

Contest Announcement: **Giant Pumpkin Contest 2025**

Brought to you by the **Union County Co-Op**

Attention farmers, gardeners, and pumpkin enthusiasts! The **Union County Co-Op** is proud to sponsor this year's **Giant Pumpkin Contest**. It's time to roll up your sleeves, plant your seeds, and join the race to grow the **biggest pumpkin** in Union County. Let's celebrate the incredible skill and dedication of our local growers!

Key Event Details:

- **Planting Starts:** Early May 2025
- **Weigh-In Day:** Saturday, October 4, 2025, at the Union County Farmers Market
- **Who Can Participate:** Open to all community members—whether you're an experienced farmer or a gardening novice
- **Prizes:** Awards for the **heaviest pumpkin** and runner-ups, plus the glory of being crowned this year's Giant Pumpkin Champion!

The **Union County Co-Op** is here to support your growing needs with high-quality seeds, advice, growing tips, fertilizers, and gardening tools perfect for growing giant pumpkins.

We're proud to sponsor this community event and hope to make it a yearly tradition. Let's make this year's contest the most exciting one yet!

Contest Rules:

1. **Registration:** Contestants must sign up by **emailing UnionFMKT@gmail.com**. Registration forms are available at the Union County Co-Op and Union County Farmers Market. Free to register.
2. **Seeds:** Any variety of pumpkin seeds is allowed, but **Atlantic Giant** is recommended for those aiming for massive pumpkins.
3. **Growing Period:** Pumpkins must be grown by the contestant from seed and nurtured on their own property.
4. **Harvesting:** Each contestant may submit **only one pumpkin** for the final weigh-in.
5. **Weigh-In Guidelines:**
 - Pumpkins must arrive at the Farmers Market by **9:00 AM on October 4, 2025**.
 - Pumpkins will be weighed using an official scale provided by the Union County Co-Op.
6. **Pumpkin Condition:** Entries must be **whole, sound, and unaltered**. Pumpkins with damage, holes, or rot that compromise their integrity may be disqualified.
7. **Judging:** The winner will be determined based on the **heaviest pumpkin** as recorded during the weigh-in.
8. **Community Spirit:** This contest is all about fun, farming, and fostering connections—so let's keep things friendly and supportive!

The **Union County Co-Op** is excited to help bring the community together for this beloved event. Start planting, and let's see who can grow the biggest pumpkin in town!