

Experience autumn, local harvest with Pumpkin Trail, Harvest Halton

Fall-themed activities planned at local conservation areas

Halton Region is celebrating fall with two events in October: Harvest Halton and the Pumpkin Trail.

Both events provide residents and visitors with an opportunity to connect directly with the agricultural community and learn more about the importance of supporting local food growers, local businesses, restaurants and farmers.

On Sunday, October 5, Halton Region will host the second annual Harvest Halton culinary event at Country Heritage Park in Milton from 1 to 5 p.m.

Harvest Halton is the Region's signature fall event and a stop on the Pumpkin Trail, pairing local chefs and farmers together to create seasonal dishes for sampling.

While enjoying live music, family activities and wagon rides, guests will have an opportunity to meet directly with local farmers and top chefs to learn more about the importance of buying locally.

Vendors from local agri-tourism and tourism businesses will also have display tables at an artisanal market, with items available for purchase (cash only).

Guests will also have an opportunity to take in 30 unique historical buildings and 20,000 artifacts at Country Heritage Park, and enjoy the view of the striking Niagara Escarpment.

The event will run rain or shine as tents have been arranged.

Tickets for Harvest Halton can be purchased online at Halton.ca/harvest or at the gate by credit card or cash.

Tickets for Harvest Halton are: online advance, \$22, online advance couple, \$40, at the gate \$25, under 18, free. Food sampling tickets sold separately, \$1; each food/drink sample costs between one to five tickets.

Meanwhile, the second annual Pumpkin Trail runs until October 31, and offers residents and visitors an opportunity to experience pumpkin and harvest-themed fall events using a self-guided map to visit locations across the region.

From the changing fall colours of

the Niagara Escarpment to the taste of gourmet seasonal cuisine, farm tours and accommodation packages, the Pumpkin Trail showcases 26 Halton businesses and offers something for all ages

to enjoy.

Copies of the map are available by dialing 311 and at local tourism offices and participating establishments. For more information, visit www.Halton.ca/pumpkintrail.

Something for all at fall fair

It's an "unforgettable experience."

She said the most popular event is the demolition derby that runs Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 1 p.m.

There will also be a truck and tractor pull, horse shows, barrel racing and the Classic Car Show on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On Sunday, the Rexall Baby Show will take place at 11 a.m. in the Exhibition Theatre, where babies will ham it up much to the delight of parents.

Several popular entertainers will take to the stage as well. Canadian country music recording artist Rob Kirkham and Neon Rain are known as one of the most personable live acts in Canada. They'll be on stage on Friday evening with three shows at 5, 6:45 and 8.

The pet show on Saturday morning will also provide a chance for families to get involved, Speck said.

Hands on Exotics will bring encounters with parrots, birds, snakes, reptiles, kangaroos. The exhibit runs all weekend in the south end of Hall 2, with shows every day on the Market Stage.

Kids can get their face painted or get a free balloon creature with Linda Googh, who's known as the Applause Generator. She'll be in the Kidz Zone, Exhibition Theatre on Saturday and Sunday.

Milton has its share of local talent performing too: Finnegan School of Irish Dance, Milton Youth Theatre Productions, Foster's Funk Band, Jessica Lockwood, a 14-year-old Milton musician who sings, plays guitar and writes her own music, Nancy Be Duo, who performs classic rock standards from the '60s to the present, Brass Angels Fitness Studio, Gavin McLeod, 14-year-old Milton singer and guitarist, and Hawthorne, a local band founded by four young musicians, to name a few.

Of course, no fall fair would be complete without the livestock demonstrations and competitions.

Robertson Amusements operates the midway and it's a really good midway, added Speck.

If it's some tasty treats you'd like to sample, there won't be any shortage of tempting foods at this year's fair, with a full selection of vendors for every craving.

Speck said she hopes the weather co-operates. "We always have rain at the Milton fair, but we go with the flow," she laughed.

Concessions will open at 3 p.m. tomorrow. Admission costs \$10 for adults and \$5 for children aged 5 to 12. Children aged under 5 years get in free. Parking costs \$5. For more information, visit www.miltonfair.com or call (905) 878-5689.

25th ANNUAL Fall Sale

50% OFF

Our Largest Sale of the Year!

Wall to Wall Nursery Stock including: • Trees • Evergreens • Flowering Shrubs • Perennials • Water Plants • Fruit Trees • Ornamental Grasses • Vines • Roses • Thousands of Garden Products & more! Location: Waterdown Garden Centre

20% OFF FALL MUMS
All Sizes and Colours Included!

50% OFF MOST HARD-GOODS
• Pottery • Fertilizers • Furniture
• Fountains • Pond Supplies
• Trellis • Garden Décor

SALE ALSO INCLUDES **50% OFF TREES FOR PRIVACY**
• Pyramidal English Oak • Cedar
• Ornamental Pear • Columnar Maple
• Columnar Crabapple • Pyramidal Spruce
• Pyramidal Hornbeam • And Many More!

CONNON NURSERIES
C. B. VANDERKRUK HOLDINGS LTD.
connon.ca

Waterdown Garden Centre
383 Dundas St. E, Waterdown, ON
Tel.: 905.689.4631

Hours: Monday - Friday 7am - 6pm
Saturday 8am - 5pm
Closed Sundays

Watch for pink ribbon car at fair's demo derby

There's one car many people will likely be cheering on during Saturday's Milton Fall Fair demolition derby.

Milton's Ryan Fitzpatrick and fellow mechanics at Master Mechanic have "pinked" out a 1987 Cadillac to raise funds for Cancer Assisted Services Halton (CASH).

CASH is a non-profit organization that helps cancer patients with services they need such as drives to appointments or hospital beds.

Fitzpatrick said CASH has helped some of his own family members so he decided to try to help them in some way.

Together with his mechanics, they painted the Cadillac, which they've named the cancer crusher, breast-cancer pink and cut a large ribbon out of the trunk. All people who have donated funds to the cause have signed the car.

They will be collecting donations for CASH during the demolition derby, which begins at 7 p.m.

All money donated will benefit CASH. So far, they've raised \$1,200.

All car-associated expenses were donated by the mechanics themselves.