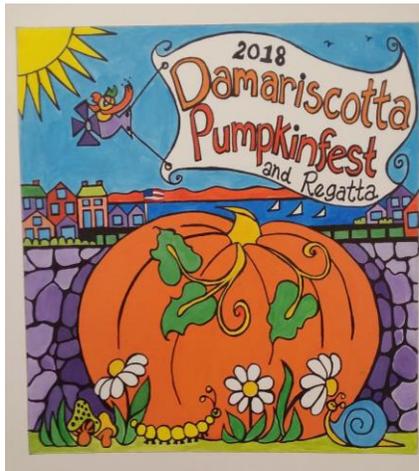




**THE T-SHIRTS ARE HERE!! THE HOODIES ARE HERE!
THE CAPS ARE HERE!**



Stop by Hannaford's Supermarket - Damariscotta, The Beach Plum Company in Newcastle, Main Street Grocery (the old Yellowfront Grocery), or Supplies Unlimited to get your new official 2018 Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta merchandise. You'll find T-shirts (both long and short sleeve), and hoodies featuring Marybeth Canedy's winning design, which was chosen from among 17 entries that were submitted by 14 artists. Merchandise prices remain the same as in previous years, at \$20 for short sleeve T-shirts, \$25 for long sleeve t-shirts, \$40 for hoodies, \$20 for caps (which features Pumpkinfest's undated logo). To order online, email our volunteer with your items/sizes/shipping address at: merchandise@damariscottapumpkinfest.com .

Please remember to thank our generous partners for allowing Pumpkinfest to sell our merchandise at their stores, as that helps to keep Pumpkinfest affordable for all. Thank you!

Harvesting Your Giant Pumpkin:

- Fruit should be harvested from early to mid October, depending on the weather and weigh off dates. Most will cut their fruit from the vine the day before the weigh off they intend to take their fruit to.

When cutting a fruit from the vine, cut the vine a foot or two either side of the pumpkin stem and not the stem itself. This will maintain the integrity of the fruit and it will last longer when you display your big pumpkin. Some growers will even leave 3 to 4 feet on either sides and place the cut ends into milk jugs filled with water to prevent as much weight loss as possible prior to the weigh off. A pumpkin cut from the vine can lose 2 lbs. or more a day in weigh from water evaporation.

If the fruit measures more than 100" in circumference, you'll need more than two people to lift it onto a pallet. A pumpkin weighing 1000 lbs. or more will take 10 - 13 people to lift. There are many different ways get your big pumpkin from the vine to the back of a truck or trailer for transportation. Ingenuity or pure manpower is the key.

Several businesses online sell lifting tarps made specifically for lifting big pumpkins. These tarps are made of reinforced material and have hand holes around the edges for lifting. When using these tarps, roll the pumpkin up on its side, taking care not to damage or knock off the stem. Stuff one end of the tarp under the pumpkin and spread out the other end on the ground. Roll the pumpkin back on the other side, onto the end of the tarp spread on the ground and pull the other end of the tarp out flat. Now it is just a matter of muscle to lift the fruit onto a cushioned pallet on the ground or into the back of a truck. The current world record pumpkin of 1385 lbs. was lifted using this method with 16 men.

Some growers use a lifting harness around the fruit and hoist the pumpkin with a tripod and chainfall. Others will dig a hole in front of the stem of the fruit, roll the pumpkin onto it's shoulders so the stem is in the hole, dig another hole for one end of the pallet to sit in so it won't kick or slide and slowly lower the fruit down on top of the pallet.

There are many ways to move your fruit and prepare it for transportation. Whatever method is used, exercise extreme caution and think the process through. Nothing can reduce a grower to tears faster than damaging or splitting a

fruit during harvest and transportation or even worse, having someone get hurt moving your fruit.

NEW EVENT: PUMPKIN SCAVENGER HUNT - FROM KIDSZONE TO INFOZONE: SATURDAY OCTOBER 6: 9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

A fun, new way to participate in the Pumpkinfest starts this year--a Pumpkinfest Scavenger Hunt for "children of all ages."

To join the Scavenger Hunt, pick up one of the 500 Scavenger Hunt cards at the KidsZone at Darrow's Barn at the back of Damariscotta River Association's Main Street campus across from Hammond Lumber. Then look for the Scavenger Hunt signs throughout the Twin Villages and stamp your card with the stamp found at each location.

End the Scavenger Hunt at the InfoZone on Water Street and collect your glow in the dark pumpkin necklace prize! Join the Scavenger Hunt on Saturday, October 6 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. The Scavenger Hunt is generously sponsored by The Beach Plum Company

Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta thanks all of our Partners for their support. Please check out their websites by clicking on their logos now, and show your gratitude to them by your loyal patronage!



Damariscotta Pumpkinfest & Regatta

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