Orson, you are such a Hallo-weenie! What on earth are you doing now?

I’m not Orson. I’m the Great Pumpkin, here to educate our Wells community on ways to have a more sustainable Hallowe’en celebration.

Sustainable Trick-or-Treating? Good idea, O Great Pumpkin. When do you start? Right after my first trick, which is to get out of this pumpkin shell. Oooooff...

When looking for costumes or decorations, check out local thrift stores for reusable goodies. There are lots of reuse stores; check Secondhand Shopping http://reusetomkins.com/ for stores near Ithaca. Make sure your makeup is safe. The majority of makeup, and nearly all costume face paints, can contain lead and other heavy metals. Keep this in mind when planning your “look”. Learn more from the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics. http://www.safecosmetics.org

Channel your inner grade-schooler. Instead of buying premade plastic stuff, make your own fun decorations using recyclable materials like cardboard, newspaper, and aluminum foil. Use natural materials for your decorations, like bright fall leaves, pumpkins, gourds and even dried grasses. There are several farm stands and U-pick pumpkin patches in the area or come to the Aurora Farmers Market (until Oct 10th). Light up Jack’o’lanterns with reusable LED candles. Hand out healthier treats, without high-fructose corn syrup, chemical coloring, and artificial flavors. Chocoholics: choose Fair Trade certified goodies.

New GOTCHA cards will be issued after Fall Break. Let us “getcha” doing the right thing! This Block 2 card will be good through Dec. 9th.

Installments are produced as a community service by the Wells Center for Sustainability and the Environment.

The education of an extraordinary life.

“Installment” is a double play on words: these mini-newsletters are placed inside bathroom cubicles (“in stalls”) and the content changes periodically - in “installments.”

Get it? Got it? Good!

Bring used plastic shopping bags, burned-out light bulbs, and dead batteries to the collection boxes in the Sustainability Center classroom (Zabriskie 212) for proper recycling.

If you are not staying on-campus during Fall Break, the Office of Residential Life requests that you do the following for your room:

- Close and lock your windows, and close your window shades.
- Unplug all appliances and electrical devices, including alarm clocks. Those energy vampires never take a break.
- Refrigerators may remain plugged in (but take the time to toss out expired food and dead stuff!)
- Empty your trash and recycling containers.
- Remove all perishable food items.
- Turn off all lights and lock your door.

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