

# HALLOWEEN GUIDE

Let's not sugar coat it: Halloween can be a wasteful holiday. From candy wrappers to costumes kids quickly outgrow, this holiday can generate a lot of waste. Check out the simple, affordable, and fun tips below to have a low waste spooky season.



## WEAR A REUSABLE COSTUME

- Spruce up an old costume or an outfit you already have in your closet with accessories to make it feel new.
- Borrow a costume. Invite friends to participate in a Halloween costume exchange.
- Thrift your costume. Buy something you will wear again once Halloween is over!

## COLLECT CANDY RESPONSIBLY

- Swap a disposable trick-or-treat bag for a pillowcase, sandbox pail, wicker basket, or reusable shopping bag.
- Encourage your kids to say no thank you to treats they don't want and to only pick a few pieces of candy to encourage moderation.

## GIVE LOW WASTE TREATS

- Consider passing out homemade treats. An easy, healthy low-waste treat: clementines decorated with jack-o-lantern faces!
- Consider giving trick-or-treaters a reusable sticker, coloring kit, or thrifted book that they can enjoy long after Halloween is over.
- Donate leftover, unopened candy. Contact local charities or civic organizations to ask if they are interested in Halloween treats.

## CHOOSE REUSABLE DECORATIONS

- Invest in quality decorations that can be used year after year.
- Natural decorations, like pumpkins, gourds, and fall leaves, can be used throughout the entire Autumn season. Don't forget to compost them when you're done!
- Make your own DIY decorations. Check out Pinterest for creative upcycling ideas, like making a spider web out of natural twine.
- Play some Halloween tunes to create a spooktacular ambiance – no decorations required!

## GIVE YOUR PUMPKINS A SECOND LIFE

- When carving your jack-o-lantern, don't forget to save the seeds! Roast with oil and spices for a healthy treat.
- When you're done with an uncarved pumpkin, roast the flesh and then blend to make homemade pumpkin puree.
- All done with your pumpkin? Compost it or give to a neighbor with chickens.