

PRESS RELEASE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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City of Westland Releases Halloween Information

Westland, MI (October 1, 2020) - In accordance with the State Health Official's guidance for trick-or-treating, the City of Westland, the Westland Shopping Center and Parkside Credit Union have **canceled the annual MALLoween event**, which has taken place at the Westland Shopping Center.

"This was a tough decision to make because our annual MALLoween event is highly attended," commented Mayor Wild. "Due to the large number of attendees and limitations on large gatherings, we agreed we would be unable to conduct the event in a manner that ensures the state's safety recommendations were followed."

Halloween gatherings are subject to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's current orders, which limit indoor groups to 10 people or less not from the same household and outdoor groups to 100 people or less.

While the City will not be holding a Halloween event, it will not regulate trick-or-treating around the community. Decisions on whether or not to do so will be left at the discretion of parents and their respective neighborhoods.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention considers trick-or-treating a high risk activity during the coronavirus pandemic. State health officials offered the following tips for children and their parents:

- Talk with children before Halloween about the changes in trick-or-treating and why they are necessary.
- Instruct children about social distancing guidelines and the importance of remaining six feet from others.
- Only trick-or-treat with people from the same household and avoid congregating in large groups.
- Wear a face covering over the nose and mouth, but costume masks don't count.
- Consider a neighborhood costume parade rather than going door-to-door

As in years past, the City of Westland will be holding a **Halloween Decorating Contest** which kicks off on October 1 and will run through November 1.

Residents can visit the City of Westland's website to nominate themselves or a friend in one or all of the three categories: *Best Autumn Display, Best Spooky*

Display and Most Over the Top Display. Nominees will be asked to enter a picture along with their submission.

"The Department of Neighborhood Services team will be out and about in neighborhoods in search of those residents who have gone the extra mile to decorate their homes in a fun and festive manner," commented Mayor Wild. "They will be the judges this year and will make the final decision on who wins."

Winners will be announced and awarded with prizes at the council meeting on Monday, November 16.

For more information, please call (734) 467-3200

Westland, Michigan is the state's 10th largest municipality, with a population of over 84,000 people who exhibit a great deal of pride in their All-American City. Westland has a thriving business community along with beautiful residential areas. The citizens enjoy a wide array of amenities and a quality of life that is second to none.

In 2014, Westland was rated as one of 24/7 Wall Street's *America's Best 50 Cities to Live*, offering residents and visitors an ideal blend of single-family affordable homes, apartments and condominiums, great schools, and access to numerous outdoor activities. Public safety is delivered by full-service, professional law enforcement and firefighting personnel. Westland Police Department, whose motto is protect and serve, provides emergency dispatch services to four cities and over 100,000 residents; the Westland Fire Department are licensed paramedics who responded to over 9,000 calls for service last year, about 85% being medical based. They never forget their mission of preserving life and property.

Westland is well-known as the premier destination for shopping and dining in Wayne County with hundreds of shops and restaurants anchored by the Westland Shopping Center, one of the country's original four regional malls.

The City is served by two public school districts: Wayne-Westland Community Schools serving 12,000 youth was recently named one of the *Best School in Michigan* by WXYZ-TV and is the proud recipient of 14 Golden Apple and two Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School Awards. Livonia Public Schools, educating nearly 15,000 students, is proud of their MEAP/MME scores that exceed state averages and the District has also earned Golden Apple and Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School Awards.

The City provides competitive incentives for those who are interested in investing in Westland, making it one of the hottest investment markets in the region. Our Fast-Track to Business Team, which consists of key decision makers who work diligently on a development plan will "cut the red tape" and expedite the approval process for new business development.



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