



## HOW TO HARVEST YOUR GIANT PUMPKIN



Cut your fruit from the vine no earlier than the day before it is to be weighed (at either the Volunteer-Growers Weigh-off on Saturday, October 5, and the official GPC Weigh-off on Sunday, October 6).

**When cutting a fruit from the vine, cut the vine a foot or two either side of the pumpkin stem.**

**Do not cut the stem itself.** Some growers will even leave 3 to 4 feet on either side of the pumpkin, and place the cut ends of the vine into milk jugs filled with water.

Use a large plastic tarp for lifting, like the kind used to cover a wood pile, folded four times. Small rubber balls or even tennis balls can be tied into the corners of the quad-folded tarp to serve as handles. Roll the fruit carefully to one side. Stuff the tarp under the fruit, and

then roll the fruit to the other side, pulling the tarp through and spreading it flat. Next, with one or more people on each corner, carefully lift the fruit either onto a pallet for loading with a tractor or forklift, or directly into the back of a truck.

Also, for you volunteer pumpkin-growers , could you please contact Bill Clark at: [bill@damariscottapumpkinfest.com](mailto:bill@damariscottapumpkinfest.com) with a status update on your pumpkin's growth?  
Thank you so much.  
See you in October !



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