

# PRESS RELEASE

Boxerwood Nature Center & Woodland Garden  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Moonlight Pumpkin Walk at Boxerwood on October 15

Boxerwood’s preschool Play Trail will be aglow with jack o’ lanterns during the nature center’s first-ever Moonlight Pumpkin Walk on October 15 from 6-8 PM. The mini-event is intended for families with young children.

Jess Sullivan, Boxerwood’s Early Education Coordinator, describes the Pumpkin Walk as “Fun and non-scary – a great way to get younger kids excited about Halloween!”

Boxerwood staff estimate that it will take more than a hundred jack o’ lanterns to light up the entire Play Trail. They’re hoping folks in the community will help them meet that goal by lending their own carved pumpkins for the event.

“We’re asking families, scouts, campus groups, artists – anyone and *everyone* –to carve a pumpkin and bring it to Boxerwood before the event,” says Sullivan. “The more pumpkins the merrier!”

Pumpkin drop-off will be in the Welcome Kiosk at the corner of the nature center parking lot during business hours on Friday, October 14 or before 3:00PM on Saturday, the day of the event. Boxerwood will provide lights for all the jack o’ lanterns. Folks who want to retrieve theirs at the end of the event should write their names on their pumpkins with a permanent marker. Pumpkins left behind will be composted.

Herman’s Produce, located at 14 Quarry Lane, will give a 10% discount on pumpkins to families who mention that they are purchasing them for the Boxerwood Pumpkin Walk.

According to Boxerwood Educator Chat Stroh, staffers had been contemplating an evening event for young families around Halloween. “We checked the hours for sunset and moonrise, and discovered that they were well aligned on October 15, when an almost-full moon rises before the sun sets. We decided this would be the perfect night to keep Boxerwood open late and do something special to get everyone in the Halloween spirit.”



“The more pumpkins, the merrier!” Chat Stroh (left) and Jess Sullivan (right) anticipate that it will take 100 jack- o’ lanterns to light up the Play Trail for the Full Moon Pumpkin Walk at Boxerwood on October 15.

Boxerwood will provide free hot cider and baked treats for participants. “We’re keeping the event candy-free since it’s so close to bedtime,” Stroh reassures parents. “Kids might even want to wear their pajamas under a layer of warm clothes.”

The entrance fee is \$5 per family and parking will be in the field off Munger Lane. Luminarias (paper lanterns) will help light the way to the Play Trail.

The Play Trail will be closed to the public on October 15 from 3-6 PM to set up for the Pumpkin Walk. In the event of rain, the walk will be postponed until Sunday, October 16.

For more information, visit the Boxerwood website at [www.boxerwood.org](http://www.boxerwood.org) or call 463-2697.