Orson, you are such a Hallo-weinie! Who are you supposed to be? I’m Wonder Owl, of course, here to educate our Wells community about ways to be more sustainable this Hallowe’en.

Sustainable Trick-or-Treating? Great idea, Ors… I mean Wonder Owl. When will you start your “Green Hallowe’en” educational efforts? Right after my first trick: to pry off these darned gold armbands!

When looking for costumes or decorations, check out local thrift stores for reusable goodies. There are lots of reuse stores; check Secondhand Shopping http://reusetompkins.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 28th). 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.

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

Arrive curious. ∴ Graduate prepared.

“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 Residence 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. Energy vampires do not take breaks otherwise.
- Refrigerators may stay plugged in (but please discard expired food!)
- Empty your trash and recycling containers.
- Remove all perishable food items.
- Turn off all lights and lock your door.

Looking for a ride home for break? Willing to fill those empty seats in your vehicle and have somebody share your ride? Check out our Zimride.com/flxrideshareacademic regional ridematching network. Consider opening your search to Cornell students; they have the same Fall Break period as Wells this year. Create a free Zimride profile and post your request for a ride or your ride offer to others.

Questions about more sustainable practices?
Email: sustainability@wells.edu