

## = HalloWeekends =

HalloWeekends is an annual Halloween event at Cedar Point amusement park in Sandusky , Ohio . It was introduced in 1997 , and takes place during the Halloween season , usually from the second Friday after Labor Day until the Sunday before Halloween . The event is open on Friday nights , Saturdays and Sundays . It is included free with park admission . As of 2014 , HalloWeekends features 11 haunted houses and nighttime scare zones , and there are several children 's attractions including a parade that takes place on the main midway . It is advised that children under 13 years old be accompanied by an adult . HalloWeekend 's yearly slogan is " All You Fear is Here ! " . Other Cedar Fair parks including Dorney Park , Valley Fair , and Worlds of Fun all have formerly used the HalloWeekends name . The name has changed to Halloween Haunt at all 3 parks . Cedar Point is the only Cedar Fair park that still uses the HalloWeekends name .

## = Overview =

HalloWeekends debuted in 1997 and was only open for three weekends . It has since grown to be held on Friday nights , Saturdays and Sundays during seven weekends in September and October . However , not all of the rides and attractions are open on Friday nights . Attractions include Haunted Houses and Scare Zones . The park is decorated with 1 @, @ 735 bales of hay , 28 @, @ 800 cornstalks , 23 @, @ 000 pounds of pumpkins and other Halloween related items . Located underneath the Sky Ride on the Main Midway in front of Raptor is the Cedar Point Graveyard , also known as " The Land of the Lost Thrills " , which was added to HalloWeekends in 2004 and features tombstones of the park 's rides that have been retired from the 1960s onwards . Cars from retired rides are placed around the park . For example , cars from Frontier Lift and Mantis lie in the Cedar Point Graveyard , one from WildCat lies near Gemini and a car from Disaster Transport lies near Power Tower .

During HalloWeekends , the park offers an express ticketing system called Fright Lane for the haunt attractions , similar to Fast Lane . It offers front @-@ of @-@ the @-@ line access for one visit to Eternity Infirmary , CornStalkers , Eden Musee , Eerie Estate and Zombie High School , and unlimited visits through Fear Faire , Blood on the Bayou , Screamworks and Cut Throat Cove .

HalloWeekends has been ranked as one of the best Halloween events in the US . It was ranked fifth for " Best Halloween Event " in the Golden Ticket Awards between 2005 and 2008 . In addition , it was ranked fifth again in 2013 and 2014 .

## = Attractions =

## = = Historical = =

Cedar Fair , the park 's owner , acquired Knott 's Berry Farm ? the first park with a Halloween Haunt ? in 1997 , and implemented the event throughout the chain , starting with Cedar Point . At its debut , there were only two haunt attractions , Eerie Manor and Cedar Point Cemetery . Guests could travel on the Cedar Point Spooky Express through haunted lagoons and graveyards . The first new attraction , Toxic Tunnel of Terror , was introduced in 1998 . Camp Spooky debuted a year later with children 's activities in Camp Snoopy . In 2000 , Cedar Point Cemetery was re @-@ themed into Pharaoh 's Secret . The park added three attractions in 2001 , Eerie Manor was re @-@ themed into Undertaker U. , and Fright Zone and Magical House on Boo Hill were added .

Werewolf Canyon debuted in 2003 in Thunder Canyon . 2004 saw the addition of CarnEvil and Lair of the Vampire . Werewolf Canyon was also expanded that year . Fear Faire , with a medieval theme , was added in 2006 . In 2007 , the park added the Monster Midway Invasion Celebration Parade which goes from Gemini to the main midway . In 2008 , HalloWeekends received a major expansion . CornStalkers replaced Werewolf Canyon , Club Blood replaced Lair of the Vampire , CarnEvil was relocated to Camp Snoopy and Terror Island was added under Millennium Force . The

area near Blue Streak was turned into a children 's area , Magical House on Boo Hill was relocated and a haybale maze was added . HalloWeekends was extended to eight weekends for the first time .

In 2009 , the park replaced Pharaoh 's Secret with Happy Jack 's Toy Factory and G.A. Boeckling 's Eerie Estate opened . Dr. D. Mented 's Asylum for the Criminally Insane was added in 2010 . For the 2011 HalloWeekends , Cedar Point renamed two attractions due to protests . Dr. D Mented 's Asylum for the Criminally Insane was renamed Eternity Infirmary and The Edge of Madness show became The Edge of Madness -- Six Feet Under . Screameworks replaced Fright Zone and Blood on the Bayou was added along the lagoons under Iron Dragon . When Disaster Transport closed in 2012 , so did Happy Jack 's Toy Factory . Terror Island was relocated under Maverick because the Dinosaurs Alive ! attraction was using the path for Terror Island . Its name was changed to Cut Throat Cove . A new haunted house called Eden Musee was built inside Mean Streak 's infield . For the 2013 event , Cedar Point introduced Zombie High School , which replaced Club Blood at the front of the park . Trick @-@ or @-@ Treat with the Dinosaurs , which takes place on Adventure Island , was also introduced for kids to collect candy from the dinosaurs .

= = = Current = = =

The outdoor attractions are run by the HalloWeekends ' Screamsters , a group of Cedar Point staff members who are commanded to scare visitors by The Overlord when night falls . The Overlord debuted in 2009 and he commands all the Screamsters to scare people at every opportunity . However , he did not appear for the 2013 season , Knott 's Scary Farm 's very own Sarah " The Green Witch " Morgan @-@ Marshall took over HalloWeekends as their new and 1st female leader of the Screamsters in 2014 . The Screamsters were introduced in 2005 , with 70 staff . As of 2013 , there are about 400 Screamsters , and 25 make @-@ up artists who provide their masks . Each Screamster has an individual character .

As of 2014 , HalloWeekends features 11 attractions , including six scare zones and five haunted houses . The outdoor attractions are Blood on the Bayou , Cut Throat Cove , Screameworks , Tombstone Terror @-@ tory , CarnEvil , and CornStalkers . The indoor attractions are G.A. Boeckling 's Eerie Estate , Zombie High School , Eden Musee , Hexed and Eternity Infirmary .

In March 2014 , the Halloween horror music duo , Midnight Syndicate , announced plans for a series of live multimedia concerts entitled Midnight Syndicate Live ! Legacy of Shadows that would run throughout the 2014 HalloWeekends event . They also announced that they would be teaming up with special effects artist , Robert Kurtzman ( From Dusk Till Dawn ) as well as director Gary Jones ( Axe Giant ) and Face Off contestants , Beki Ingram and David Greathouse . The show opened on September 12 to very positive reviews . The Akron Beacon Journal described it as " Part concert , part movie , part theater , part just plain creepy , " going on to call it " top @-@ notch and ambitious . "

= = Children 's attractions = =

The park features several attractions for children . Several live shows , including the Skeleton Crew acrobatics show that takes place in Celebration Plaza , are performed each day . The Monster Midway Invasion Celebration Parade , which travels along the Main Midway from Gemini to Pink 's on Saturdays , and travels the reverse route on Sundays , takes place at 4 pm . In 2013 , the park introduced Howl @-@ O @-@ Palooza in the Blue Streak plaza . It includes several Halloween attractions for children , including a haunted house named Magical House on Boo Hill , a haybale maze and a Kids ' Costume Contest . The Planet Snoopy children 's area is transformed into Planet Spooky .