

Group handing out plant coupons for trick-or-treat

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TOLEDO -- The Maumee Valley Growers will be part of the Maumee Uptown Business Association's Halloween festivities from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., where they'll hand out pumpkins and discount coupons for locally grown flowers and plants.

The flower-powered event is part of the Maumee Uptown Business Association's Halloween celebration, which includes children's crafts and treats provided by the merchants located in uptown Maumee.

The growers will bring their Flower Power bus to the event, where they will have the opportunity to talk with young and old trick-or-treaters about the local growers' organization. The bus will be located near the courtyard of the Maumee police station, 109 E. Dudley St., Maumee.

Everyone at the festivities will have the chance to get a firsthand look at the fluorescent-colored Flower Power bus. The message urges flower lovers to add their power to the community by buying flowers and plants grown by local growers.

The Maumee Valley Growers participating greenhouses and retail operations now offer a wide range of fall flowers, many native to northwest Ohio and the Oak Openings region. They also have an extensive knowledge of northwest Ohio planting regions, soil quality and growing conditions, as well as the impact of cooler weather.

The Maumee Valley Growers is an economic cluster of 70 retail and wholesale greenhouses committed to sustaining and growing the Northwest Ohio greenhouse industry.

The MVG is funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The grant for the MVG is managed by Michael C. Carroll, director of research of the Bowling Green State University Center for Regional Development, and Neil Reid, director of the Urban Affairs Center at the University of Toledo.

Northwest Ohio is in the top five percent of the nation's greenhouse producing regions.