Celebrating Halloween by Dr. Peter Brewitt

It’s Halloween, it’s Halloween!  
The moon is full and bright;  
And we shall see what can’t be seen;  
On any other night!

I love Halloween, and I hope you do too. It’s a holiday that lets you be yourself by pretending to be something else, it encourages creativity AND tradition, and it is probably the one day of the year that lets you connect with more of your neighbors than you would on any other occasion. It has something for everyone from little kids (in my house we have been reading the above poem, by Jack Prelutsky, all month long). And, more than Thanksgiving or Christmas, it’s a holiday about nature. The action, from yard displays to trick or treating, takes place outdoors. The iconography – pumpkins, bats, spiders, black cats – are natural species. Indeed, they are species that people often ignore, or even actively fear. But in October, we embrace them. Halloween also embraces seasonality – consider bobbing for apples, or the pumpkin spice everything, from tea to pasta. Of course it’s no secret that Halloween is very globalized and commercialized, but that globalization adds – while Halloween seems to have originated in the deep past with western European Celts, corn and pumpkins are, of course, New World crops.

Environmental Studies has its own Halloween celebration this weekend. If you come to Glendale between 3 and 5pm on Sunday, October 29, the Goodall Center will have an array of spooky fun, from the traditional crafts and animals that you might remember from years past to a haunted walk that I hope I am brave enough to attempt. My family and I will be there – join us!
Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Check out the Goodall Center Instagram page.

**PALs Trail Stewardship Day**: Bring your gloves and any tools you might want as we fight back the invasive plants species that threaten our trees and trails. [Sign up to help.](#) Questions? Contact Ned Barrett, nbarrett@palspartanburg.org or Emi Bautista, ebaustista@palspartanburg.org.

**Glendale Halloween**: Celebrate Halloween at the Goodall Center. This family friendly event will feature crafts, games, live animals, and a haunted walk. Costumes and carpooling are encouraged. Volunteers are also needed before, during and after the event, contact Lindsey Vane, vaneln@wofford.edu, if you can help.

**South Carolina Wildlife Federation Scholarships**: $500 scholarships are awarded to full-time students currently pursuing degrees in any environmental field at South Carolina schools of higher education. Winners announced in January and awarded in February each year.

**Dr. Bill Heatley Speaker Talk**: Join ENVS for Dr. Heatley’s talk *Industrial Environmental Engineer: Just a Glorified Janitor with Lots of Acronyms!*

**Second Saturdays Volunteer Day in Glendale**: Join us on the second Saturday of the month to help beautify the garden and surrounding areas at the Goodall Center. [Register here to let us know you’re coming.](#)

**Anderson Mill Invasives & Litter Clean-Up**: Tyger River Foundation is hosting a clean-up day to remove invasives and litter. Snacks and drinks provided. Bring gloves.

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**PROFILE OF THE WEEK:**

**Appalachian State University – MBA in Sustainable Business**

The Walker College of Business at Appalachian State University has an enrollment of 100 graduate students and is consistently included in the US New and World Report’s and Princeton Review’s Best Business Schools.

An MBA, with a concentration in Sustainable Business, is offered in a compressed time frame allowing the student to complete the program in one year from their start date by going full time year-round and taking summer classes and/or participating in an internship. A rolling admissions plan is also offered so students can start the program in the fall, spring, or summer. Off-Campus students go halftime year-round with classes two nights a week and generally finish in two years.

One of the factors that differentiates the Walker College MBA Program from programs at many other universities is the small class size. With a target class size of 20-25, students receive more individual attention in class and individual assistance with career related issues than are available with larger classes. Quality is more important than quantity.