



**OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS
CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

Dave Fuchs
Director

The City of Springfield Announces 3rd Annual Pumpkin Smash

In partnership with Evans Recycling, For Residents Encouraged to Smash – Not Trash – Jack-O-Lanterns

SPRINGFIELD, III. - The City of Springfield, in association with Evans Recycling, is holding its **3rd Annual Pumpkin Smash** on **Saturday, November 4th**, from **1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** The event will take place downtown on **Washington Street, between 5th and 6th Street**. This event is suitable for all ages and aims to educate the community about the importance of smashing pumpkins and seasonal gourds instead of throwing them away.

Thousands of pounds of pumpkins are thrown into landfills each year when they can be composted to help the earth. This one-day event is an opportunity to properly dispose of your Halloween or seasonal pumpkins or gourds while having fun!

Individuals and families are encouraged to bring their unwanted pumpkins or gourds downtown on November 4th. After you check in, participants can choose to chuck, smash, or stomp their pumpkins or gourds in one of the designated “smash zones.” Smash remnants will then be placed in a dumpster that will be hauled away after the event to Evans Recycling for composting.

This family-friendly event is open to all ages. A waiver must be signed before entering the smash zone and those under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian present to sign the waiver. Those who don't want to smash, are encouraged to come downtown to watch and/or may donate their pumpkins or gourds during the event for others to enjoy.

This event will take place rain or shine. No matter the weather, the City will take pumpkins and gourds that day to compost. Questions about this event may be directed to the City's Office of Public Works at 217.789.2255 or public.works@springfield.il.us.