



## Pumpkin

## Your Cuisine Connection

By Gina Branham

### **Siegel's Cottonwood Farm**

17250 S. Weber Road  
Crest Hill, IL 60441  
800.304.FARM  
ourpumpkinfarm.com

The cool weather of late has gotten me thinking of the crisp days of autumn. So I decided to stray from the area restaurant scene and focus on a few local pumpkin farms.

There are several pumpkin farms in our area that are within a 45 minute drive. This commute is probably fine for older kids, but it could be a little too much for those under six. So, I chose three farms that I feel are fairly close and fairly easy to get to.

All of these pumpkin farms have roughly the same attractions –

### **Bengston's Pumpkin Fest**

13341 W. 151<sup>st</sup> Street  
Homer Glen, IL 60490  
708.301.FARM  
pumpkinfarm.com

hayrack rides, petting zoo, corn mazes, pony rides, autumn and Halloween merchandise, haunted houses, food and of course pumpkins. Admission is also about the same – around \$12 for anyone over age three, children two years and younger are free. Keep in mind that there are activities that will cost a fee beyond your admission price. You will not be allowed to bring your own food and drink inside. Instead you will be subject to their food and their prices. I equate the food to that of a sporting event – not that great

### **A1 Farmstand**

2122 Jericho Road  
Aurora, IL 60506  
630.859.2780  
a1farmstand.com

and a little over priced. However, a good time can be had by all. I suggest you do a little research, via the internet, before you go. See what activities are free and which include a fee. Another tip is to set a budget and a time limit. This will help unnecessary spending and will hopefully keep the small kids (or your spouse) from having a meltdown. This is a fun family activity for a crisp fall weekend. Drink plenty of apple cider and stay warm!

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