



# PUMPKINS ON PARADE

AT THE GARDENS ON SPRING CREEK

October 23 - 25 | 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Nightly | [fcgov.com/gardens/pumpkins](http://fcgov.com/gardens/pumpkins)

## CARVED PUMPKIN CONTEST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

---

### **WHO CAN CARVE A PUMPKIN?**

Anyone of any age can enter a carved pumpkin into the contest.

### **HOW MANY TIMES CAN I ENTER THE CONTEST?**

Each person may enter one pumpkin.

### **ARE THERE ANY RULES ABOUT HOW I SHOULD CUT OR DECORATE MY PUMPKIN?**

Yes! If at all possible, please cut the pumpkin open from the BOTTOM and leave the top stem part intact. We will illuminate from beneath the pumpkin with lights. This is a family-friendly event, so carvings must be appropriate to be viewed by an audience of all ages. We reserve the right to exclude any contest entry based on inappropriate or graphic content.

This is a night time event so do require the pumpkins to be carved in some way, so we can illuminate them. You can also use paint or other props and decorations.

### **WHAT DOES THE WINNER GET?**

As a thank you for your support of the event, each contestant will receive half off their Pumpkins on Parade admission. Additionally, prizes will be awarded in each category. Prizes include gift cards to local nurseries and restaurants, locally-authored children's books and more!

## **HOW DO I GET MY DISCOUNTED EVENT TICKET FOR ENTERING THE CONTEST?**

Please buy your regular-priced Pumpkins on Parade event ticket in advance (we expect the event will sell out!). When you deliver your carved pumpkin on October 23, we will refund your ticket 50 percent of the purchase price. Please allow five to 10 business days for our staff to process your refund. We cannot refund tickets before we receive your carved pumpkin.

Please note that we are only able to discount the carver's ticket. If a family carves a single pumpkin together, we will discount one ticket. If multiple members of a family enter the contest with multiple individually carved pumpkins, each carver will receive the discount.

## **WHAT ARE THE CATEGORIES?**

The contest will be divided into three age groups (Youth: 11 and under, Teen: 12 - 17 and Adult: 18+) and contest categories for each age group will be:

- Funniest
- Best Garden-Themed Carving
- Most Original

## **I ALREADY ENTERED THE CONTEST, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE OTHER CARVED PUMPKINS TO THE GARDENS. CAN I DO THAT?**

Sure! We would be happy to accept carved pumpkins that will not be part of the official contest. We would use these extra pumpkins to decorate the event area. These can be dropped off with your contest entry – just make sure we know which one you want to be judged!

## **WHERE CAN I GET MY PUMPKIN TO CARVE?**

All contestants will need to provide their own pumpkin. These can be picked at a pumpkin patch, home-grown or purchased at a store. They can be any shape, size, or color.

## **HOW DO I REGISTER AND IS THERE A DEADLINE?**

[Register online here](#). You must register by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, October 21 in order to enter the contest.

## **CAN MY WHOLE FAMILY CARVE THE PUMPKIN TOGETHER?**

Yes! If a family carves together, will judge the pumpkin under an adult category if applicable. Please note that the ticket discount is only applicable to a single ticket per entry.

## **MY YOUNG CHILD WANTS TO ENTER THE CONTEST. CAN I HELP THEM?**

To be fair to all contestants of a similar age, guardian help must be limited to safety-related assistance only. Please do not help your young child with designing the pumpkin or detailed carving work.

## **WHERE AND WHEN DO I DROP OFF MY PUMPKIN?**

Finished, carved pumpkins must be delivered to The Gardens on Spring Creek on October 23 between 9 a.m. - noon.

## **CAN I PICK UP MY PUMPKIN AFTER THE CONTEST?**

We require that all contest pumpkins remain at The Gardens on Spring Creek throughout our weekend-long Pumpkins on Parade event so that our event attendees can enjoy them each evening.

If you want to pick up your pumpkin after the event ends, we will need to know this when you drop your pumpkin off so our team can plan accordingly. Pumpkins can be picked up between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Monday, October 26. After that time, any remaining pumpkins will be donated or composted. Please understand that we cannot protect against freeze, animals, rotting, or pumpkin handling damage that may take place over the course of the weekend, so pumpkins may not be in the same condition as when they were dropped off.

## **WHEN ARE THE WINNERS ANNOUNCED?**

Our panel of judges will select the contest winners on Friday night during the event - October 23. We will post the winners on The Gardens social media channels ([Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)) that evening - estimated between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. Additionally, winners will be highlighted in a Gardens on Spring Creek [blog post](#) the following week.

## **DO I NEED TO ATTEND THE EVENT OR BE PRESENT TO WIN?**

No, you do not need to be present to win, and you do not need to attend the event – however, all contestants will receive half-off the event ticket price if they do choose to attend this fun and festive event! When you drop off your pumpkin, we will collect your contact information.