

ON THE HORIZON

on the horizon

In Boone County

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Purdue University is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access University. If you are in need of accommodations to attend this program, please contact Andrea Hatfield prior to the meeting at 765-482-0750 and ahatfield@purdue.edu. If you need an interpreter or translator, please contact Andrea Hatfield prior to the meeting at 765-482-0750 or ahatfield@purdue.edu.



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Purdue Extension - Boone County
[@booneco_purdueextension](https://www.instagram.com/booneco_purdueextension)

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2025

Andrea Hatfield

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Agriculture & Natural Resources and Community
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BOAH Webinar: Biosecurity: Protecting Your Investment

Join the Indiana State Board of Animal Health for its Q4 Lunch-and-Learn webinar, Biosecurity: Protecting Your Investment. BOAH District 1 Veterinarian Dr. Jennifer Strasser will outline seven key components of an effective farm biosecurity plan and share insights gained from the response to highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1).

Wednesday, December 3

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Via Teams

Pre-registration is required to receive the login link.

*Open to the public and offers 1 hour of CE credit for veterinarians and RVTs.



[Register Here](#)

Food Entrepreneurs: “Ask an Expert”

Have questions about starting or growing your food business? Join Purdue’s Food Entrepreneurship and Manufacturing Institute for free group office hours with experts in food safety, product development, marketing, and business planning.

When: Dec. 10th

1:00 – 2:00 PM

Cost: Free

Capacity: 5 participants per session

Questions: Femi@purdue.edu or 765-494-2758



[Click Here to Sign up](#)

Winter PARP- Boone County

Join Purdue Extension for the Boone County Winter PARP, featuring sessions on Soil Fertility, Fumigation & IPM in Grain Storage.

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

6:30 p.m. – 9:15 p.m. EST

Boone County 4-H Fairgrounds- Farm Bureau Inc. Community

Register with Purdue Extension–Boone County:

booneces@purdue.edu or 765-482-0750



[Click Here to Register](#)

Beginning Farmer Program

Join Purdue Extension's virtual Beginning Farmer Program to gain the tools and knowledge needed for a successful farming operation. This 8-session workshop helps new farmers set goals, identify resources, and develop practical farm plans.

Thursdays, Jan. 8-Feb. 26, 2026

7:00–8:30 p.m. - via Zoom

Optional recorded lunchtime sessions available

Register by January 5, 2026



[Register Here](#)

Purdue Top Farmer Conference

Join one of the most respected and longest-running farm management programs, the Purdue Top Farmer Conference. Hear from Purdue faculty and national experts on farm management, policy, finance, marketing, and the future of agriculture.



Friday, January 9, 2026

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. EST

Beck Agricultural Center, West Lafayette, IN

Registration: \$150

Hybrid option available

*Registered participants will receive access to live sessions, video recordings, & presentation

[Click Here For more info & to Sign Up](#)

Farmers' Market Program

Purdue Extension is launching its first in-person Farmers' Market Program. Designed for market managers, vendors, and on-site farm stands, providing practical training in legal requirements, food safety, market stability, food assistance programs, and conflict management.

Tuesday's, Jan 27- Feb 17, 2026

Purdue Extension Marion County- Discovery Hall

Register by January 21, 2026.

Cost: \$75- receive a Market Manager or Vendor manual



Beef Basics in the Eastern Corn Belt

Join Purdue Extension's virtual Beef Basics Program—a great opportunity for new or early-career beef producers to build a strong foundation in beef cattle production. Sessions cover topics like reproduction, genetics, nutrition, animal health, and marketing.

Tuesdays, Feb. 10-Mar. 31, 2026

6–8 p.m. - via Zoom

Cost: \$50

Register by January 30, 2026



[Register Here](#)

Fruit & Vegetable Growers- Produce Safety Training

This training provides about seven hours of instruction covering key produce safety topics. Participants will learn about worker health and hygiene, soil amendments, wildlife and land use, agricultural water, postharvest handling and sanitation, and how to develop a farm food safety plan. It's a comprehensive introduction designed to help growers improve on-farm food safety practices.

In- person Wednesday, February, 18, 2026

Boone County 4-H Fairgrounds, Lebanon, IN

Register by February 11, 2026



[Click Here to Sign Up](#)

2026 Ag Engage Conference

Join the Purdue EDGE in Ag Team for the Ag Engage Conference, an annual event bringing together farmers, agribusiness professionals, and ag enthusiasts from across Indiana. Learn strategies to manage risk, strengthen your operation, and connect with others through keynote sessions, breakout presentations, and pre-conference workshops.



Thursday, February 19, 2026

9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Monroe Convention Center, Bloomington, IN

\$125 Early Bird | \$135 after Jan. 22

Register by Feb. 6

Pre-conference workshops and the Emerging Ag Leaders Conference will be held on February

[Click Here For more info & to Sign Up](#)

AgrAbility National Training Workshop

The AgrAbility National Training Workshop is the premier event focused on disability in agriculture, bringing together professionals and consumers from across the country. Participants will engage in four days of plenary sessions, breakout discussions, tours, and networking opportunities.



March 16-19, 2026

Park Place Hotel, 300 East State Street, Traverse City, MI

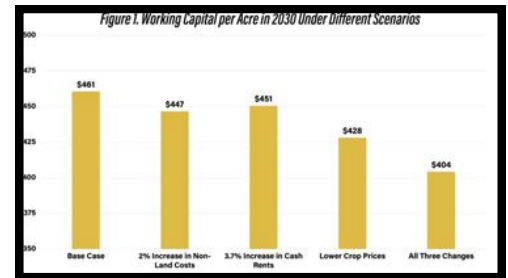
Register by March 5

[Click Here for Workshop Stipend](#)

[Click Here For more info & to Sign Up](#)

When to Hold Them or Fold Them (on Cash Rent)

This Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture article uses the long-run cash rent spreadsheet to help farmers evaluate when to keep or drop a rented tract. By connecting crop budgets, yield trends, price forecasts, cost changes, and working-capital projections, the tool shows how a lease affects whole-farm finances over five years. The example shows that even a moderately sized tract can strain working capital if prices fall or costs rise.



The takeaway: cash-rent decisions should focus on long-term financial stability, not just next season.

[Read the Full Article Here](#)

Understanding Farm Taxes

Purdue is offering two events with practical tools and strategies to reduce farm tax uncertainty and improve decision-making.

Week 1: December 1, 2025

Week 2: December 8, 2025

7:00-8:30 PM

Cost: \$20

RSVP by November 30th



For those wanting more in-depth coverage of agricultural and farm tax issues, sign up for the Ag Tax Webinar. This webinar will cover cost recovery, deducting residual soil fertility, disaster tax issues, farm partnership tax matters, and managing basis in estates.

December 15, 2025

9:00-3:00 PM

Cost: \$175

RSVP by November 30th



[Click Here to Sign Up](#)

[Click Here to Sign Up](#)

Marcia's Retiring!

Help us celebrate 26 amazing years of Marcia's dedication to Purdue Extension–Boone County and 4-H!

Drop off or send a card to share your thanks, memories, and best wishes as she heads into retirement.

Marcia is in the office Tuesday–Thursday, so plan to stop by then — or mail your card to:
Purdue Extension–Boone County
1300 E. 100 S., Lebanon, IN 46052



4-H PROJECTS LOOKING FOR LEADERS

You don't need to be an expert just willing to help youth learn!

Aerospace



Fine Arts



Shooting Sports



Woodworking



Vet Science



4-H Council



4-H Fair Board



Become a Volunteer Today

SPRING 2026 MASTER GARDENER BASIC TRAINING

Applications will be made available on our website December 1, 2025 and accepted through January 14, 2026 or while space is available. Only 30 applicants will be accepted into the Spring Boone County program.

Interested in being notified about the Master Gardener Class?!! Scan the QR code and let us know!



SAVE THE DATES!

TUESDAYS
February–May
Online from 6:30PM–8:30PM

THURSDAYS
2/12, 2/26, 3/12, 3/26, 4/9, 4/23, 5/7, 5/21
In-Person

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