

Pumpkin Patch Fun: A Perfect Fall Day

By Tess Howat

As fall approaches, the time has come to start planning trips to our amazing local farms. The apple picking season kicks off in September and the pumpkin season follows closely in its steps in October, with farmers preparing for a harvest. There's nothing quite as special as a day spent roaming pumpkin patches with the family, getting ready to carve up your festive jack-o-lanterns at home. Lucky for us, the Capital Region is home to countless farms with pumpkins ripe for the plucking, which means that your family's next amazing fall day is just around the corner—literally! Here's a list of a few hot spots for pumpkin picking fun in the falling leaves this October:

Ellms Family Farm

448 Charlton Road, Ballston Spa
Phone: 518-884-8168

Offerings: Pumpkin picking, apple picking, corn maze, kiddie corn maze, petting zoo, The Pumpkin Express train car ride through the farm and countless other activities for the whole family to enjoy!

Bellinger's Orchard

685 Argersinger Road, Fultonville
Phone: 518-922-8558

Offerings: Pumpkin picking, apple picking, farm store with fresh cider and donuts, weekend hayrides and a corn maze.

Engelke Farm

463 Garfield Road, Troy
Phone: 518-478-4939

Offerings: Pumpkin picking, free hayride, mums, homemade cider donuts and farm animals to feed.

Sunnyside Gardens

345 Church Street, Saratoga Springs
Phone: 518-584-1034

Offerings: Fall Festival featuring pumpkin patches, hayrides, apple cider donuts, jack-o-lantern displays and a monarch butterfly room.

Schuyler Farms

1124 Route 29, Schuylerville
Phone: 518-695-5308

Offerings: Fall Festival (tickets purchased online) featuring pumpkin picking, apple cider donuts, hay rides, corn maze, zip lines, super slide, petting zoo, pedal kart racing, rubber duck racing, gemstone and fossil panning and moonlight/haunted mazes.

Bowman Orchards

141 Sugar Hill Road, Rexford
Phone: 518-371-2042

Offerings: Fall Festival (tickets purchased online) featuring pumpkin picking, apple picking, corn maze, hay rides, food trucks, apple cannons, horseback rides and a petting zoo.

Before attending any of these amazing farms, make sure to give them a call or check their website for any updates relating to fall festivals or COVID-19 guidelines. Remember to have fun and happy Fall!