



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Pumpkin Smash offers residents a fun way to dispose of leftover pumpkins**

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (October 24, 2023) – Smash it, don't trash it! Each year 1.3 billion pounds of pumpkins end up in the trash. That's a scary amount of food waste. Instead of putting your jack-o-lantern in the trash, bring it to the Pumpkin Smash!

Residents are invited to the second annual pumpkin smash event on Saturday, November 4, 2023, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Sterling Ridge Park and Ride, located at 8001 McBeth Way, The Woodlands TX 77382.

Participants can choose their own pumpkin smashing adventure: catapult it and watch it fly, grab a baseball bat and smash it to pieces, watch it explode on impact from a 60-foot drop or donate it to help feed animals in need.

There is no limit on the number of pumpkins you can bring to this event. Pumpkins can be carved or whole. Pumpkins painted with acrylic paints are accepted. Please remove any non-biodegradable materials, such as candles, stickers, googly eyes, and plastics prior to the event.

Pumpkin Smash is guaranteed to be a smashing good time for all ages! Staff and volunteers will be on hand to monitor safety and ensure that all participants are having fun. Ghoulish pumpkin remains will be collected at the end of the event and taken to a local composting facility where they will be given new life as nutrient-rich compost.

Composting experts also will be on site to share tips on how to start a backyard compost bin so residents can learn how to keep food waste out of the landfills at home.

For more information, please contact the Township Environmental Services Department at [enviro@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov](mailto:enviro@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov) or 281-210-3800.



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The Woodlands Township is a special purpose district, providing fire protection, environmental services, parks and recreation, economic development, enhanced law enforcement services and more to over 120,000 residents and 2,000 businesses. Located 27 miles north of Houston, Texas, The Woodlands Township is committed to supporting the highest quality of life for its residents, businesses and visitors. Please visit [www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov](http://www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov) to learn more.