

Township of West Milford

1480 Union Valley Road West Milford, NJ 07480-1303

Press Release

Contact Information:

William Senande, Township Administrator/Clerk 973-728-2710 twpadministrator@westmilford.org Release Date: August 31, 2021

Autumn Lights Festival Canceled

West Milford, NJ – The Township of West Milford and Autumn Lights Festival Committee have jointly made the decision to cancel the Autumn Lights Festival ("ALF") scheduled for October 9, 2021. This difficult decision follows along with Warwick's Applefest being canceled and lagging participation and attendance to NJ County Fairs.

For 25 years, ALF has been a safe, cost-free way for residents to get together and enjoy tasteful treats from many a vendor on a scenic stretch of Union Valley Road. This year, we received less than one quarter participation from our previous food and general vendors. Sponsorship which is a large key to the financial success was also lagging.

Children have been the most catered to group at the Autumn Lights Festival. Unfortunately, this year we were unable to secure a ride vendor and cannot do hands on activities like face painting, coloring books or pumpkin painting. You know the fun stuff that lets the parents take a breather.

Cost, participation and safety concerns have led the Autumn Lights Festival Committee to unanimously vote to cancel the event. The Committee took pride in putting the event on at no-cost to the Township or its residents. This year, we cannot meet these objectives or deliver the quality of festival our residents have come to enjoy.

Missing this year will not stop the festival from returning in 2022. I hope that you will join us.