

Calling all bakers, crafters, sewers, quilters, artists, makers and gardeners! We want you to showcase your skills at the 106th Pun'kin Vine Fair. With over 300 categories, you are sure to find a category to exhibit in.

We are planning to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Domestic Arts building this year and we would love to have a full house of exhibits to display. Open class exhibits are open to all ages. For one \$5.00 fee, adults can exhibit as many items as they like in the Domestic Arts, Fine Arts, Photography, Floral and Agricultural departments. Youth can exhibit in all of these categories too, for FREE!



Check out the fairbook online at newtoncountyfair.weebly.com for all the details. Click on Open Class Exhibits.

As an extra incentive, we will be offering the **Domestic Arts Centennial Award** to commemorate the 100th year of our building. It will be given to the open class exhibitor who earns the most blue ribbons for displaying in the Domestic Arts, Fine Arts, Floral, Foods and Agriculture Open Class Departments combined at this year's Newton County Fair. The award is a trophy and \$100 sponsored by Gypsy Cataloging.

We're proud to support this tradition of creativity, skill, and community spirit!

The Domestic Arts Judging schedule is **DIFFERENT** this year! In light of the holiday weekend, we will be judging **Domestic Arts, Fine Arts & Photography** before the fair. **Enter these projects on Tuesday evening, July 1 from 6-9 p.m. at the Domestic Arts Building** at the Pun'kin Vine Fairgrounds, Kentland. Judging will occur on Wednesday, July 2 for these exhibits.

Food and Agriculture Department judging will be on Monday (July 7), with check in from 8-10 a.m. for Foods and 10 a.m.-12 noon for Agriculture. Domestic Arts Floral Judging is on Tuesday (July 8) with check in from 8-10 a.m.



Happy 100! The Domestic Arts Building is Celebrating 100 years of creativity, skill and community spirit! Join us on Tuesday, July 8 from 5-7 p.m. for donor recognition, sweet treats & a celebration of the restoration. Stop in to check out our new look as phase 1 of the restoration is complete.

Wednesday evening, July 9th, is the **Domestic Arts Building Cake Walk** at 5 p.m. Stop in and enjoy the music and maybe get a sweet treat to take home. Proceeds from the Cake Walk will help with additional restoration projects. (We need new shingles!)

Families are welcome to join in the **Story Hour** festivities on Thursday, July 10 from 5-6 p.m. at the Domestic Arts Building. Each child will receive a book. We will have stories, games and crafts for the kids!



Plein Air Art Exhibit & Silent Auction Friday & Saturday, July 11–12
Domestic Arts Building – Pun'kin Vine Fairgrounds, Kentland

Step into the beauty of Newton County through the eyes of local and regional artists! Join us for a two-day **Plein Air Art Exhibit & Silent Auction** featuring original works painted on-site at locations throughout our community.

Event Highlights:

- **Silent Auction Begins:** Friday at 4:00 p.m.
- **Art on Display:** Friday 4-9 p.m. & Saturday 1-6 p.m.
- **Artist Reception & Winning Bid Announcements:** Saturday at 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy one-of-a-kind artwork, meet the artists, and place your bid to take home your favorite piece. Whether you're an art enthusiast or simply love supporting local talent, this is an event you won't want to miss!

Interested in participating as an artist?

Call or text fine arts superintendent Leigh Littiken with questions 317-507-5608.

Experience local landscapes through the eyes of our artists and take home a piece of Newton County.



Coming in September

Discover the Mediterranean way of eating with the Steps to a Healthy You class series

Are you interested in adopting a Mediterranean-style eating pattern but unsure of where to begin? Look no further! Purdue Extension is excited to announce the launch of the Steps to a Healthy You class series, designed to help you embark on a journey to discover the delicious and nutritious Mediterranean way of eating. The Mediterranean diet has long been celebrated for its numerous health benefits, and now, you can learn how to incorporate this lifestyle into your daily routine. The Steps to a Healthy You class series will guide you through seven simple steps to following a Mediterranean style of eating, providing you with the knowledge, tools and inspiration you need to make this healthful eating pattern a part of your life.

Key Program Highlights:

- *Seven Simple Steps:* Uncover the seven straightforward steps to help you get started on your journey towards a healthier you. These practical guidelines will make the Mediterranean diet approachable and achievable.
- *Delectable Recipes:* Gain access to an array of delicious and nutritious Mediterranean-inspired recipes that are easy to prepare at home. These recipes are designed to delight your taste buds and nourish your body.
- *Health Benefits:* Learn about the proven health benefits associated with the Mediterranean way of eating, including improved heart health, weight management and increased longevity.
- *Community and Support:* Share experiences, challenges and successes on your journey to better health.

Class Details:

Start Date: Wednesday afternoons, September 10, 17, 24 and October 1, from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$40

Location: To be determined

Space is limited, contact the Newton County Extension Office for registration details to secure your spot in the Steps to a Healthy You class

Congratulations, Graduates!

Congratulations and best wishes to the Newton County 4-Hers who are graduating from high school this year:

Aidan Mattox, Cassidy Snodgrass, Hunter LaCrosse, June Busboom, Noah Klemme, Rhett Fox, Cade Watkins, Melina Williams, Riley Hughes, Sunorah Sadowski, and Adam Dobbs!

What to Expect at 4-H Project Judging?

A 4-H project is one part of 4-H and only a part of the total learning experience. The exhibit is only one measure of success and achievement. Through judging, 4-Hers can experience self-satisfaction, and a feeling of success from learning about and completing a project. Judging may last several hours and can be a real learning experience.

- You will hear the judge's comments about what is done well and what could be improved about a project.
- Be patient; bring snacks, books, activities if you wait.
- Sometimes, judges are asked to judge more than 1 project: especially true when there 10 or fewer 4-Hers in a given project. Judging for several project may be listed at the same time on the schedule.

Barn Clean Up Dates

Horse and Pony Barn- June 22nd, 1:00 pm

Swine- July 2nd, 6:00 pm

Beef and Dairy Barn- July 3rd, 5:30 pm

Sheep and Goat Barn- July 1st, 5:30 pm

Rabbit- July 3rd, 5:30 pm

Poultry- July 1st, 6:30 pm

Animal Entry and Release Times

Sunday, July 6th

6:00 am-Noon – Swine Check-In

5:30 pm-8:00 pm – Goat, Poultry, Horse & Pony, Dairy, Beef, and Sheep Check-In

Monday, July 7th

8:00 am -10:00 am- Horse & Pony Check-In

8:00 am-Noon- Beef, Goat, Poultry, and Dairy Check-In

10:00 am-4:00 pm- Rabbit Check-In

Thursday, July 10th

Lactating Dairy Cows may enter morning of the Dairy Show

Saturday, July 12th

8:00 pm-10:00 pm- Release of all 4-H Projects

Sunday, July 13th

8:00 am-10:00 am- Secondary pick-up time for 4-H Building Exhibits

All animals must be in good general health and free of any communicable diseases. All animals must be properly identified. It is state law that all locations with cattle, sheep, goats, and swine have premise ID issued from the Board of Animal Health.



Fair Entry Enrollment

Fair Entry is open from June 1st to June 27th

You must go online to <http://newtoncountyin.fairentry.com> and enter your exhibit for each project in which you are enrolled. **This includes ALL projects, breathing and non-breathing.** You will use the same email and password that you use for 4-H Online profile.

Remember, this process is required for us to check in your exhibit and to ensure all youth will be listed in show programs.

4-H Night at the Fair

Wednesday, July 9th at 7:00 pm

Swine Arena

Don't miss out on freebies such as 4-H Merchandise and Ice Cream Vouchers! The 4-H Club with the highest percentage of members in attendance will win a pizza party! Graduating members will be recognized along with Outstanding 4-Her Awards, 4-H Volunteer Awards, and Farm Bureau Tenure Awards.



Stock the Trailer Contest

The Newton County Junior Leaders are excited to once again participate in the **Stock the Trailer Contest**, in partnership with **Farm Credit Mid-America** and **Rural 1st**! This statewide program is a friendly competition that helps fight hunger by collecting food for local pantries—including those right here in **Newton County**.

Help us support families in need by contributing in one (or all!) of the following ways:

1. **Monetary donations** – used to buy non-perishables (checks payable to *NC Junior Leaders*, mailed to 4117 S. 240 W., Suite 600, Morocco, IN 47963).
2. **Pie in the Face voting** – donate at the Newton County Fair (July 7–11).
3. **Drop off food** – at the Newton County 4-H Building (July 7–11).

Let's work together to **stock that trailer** and support our neighbors in need!



General 4-H Project Reminders and Information

Please reference the Periscope for further project requirements.

Posters are available at the Newton County Extension Office.

Foam Boards (\$4.75)

Plastic Sleeve (\$0.75)

4-H Periscope Cover Contest Rules

Contest Rules:

- Designs may be submitted by a club, family, or individuals
- Designs must be drawn/ created on a 8 1/2" X 11" sheet of plain paper, portrait (vertical) style. For a better copy, drawings should be done with a black felt tip pen.
- You must include "2026 Newton County Periscope" and the 4-H Clover. The use of the 4-H name and clover are protected under federal law and must be used following specific guidelines. Please ask the extension office for these guidelines.
- Designs must be submitted to the Extension Office by Monday, June 30th.
- Designs will be posted in the 4-H Building and voted on by visitors to the building in a People's Choice format. A winner will be selected and notified following the vote.
- Once an individual has won, he or she must sit out for one year. Exception is that they may submit as a family and/or club.
- The winner(s) will receive a plaque during 4-H Night at the Fair. The winner's name will be added to the larger plaque that hangs on the wall in the Extension Office.
- The 4-H Periscope Contest is sponsored by 4-H Council.

July/August 2025

Help Needed!!

Help is needed to fill shifts monitoring the 4-H Building, cleaning the grandstands, and helping with the Pork Chop Supper. Please call the Extension Office to sign up!

Grand Stand Clean-Up

Sat., July 5th-6:00 pm

Help Still Needed

Tues., July 8th-9:00 am

Dairy Barn

Wed., July 9th-9:00 am

Country Hicks

Thurs., July 10th-9:00 am

Rough Riders

Fri., July 11th-9:00 am

Help Still Needed

Sat., July 12th-9:00 am

Horse and Pony

Sun., July 13th-9:00 am

Help Still Needed



Free Carnival Rides for 4-H Members!

Thank you to the Newton County Government and Newton County Economic Development Commission for sponsoring the carnival rides for all Newton County 4-Hers at the 2025 Pun'kin Vine Fair! More details to come. Passes can be picked at the 4-H building during fair.

Thank you Notes

4-H is a volunteer driven organization, so without our volunteers and donors the activities and programs at the Newton County Pun'kin Vine Fair wouldn't be possible. The donors for trophies or banners will be listed on your award. Please make sure to send them a thank you card!

Thank You!

4-H Project Pick Up/State Fair Exhibits

Project pick up: Saturday, July 12th, Sunday, July 13th

There will be no early release. If you can't pick up at this time, make arrangements with a friend, relative, or club leader to pick them up for you.

All state fair exhibits except for foods, foods preservation, and garden/herbs must be at the Extension Office in Morocco before 4:00 pm on July 25th.

Foods, Food Preservation, and Garden/Herb exhibits must be in the Extension Office no later than 7:45 am on Monday, August 4th.

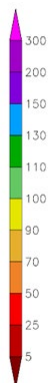
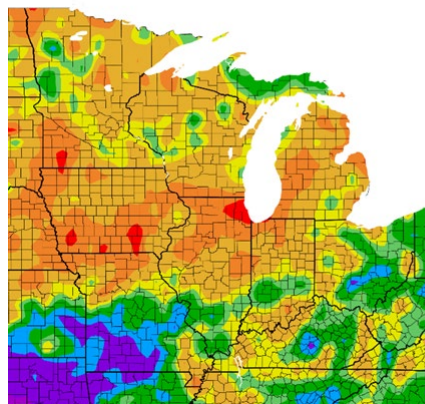
State Fair Tickets

State Fair Tickets will be provided to 4-H members with eligible state fair projects. These tickets can be picked up at the Extension Office after fair.

Free Grandstand Passes for 4-H Members and adult volunteers/leaders!

All 4-H members and adult volunteers/leaders will receive ONE pass good for FREE ADMISSION to any grandstand event. Be sure to thank a Fair Board member for your grandstand ticket. Passes can be picked at the 4-H building during fair.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
4/13/2025 – 6/11/2025



We've been dry, with intermittent periods of soaking rain, which I am grateful for. As of June 12th, various parts of Newton County have had 50-90% below average precipitation. The last measurable precipitation was 0.15 inches on March 27th. Looking forward into July and August, we should probably start thinking about drought conditions.

Depending on how bad droughts become, there can be burn bans, lawn watering restrictions, and more. When I lived in Washington state, we were asked to shower/do laundry during certain hours of the day to reduce water wastage.

There are a few steps that we can take to prepare for any stage of drought. What I think about first is how my pasture will hold up and the answer can be fairly easy with a little bit of planning ahead. The forages have already headed out in our pastures, which means they're in the reproductive stages. During this time, the plant is focused on spreading instead of establishing the deep roots that help it survive a drought. Try mowing to a level just below the seed heads, keep in mind that taking off more than a third of the height at a time also causes stress to the plant.

For our row crops, the good news is that corn originated from a tropical grass and has been observed to withstand temperatures upwards of 112-degrees F for short periods, with plant growth typically decreasing when temperatures exceed 95-degrees F. Therefore, temperatures in the mid-90s during the afternoon typically do not impact corn photosynthetic capacity and yield if soil moisture is adequate. Overall, young corn in the vegetative growth stages is fairly tolerant to high temperatures and drought conditions. Early in drought stress, soybean plants re-orient their leaves and expose the lighter side of their leaves, to absorb as little light energy as possible. Next, plants slow their rate of leaf expansion to reduce water losses. At early growth stages, soybean plants are collecting only a portion of available light, anyway. Reduced photosynthetic rates for a few hours per day tends to have little yield effect on soybean prior to R1.

When it comes to the lawn around your house,
GET OFF MY LAWN! Limit traffic (including mowing) to minimize crushing of the turfgrass leaves and crowns. Water once every 4 weeks with ¼ to ½ inch of water to keep turf plant crowns hydrated. This amount of water should not green up the turf, but it will increase its long-term survival.

Corn Growth Stage	Percent estimated yield loss per day of observed drought stress (%)
Early Vegetative Growth (VE - VE12)	1-3
Late Vegetative Growth (V12 - VT)	2-5
Pollination to Blister (R2)	3-9
Milk (R3)	3-6
Dough (R4)	3-5
Dent (R5)	2-4
Physiological Maturity (R6)	0

Links: <https://turf.purdue.edu/dealing-with-drought/>, <https://ag.purdue.edu/departments/agry/faculty-pages/the-kernel/info-pages/drought.html>

Photo: https://www.weather.gov/ind/drought?_ga=2.202964177.1595671681.1749738002-211794407.1749737857

Featured Insect: *Lone Star Tick*

Description: Commonly found in moist, wooded areas, especially in areas with established deer populations. Adults have long mouth parts. The adult female has a distinct single white spot on its back. Lone Stars are nonspecific in their feeding habits and will feed on birds, mammals, and humans. Typically, these are found from late summer into early fall in Indiana. These ticks are suspected to transmit tularemia, FMSF, and Lyme disease but are not important vectors.

Life Cycle: Their life is broken into four stages. Egg, larva, nymph, and adult; and they are aggressive feeders during all stages.

Control: Generally, avoid tick infested areas and wear protective light colored clothing. Stay on established trails and apply insect repellent containing toluamide (DEET) or permethrin. Keeping overgrown vegetation cleared will make areas less desirable to small mammals and deter tick infestation.



Photo taken in Morocco, IN

Link: <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/publications/E-71/E-71.html>

Featured Weed: *Eastern Black Nightshade*

Identification: A summer annual that can grow up to 24" with alternate leaves that are slightly hairy. The flowers are white and star shaped. Berries start out as green but turn black as they ripen. The backside of younger weeds have a purple tint and there is a small amount of purple at each internode.

Location: Living up to the weed stereotype, nightshade can thrive pretty much anywhere. Most commonly you'll find it in cultivated fields, pastures, moist open areas in the woods, loamy or gravelly soils, roadsides, and streambanks.



Concerns: All parts of the plant are considered poisonous, but the green leaves, stems, and seeds are especially toxic. The toxicity of the green plant material varies from 0.1 to 1 percent of an animal's body weight. That means that roughly 1 plant can kill a 1000lbs cow.

Control: This plant is very hearty, so control can be difficult. Some cultural control involves planting crops or other plants that will outcompete the nightshade. There is always mechanical control, the main goal is to prevent the plant from developing berries/seeds because seeds can remain viable for years in the seed bed.

Link: <https://extension.psu.edu/management-of-eastern-black-nightshade-in-agronomic-crops>