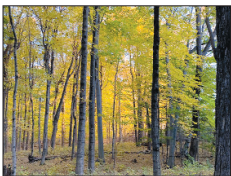


Be a tourist in your own backyard

Celebrate Fall in Ozaukee County

Fall is here. The leaves are changing color, the air is crisp and cool and festivals and other events fill our calendars. If your fall must-do list includes autumn plants and décor, apple picking, hay rides and pumpkins, Ozaukee County offers a cornucopia of great options.

The Ozaukee Parks System offers amazing opportunities to enjoy the outdoors, from beautiful nature hikes to activities like biking, disk golf and kayaking. The Ozaukee Washington Land Trust preserves beautiful maple-beech areas such as Bratt Woods and Kurtz Woods. Visit Mequon Nature Preserve and Riveredge Nature Center to explore and discover forests, wetlands and prairies. The Ozaukee Interurban Trail is lined with beautiful trees and takes you through cities, countryside and along waterways. More on all of these natural scenic areas can be found at www.ozaukee-tourism.com.



Bratt Woods, Grafton

Looking for apples, pumpkins and fresh fall produce? Enjoy a day in the country at Appleland Farm Market in Fredonia. This family-owned orchard offers U-Pick apples and pumpkins, wagon rides, caramel apples, cider, honey and more. Witte's Vegetable Farm LLC in Cedarburg offers pick-your-own and a convenient roadside stand offering a variety of fresh seasonal produce, fall decorations, pumpkins and more. If fall planting is in order, Johnson's Gardens in Cedarburg can assist with your transition from summer planters to autumn seasonals. From mums to kale, fountain grass, ornamental peppers, pelosia and more, Johnson's Gardens is a convenient stop for expert advice, fall workshops and autumn décor.

In Wisconsin, no season goes without celebration – and Ozaukee County communities celebrate fall in style. Kyotes Bar and Grill in Belgium is holding its Oktoberfest Saturday, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Come on out and enjoy live music, a stein-holding competition, Hammerschlagen (a traditional Oktoberfest contest of precision and strength) and vendors. On Friday, Oct. 4, the Cedarburg Chamber of Commerce invites visitors to Witches & Warlocks Night Out – shop, dine, and enjoy the new fall season with your covern.

Fall into Grafton, Oct. 4 and Oct. 5, celebrates with an Oktoberfest beer garden, live music and a pig roast Friday night hosted by Atlas BBQ. Saturday's events begin with a Lions Club Breakfast Buffet, the Pumpkin Cross Bike Race at Lime Kiln Park and the annual Pumpkin Derby, scavenger hunt, pumpkin painting, cookie decorating, live entertainment, a free petting zoo, pony rides and more. Sahale Ale Works will hold its inaugural Oktoberfest Fest Beer Tasting with Oktoberfest style beers and live polka.

The Ozaukee County Historical Society is celebrating its Autumn at the Village fall festival Saturday, Oct. 5 at Ozaukee County Pioneer Village in Saukville. Enjoy a fun-filled fall afternoon in the country with blacksmithing, basket making, corn shelling, cooking on the wood stove, bread baking and more for the whole family.

Festivals of Cedarburg hosts its eighth annual Oktoberfest Oct. 5 and Oct. 6, with delightful German games and entertainment, food, specialty beers, Cedar Creek Wines and German desserts. The festival also offers vendors, Cedarburg merchants, a farmers market and the Milwaukee Region Porsche Club of America with a variety of Porsches on display. Laugh along with the antics of the Live Glockenspiel (live cuckoo clock) and enjoy live German music and dance all weekend long on the wooden dance floor, under tents in the true Oktoberfest style. On Oct. 5, Buechler Farms in Belgium will host its fall festival of fun for the entire family, which includes pumpkin picking, hayrides, kids' events, face painting, a petting zoo, food and more.

The Thiensville-Mequon Lions Club will host its fifth-annual Applefest in Thiensville Park Sunday, Oct. 6. Applefest is a celebration of the autumn harvest and Ozaukee County's apple heritage. The event will feature live music, along with vendors of fresh apples and apple cider, as well as other fall treats and crafts along with apple brats, apple pies, turnovers and other food and beverages. This is a family friendly event highlighted by hay rides, an apple pie baking contest, coloring contest, polka contest, big wheel racing, and face painting.



Johnson's Gardens, Cedarburg



Fall into Grafton

Cedarburg artists open their studio doors to the public Oct. 11 through Oct. 13 with a free, self-guided Covered Bridge Art Studio Tour. Hosted by the Cedarburg Artists Guild, the tour gives guests an up-close and personal look at the spaces that inspire the work of more than 50 of Southeastern Wisconsin's finest artists. Artists will be working during the event and are always happy to stop what they're doing to greet visitors, demonstrate their talents, talk with guests and sell their artwork to interested buyers. The rural drive between studios provides the beauty of farm fields, pumpkin patches, the Lake Michigan shoreline, rivers, picturesque small towns and even the last remaining wooden Covered Bridge in Wisconsin. For a map and other event details visit cedarburgartistsguild.com.

Looking for a scary good time? The Haunt in Cedarburg will be open Friday and Saturday nights from Oct. 11 through Oct. 26. The Haunt supports Ozaukee County 4-H and is indoors and wheelchair accessible. For details visit cedarburghaunt.com.

Harrington Beach State Park is hosting a Fall Harvest Hike Oct. 12. Walk torch-lit trails and enjoy music and food at the Ansay Welcome Center. Music begins at 6:30 p.m. A state park vehicle admission sticker or daily fee is required. Don't forget to bring your flashlights!

On Oct. 12, mosey on down to the Mushroom Shelter at Riveredge Nature Center for an evening of history, river exploration and more to celebrate the life of Oscar Grady, the Saukville resident who built unique stone structures on the portion of the nature center that was once his property. Naturalists will lead historic hikes to the Grady ruins along the Milwaukee River, found hidden within the Riveredge property, and volunteers from the Oscar Grady Library will provide tunes from the 1940s originally recorded in the town of Saukville. Picnic foods will be available for purchase. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets for this unique historical evening event.

Get yourself in shape to run in the Halloween monsters with the Saukville Scare 5K run/walk Oct. 19. This family- and pet-friendly Halloween event includes a costume contest, music, bounce house and pancake breakfast. Registration is \$25 and includes a long-sleeve race shirt. Kids 10 and under are free, but can purchase a race shirt for \$10.

On Oct. 25, Riveredge Nature Center offers an evening of Trails & Treats. Families are invited to hike the Riveredge trails and visit educational stations along a 1-mile loop, learning from costumed woodland creatures and receiving candy-free treats as they go. Visit the Riveredge Nature Center website for more information about this and other fun fall activities.

The Cedarburg Cultural Center's Gothic History Tours offer a "spirited" 90-minute guided walking tour through some of Cedarburg's most haunted historic stops on the evenings of Oct. 18, Oct. 19 and Oct. 25. These themed events change every year and are sure to provide a creepier perspective on this cute historic town. Explore Port Washington's darker side with their annual Ghost Walks, 90-minute excursions that explore ghost stories, sightings and experiences in paranormal Port Washington the evenings of Oct. 25 and Oct. 26. More information about both tours can be found online. Make your reservations quickly as they sell out fast.

On Oct. 31, have fun on the spooky streets of downtown Cedarburg during the Cedarburg Chamber's annual Pumpkin Walk. Carved lit pumpkins line the streets, and costumed families creep through town enjoying the sites and collecting treats from some store owners until 8 p.m.

The Belgium Fire Department will host its open house at the festival, offering fire truck rides and the Survive Alive House. Meet Waska, the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Department K9, and watch stove fire demonstrations and more. In the evening, adults are invited to enjoy the band Whiskey Throttle.

For information on all of these activities and more, visit ozaukee-tourism.com and follow Ozaukee County Tourism on Facebook. On behalf of the Ozaukee County Tourism Council, thank you for helping to make Ozaukee County a wonderful place for all to live, work and visit.



The Haunt, Cedarburg

