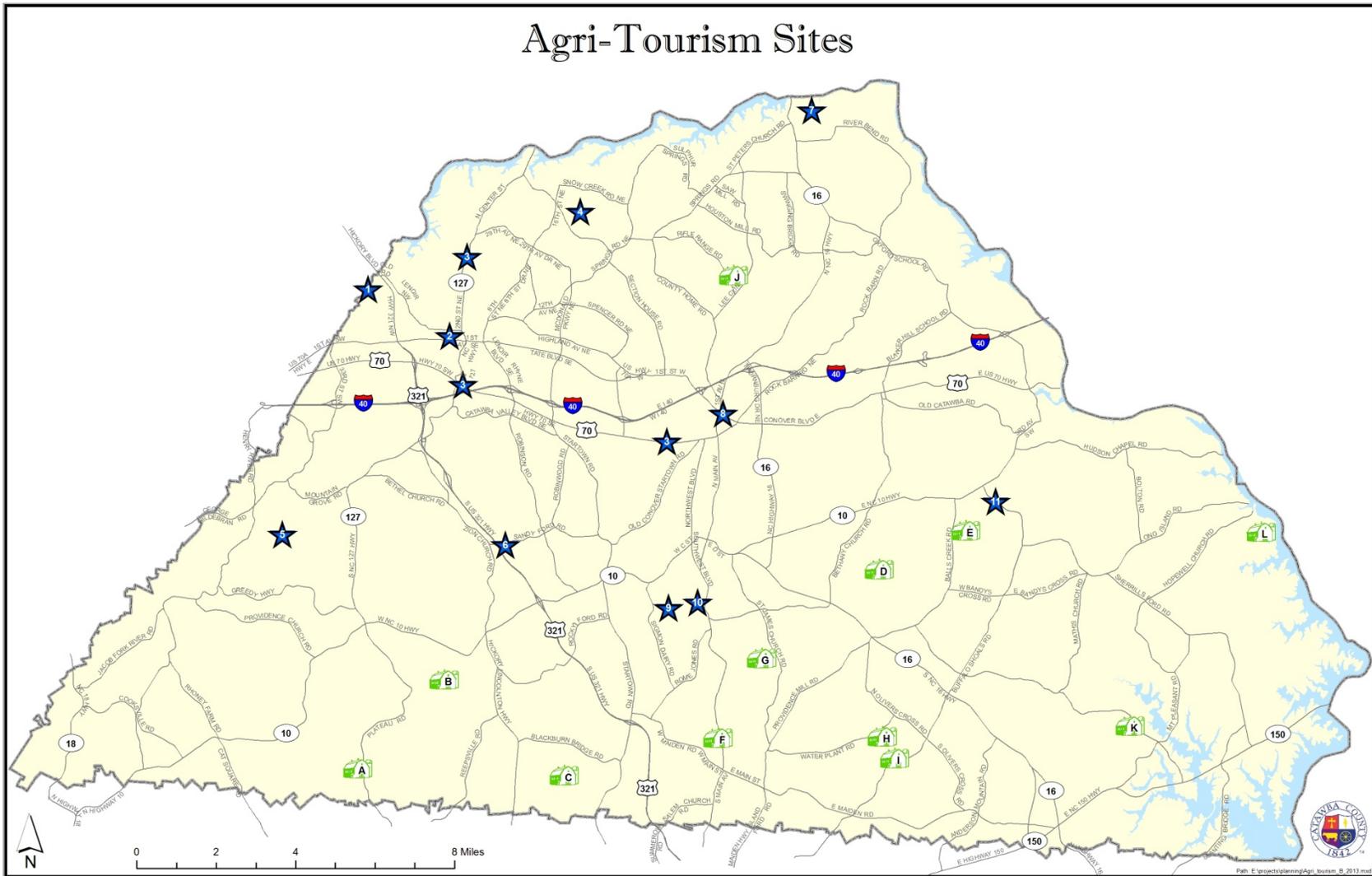


Agri-Tourism Sites



LEGEND AND DESCRIPTIONS OF TOUR SITES

FARM TOUR SITES



Windy Wool Windings

5247 Plateau Road, Vale

Come see purebred Montadale sheep and crossbreeds. They have fleeces, roving, yarns and weavings for sale as well as some breeding stock, market lambs and lamb meat for your freezer. Also learn about a working poultry farm. Enjoy a unique environment in rural southwest Catawba County.

Directions: From Newton, take Hwy. 10 West approximately 9.5 miles to Propst Crossroads. Turn left onto Plateau Road. Follow Plateau Road 5 miles. Windy Wool Windings is on the right across from Sunny Hill Farm.



LFR Farms & Greenhouses

2952 Lou Hoyle Lane, Newton

Note: LFR Farms will be open from 8:00 – 12:00 only.

Learn about various farming techniques, including greenhouse growing on this large working farm of over 1,000 acres. Products throughout the year include greenhouse plants, hanging baskets, vegetable plants, annuals and perennials. The farm also produces small grains such as corn, wheat and soybeans. Come see what's growing at LFR Farms.

Directions: Take Hwy. 10 west out of Newton approximately 8 miles. Turn left onto Wesley Chapel Road. At stop sign, turn left onto Grace Church Road. Farm is .6 mile at top of hill on the left.



Spellcast Farm

4203 Herter Road, Lincolnton

Note: Spellcast Farm will be open from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. only. See a unique farm with pastured, heritage-breed meat rabbits along with Jersey cattle, Ancona and Welsh Harlequin ducks. The farm also grows vegetables without pesticides or herbicides. See border collies herding the cattle on the farm with demonstrations conducted on the half-hour beginning at 2:30 p.m. Products available for purchase, subject to availability, will be rabbit meat, grass-fed and finished beef and duck eggs.

Directions: Take Hwy. 10 west out of Newton approximately 2.7 miles and turn left onto Startown Road. Drive 4.8 miles and turn right onto Blackburn Bridge Road. In one mile turn left onto Herter Road. Drive .7 mile to 4203 Herter Road. Come straight up the driveway SLOWLY and through the gate. DO NOT turn right at the top of the hill. Parking will be on the flat area to the left after coming through the gate.



Shady Oaks Farm

3487 Yount Road, Newton

This is a great farm to pick up fresh top quality naturally raised fruits, vegetables, honey and free-range eggs.

Directions: Take Hwy. 16 South out of Newton approximately 4.25 miles. Turn left onto Balls Creek Road. Go 1.5 miles and turn left on Mt. Olive Church Road. Then go .75 mile and turn right onto Yount Road. Farm is .25 mile on left.



Sipe Angus Farm

1338 Balls Creek Road, Newton

Let the kids come and see roaming beef cattle while you pick up some fresh grass-fed beef to take home. The beef raised at Sipe Angus Farm have no hormones or additives so you know you are eating quality beef. Try some today.

Directions: Take Hwy. 16 South out of Newton approximately 4.25 miles. Turn left onto Balls Creek Road and go 3.75 miles to the farm on the right.



Buddy Farm Apiary

3703 U.S. Hwy 321 South, Maiden

What will you see at an apiary? Bees making honey in their beehive. Bees not only produce honey but they also play an important role in pollinating plants to make flowers. See a working beehive and learn the role of bees in our environment. Take home some local honey too.

Directions: Take Hwy. 321 Business South out of Newton approximately 5 miles. The apiary is on the right across from Mays Chapel Church Road just outside the Town of Maiden.



FARM TOUR SITES



Devine Farms

2675 St. James Church Road, Newton

Come experience a family-owned and operated farm in the heart of Catawba County. The farm operates a 6-house modern poultry facility along with raising cattle, sheep, goats and produce. The Devines love teaching and educating people about all aspects of modern and traditional agriculture through fun and hands-on activities. Come learn what a true-working farm is all about. Thanks to the Devines for making their farm available free of charge for this day.

Directions: From Newton, take Hwy. 321 Business South approximately 2 miles. Turn left onto Smyre Farm Road. Go to stop sign and turn right onto St. James Church Road. Farm is approximately 1.5 miles on the right.



Buffalo Beals Animal Park

3259 Water Plant Road, Maiden

Enjoy 40 acres of easily accessible and thoughtfully arranged viewing grounds where you will encounter elk, antelope, camel, giraffe, chimpanzee, buffalo, kangaroos, monkeys and other exotic and domestic animals. Thanks to the Beals for making their animal park available free of charge for this day.

Directions: Take Hwy. 16 South out of Newton and go approximately 4.25 miles. Take a right onto Providence Church Road then a short left onto N Olivers Cross Road. Go approximately 2.25 miles and turn right onto Water Plant Road. The Animal Park is .75 miles on the left.



Faith Farm

Abernathy Williams Road, Maiden

Come see how sorghum cane is grown and learn about the historic "art" of sorghum production. Try a sample of pure sorghum and enjoy a sorghum ginger cookie so you can taste how the product can be used for cooking and baking. Produce, herbs and herbal products will also be available.

Directions: Take Hwy. 16 south out of Newton approximately 7.5 miles. Turn right onto Buffalo Shoals Road at the IGA Store. Go approximately 2 miles and turn right onto Abernathy Williams Road. Farm is at the top of hill on the left.



Ira Cline Farm

4444 Lee Cline Road, Conover

You may have been at the Cline farm in the past for strawberries. Come now to get your fresh blueberries (weather permitting), jams, jellies and cider.

Directions: Take Exit #132 off I-40. Go to Wal-Mart and turn right onto Hwy. 16 North. Go 1.5 miles and turn left on C&B Farm Road. Go 1.25 miles and turn left onto Lee Cline Road. Go .25 mile to the farm on your right.



Bird Brain Ostrich Ranch

6691 Little Mountain Road, Sherrills Ford

See one of the most unique farms in the County. Learn about ostrich and purchase farm-fresh products such as eggs and ostrich meat. Thanks to the Roberts for making their ranch available free of charge for this day.

Directions: From I-77 take Exit 36 onto Hwy. 150 West. Go approximately 9.5 miles, crossing over Lake Norman into Catawba County, and turn right on Little Mountain Road. Go another 1.75 miles to the farm on the left. From Newton, take Hwy. 16 south approximately 7.5 miles and turn left onto Buffalo Shoals Road. Then in .6 mile turn right onto Little Mountain Road. Drive 5.1 miles to the farm on the right.



Whispering Winds Farms

1060 Monbo Heights Drive, Catawba

See how a variety of vegetables and herbs are raised along with pond plants and fish. This small farm has water gardens and ponds with a variety of aquatic plants and fish ranging from koi, goldfish and shubunkins. There will be a variety of produce, herbs, pond plants and free-range eggs for sale.

Directions: From Newton, take Hwy. 10 east approximately 7.8 miles. Turn right onto Hudson Chapel Road. Drive 4.3 miles to Brown Chapel Road and turn right. Go 1.6 miles and turn left onto Long Island Road. In .7 mile turn right onto Monbo Road. Then go 1.9 miles and take a slight left onto Monbo Heights Road.



AGRICULTURAL EVENTS

★ **1 Hickory Crawdads Baseball Game**

L.P. Frans Stadium, Hickory

End your agri-tourism day by enjoying a Hickory Crawdads baseball game. OK - we may be stretching it a bit since crawdads are a coastal food product but it still will be great fun. The Crawdads will be playing the Delmarva Shorebirds starting at 7:00 p.m. Fee charged.

★ **2 Hickory Farmers Market**

Union Square, downtown Hickory

Meet local farmers, artisans and other neighbors from the Hickory area. Over 30 vendors sell fresh, locally grown produce, potted plants and herbs, cut flowers, baked goods, etc. Look for Catawba County vendors: Ironwood Estate Orchids and Summer Fresh Flowers. Open 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Free.

★ **3 Udderly Delicious Ice Cream Shop**

2173 N. Center Street, Hickory

131 Hwy. 70 S.E., Hickory

1006 Conover Blvd. W, Conover

Stop at any of the Udderly Delicious ice cream locations to enjoy home-made ice cream using some of the best cream and farm fresh ingredients. Open Noon – 10:00 p.m.

★ **4 St. Stephens Park**

2247 36th Ave. N.E., Hickory

Enjoy a picnic or just stretch your legs on the walking trail at St. Stephens park. Open 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Free.



★ **5 Bakers Mtn. Park**

6680 Bakers Mtn. Road, Hickory

Take a hike to the mountain top and enjoy the beautiful view of the Catawba Valley at this 189-acre County park. Open 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Free.

★ **6 Ironwood Estate Orchids Classes**

3757 Sandy Ford Road, Hickory

Ever wonder how to grow and care for beautiful orchids? Now is your opportunity to learn about these unique flowers. A beginning and intermediate class will be held at Ironwood Estate Orchids. Beginners will meet at 9:00 a.m. and Intermediate students will meet at 1:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required for both classes. Call (828) 294-3950. Fee charged.

★ **7 Riverbend Park**

6700 Hwy. 16 North, Conover

There are many activities to enjoy at this 450-acre County park on the Catawba River. Hike the nearly 12 miles of trails to explore this beautiful river basin park. You can see a variety of wildlife habitats that range from fresh water wetlands to an upland forest. Bring your fishing rod and try your luck at the inland pond or along the banks of the river. Enjoy a picnic along the Catawba River and look for bald eagles that fly over this area. Open 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Free.

★ **8 Conover Farmers Market**

Post Office parking lot, downtown Conover

Local farmers sell a variety of fruits, vegetables, pies, breads, meat, eggs, perennials and crafts. Check out local soap maker, Freedom Farms. Enjoy live music by the Iredell Ramblers and taste testings of unusual varieties of vegetables. Open 7:30 a.m. to Noon. Free.



AGRICULTURAL EVENTS



Herman's Fishing Lake

1954 Grandview Drive, Newton

Come enjoy "Take-A-Kid-Fishing" day at Herman's Fish Lake from 9:00 a.m. – Noon. Prizes will be awarded for the most, largest, smallest and most unusual fish. Bait will be available for purchase at Herman's Fish Lake but bring your own fishing equipment. Pre-register before the event at the Newton Recreation Department or by 8:30 a.m. the day of the event. Sponsored by the City of Newton Recreation Department. Free.



Southside Park

Hwy. 321 Business South, Newton

Take a picnic break and let the kids enjoy the play area at Newton's Southside Park. Open 6:00 a.m. until dark. Free.



Murray's Mill

1489 Murrays Mill Road, Catawba

See one of Catawba County's most visited historic sites – Murray's Mill. Preserved intact are the 1913 mill itself, the 1890s Murray & Minges General Store, the 1880s Wheathouse, used as an exhibit gallery, the 1913 John Murray House, furnished to the period, and numerous outbuildings. Inside Murray's Mill, visitors will find the original millstones used for grinding corn, as well as a Eureka roller mill used for grinding wheat into flour. It's a perfect place for an afternoon picnic or a leg-stretcher. Take a walk on the Carolina Thread Trail alongside the millpond and enjoy the beautiful scenery. Afterwards, pick up some fresh stone ground products at the store to take home. Open 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Admission charged for mill tour.



For questions or further information regarding Catawba County's Agri-Tourism Day, contact the County Planning Department at (828) 465-8264 or Cooperative Extension at (828) 465-8240