallen leaves and rain or early-season ice can make paths slippery. Waterproof footwear is highly recommended, especially if damp conditions are expected. Wool socks (not cotton) will wick away moisture and provide warmth even when damp. According to a study on mountain hiking in the Austrian Alps, 75 percent of fall accidents occur on descents, so having extra traction can help.
- **Mind the daylight.** As fall inches closer to winter, daylight hours diminish rapidly. It's easy to underestimate how quickly dusk will arrive. Plan your route to account for your pace so you can be off the trail well before sunset. Pack a flashlight or headlamp just in case.

- **Mind the habitat.** Anytime you hike you should be mindful of the natural settings around you. Stick to the trails so you do not disturb delicate vegetation. Also, never feed wild animals. They can grow accustomed to an easy hand-out and lose their fear of humans, putting themselves at risk of harm. Remember to dispose of trash properly and always take out what you bring in.
- **Stay fueled and hydrated.** Despite the cooler temperatures of fall, dehydration may occur as the body loses fluid through exertion and respiration. Pack plenty of water and take sips regularly. Bring along energy-rich snacks like protein bars, trail mix and dried fruit to maintain energy levels throughout the excursion.

Fall hiking trips enable people to immerse themselves in the stunning beauty of the season while also getting some exercise and enjoying ample fresh air.





## WILLOUGHBY LIONS CLUB

e-clubhouse.org/sites/willoughby/

# Sweetest Day ROSE SALE



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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

BAT  
BLACK CAT  
BONES  
BROOMSTICK  
CARVING  
CAULDRON  
COFFIN  
COSTUMES  
CREEP  
CRYPT  
DARKNESS  
EERIE  
EVENING  
FRIGHTEN  
GHOSTS  
GHOULS  
GOBLINS  
GRAVES  
HALLOWEEN  
HAUNT  
HOWLING  
MOANS  
MUMMY  
PUMPKIN  
SCARY  
SCREECH  
SKELETON  
SPIDER  
SPIRIT  
SPOOKY  
TOMBSTONE  
VAMPIRE  
WEREWOLF  
WINGS  
WITCH  
ZOMBIE



## At Badass Tea Co., located inside The Helicopter Daughter Tea & Wellness Studio, we don't do basic brews.

This fall, our blends are bold, spiced, and a little mischievous—perfect for chilly nights, haunted gatherings, and anyone ready to sip something stronger than pumpkin spice.

### Meet a few of our fall favorites:

- **Pumpkin Spice State of Mind** – Forget the latte. This tea takes pumpkin spice from basic to badass, with cozy spices that actually taste like fall.
- **Sleepy Hollow** – Rooibos, pumpkin, caramel. Foggy night vibes—minus the Headless Horseman.
- **Bonfire** – Apple, cinnamon, and rooibos in a cup that feels like gathering around the fire—without waking up smelling like one.
- **Mood Swings & Murder Plots** – Chocolate chai for when you're equal parts *I love you!* *I hate you!* *Don't leave me!*

And that's just the beginning. With teas like **Banana Bread & Burnout**, **Caramel Apples & County Fairs**, and a chai with a citrus twist, there's a brew for every mood, mischief, and midnight craving.

This fall, skip the tricks and stock up on the real treats—Badass Tea Co. blends that bring flavor, 80s nostalgia, and just the right amount of attitude to your cup.

*Find us inside*  
**The Helicopter Daughter Tea & Wellness Studio**  
9010 Tyler Blvd, Unit G  
(between Hopkins & Heisley Rd)  
Open Wed/Thu 11-3, Sat 10-2, Fri: By Appt.  
or shop online at **www.badassteaco.com**  
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### Bring this ad in during October and get 10% off your favorite Badass brew!



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