

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

February 2025

Happy (belated) New Year Everyone!

It is hard to believe that we are already one month in to 2025! The new year can be an exciting time. More often than not, this is a time of goal setting. We may be setting financial goals such as being more diligent with our budgeting, health goals like taking 30 minutes a day to go for a walk, professional goals such as attending more workshops and conferences, and personal goals like picking up a new hobby.

I have several goals this year that I hope can benefit Decatur County in one way or another.

- I want to continue the Biggest Tree in Decatur County contest for the 2025 year.
- I want to share an article with you all each month about something I find particularly interesting in the agriculture & natural resources world each month.
- I want to connect you with programs being led both around the state and right here at home in Decatur County.
- Finally, I want to help you, Reader, find a new connection to our natural world, because I think it can be pretty cool!



With all that being said, the item at the top of my mind is World Wetlands Day, happening on Sunday, February 2nd. To be honest, I was unaware that this was even an event until recently. However, after learning of it, I am excited to share what it is with all of you!

World Wetlands Day marks the anniversary of the Convention of Wetlands, the intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.(1) This is important as nearly 90% of the world's wetlands have been degraded since the 1700's and we are losing wetlands three times faster than forests.(2)

Before the times of widespread agriculture, Indiana contained many wetlands. While it is impossible to say for certain the exact acreage of wetlands contained in Indiana prior to settlement 200 years ago, we can estimate using an assessment based on hydric soils. Hydric soils indicate the presence of wetlands. In 1989 the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation analyzed assessment data collected by the USDA Soil Conservation Service. They were able to estimate that there was about 5.8 million acres of wetland in Indiana 200 years prior. At the time of the data collection, there were 813,000 acres of wetland remaining, equating to an 85% loss of wetlands.(3) According to a present-day search on the Indiana Department of Environmental

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES *Continued*

Management's website, wetland loss or gain since this study is unknown.(4)

The EPA defines wetlands as "areas where water covers the soil, or is present either at or near the surface of the soil all year or for varying periods of time during the year, including during the growing season." This definition allows for a lot of variation in wetlands that can be observed, due to soil differences, climate, vegetation, and numerous other factors, therefore there are two general categories of wetlands: Coastal or Tidal Wetlands and Inland or Non-tidal Wetlands.(5)

Coastal/tidal wetlands tend to be found, you guessed it, near coast lines. Consequently, these types of wetlands tend to have various concentrations of salt water, leading to either completely unvegetated mud or salt flats or creating environments containing extremely specialized vegetation such as tidal salt marshes containing specialized grasses or Mangrove swamps which contain shrubs and trees adapted to the increased salinity. In some regions the coastal/tidal wetlands can extend far enough inland to lose influence of the salt water and instead form tidal freshwater wetlands. Inland/non-tidal wetlands occur in low-lying areas where groundwater breaks through the surface of the soil or where precipitation completely saturates the soil. These can occur in floodplains along rivers and streams, in depressions surrounded by dry land, and along lake and pond margins. Wetlands can also be seasonal, going through periods of dryness for one or more seasons a year.(5)

According to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, wetlands can be further classified into communities. These communities can be described as bogs, dune & swale, fens, flatwoods, floodplain forests, marshes, ponds, lakes, sedge meadows, seeps, streams, creeks, major rivers, swamps.

- Bogs are the result of ponds filling up with dead plant matter, or peat. On one of my

recent trips to the Chicago Botanic Garden, I saw a very interesting active bog display. It was concealed on all 4 sides by a strong plexiglass, allowing visitors to see the many layers of peat that had collected over time. After enough time, shrubs and trees may cover the bog and along the outside of the bog may be open water, marsh, sedge marsh, or fen.

- Dune and swale are long regions of sand ridges containing long ponds and marshes. These can be observed at the Indiana Dunes near Lake Michigan.
- Fens are often found at the base of slopes where peat and water-runoff collect. Unlike bogs, fens are less acidic allowing for a wider variety of plant species.
- Flatwoods occur on level ground where they soil does not allow water to easily permeate. They can often be seen holding water in the spring.
- Floodplain forests occur in the floodplains of rivers and streams and can have a variety of vegetation depending on the level of flooding that occurs.
- Marshes are wetlands that are dominated by grasses and hold water at or above the soil surface for the majority of the year.
- Ponds are permanent or semi-permanent small, still bodies of water. They are typically shallow enough to allow for rooted aquatic plants throughout most of it.
- Lakes differ from ponds by being big enough to have barren, wave-swept shores. Wetlands that have a peat, muck, or wet sand base and are dominated by sedges are known as sedge meadows.
- Seeps, like the name would have you believe, occur when groundwater "seeps" or diffuses to the surface. The environments of seeps can vary greatly due to soil quality and water pH.
- Streams are only defined as flowing waters that are permanent year-round. Streams can be further divided into creeks and rivers.
 - Creeks have a watershed that is less than 200 square miles, while rivers have watersheds that exceed this. Fun fact:

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES Continued

major rivers, those with wide, deep channels and very large flow are actually low-gradient streams; there is no true difference other than the name!

- Swamps are permanent or semi-permanent bodies of water containing wood plants. When we think of swamps, we often think of ponds in wet floodplain forests.(6)

Now that we have covered all of the different types and communities of wetlands, we can now discuss where in Indiana the different types of wetlands can be found. In Northern Indiana we can find many lakes, ponds, marshes, swamps, and peat bogs. Southern Indiana contains floodplains and swamp forests. In South-central Indiana we can find sinkholes, springs, and lowland swamps thanks to the abundance of dissolved limestone bedrock. Northwestern Indiana primarily contains wet prairies, and Northeastern Indiana holds swamps and bogs that are dominated by woody vegetation. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources focuses greatly on preserving these natural habitats though the establishment of state-dedicated nature preserves, with several of these preserves being fairly local, including(6):

- Well Woods Nature Preserve - Jennings County
- Tribbett's Woods Nature Preserve - Jennings County
- Guthrie Memorial Woods Nature Preserve - Jennings County
- Calli Nature Preserve - Jennings County
- Anderson Falls Nature Preserve - Bartholomew County
- Meltzer Nature Preserve - Shelby County
- Chelsea Flatwoods Nature Preserve - Jefferson County
- Clifty Canyon Nature Preserve - Jefferson County(7)

On World Wetlands Day, February 2nd, I challenge you to plan a visit to at least one of Indiana's nature preserves this year. If you do go, snap a photo and tell me where you went and what you saw. I would love to feature your

adventure in my newsletter!

1. *About the Convention on Wetlands*. The Convention on Wetlands, The Convention on Wetlands. (2024, October 31). <https://www.ramsar.org/about-convention-wetlands>
2. World Wetlands Day - Purdue Extension. (n.d.-b). <https://extension.purdue.edu/events/2024/02/world-wetlands-day.html>
3. The status of wetlands in Indiana - in gov. (n.d.-a). <https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/files/statusof.pdf>
4. Wetlands, Lakes & Streams. (2022, May 25). *Indiana's wetland resources*. <https://www.in.gov/idem/wetlands/resources/indianas-wetland-resources/#~:text=Existing%20wetlands%3A%20813%2C000%20acres,area%20in%20wetlands%20today%3A%203.5%20%25>
5. Environmental Protection Agency. (n.d.). EPA. <https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/classification-and-types-wetlands#Fens>
6. Nature Preserves. (2022, September 21). *Indiana wetlands*. <https://www.in.gov/dnr/nature-preserves/indiana-wetlands/>
7. Nature Preserves. (2024, October 7). *Indiana Nature preserves*. https://www.in.gov/dnr/nature-preserves/nature-preserve/#_i_class_fas_fa_triangle_exclamation__i_b_Nature_Preserve_A1erts__b_

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

2025

FEBRUARY

01
On Campus: Purdue
 Ag Alumni Fish Fry

02
 World
 Wetlands
 Day

03
**Registration
 Deadline:**
 Blooming Success;
 More Than a Visit;
 Grain Marketing

04
**Registration
 Deadline:** Forest
 Management for the
 Private Woodland
 Owner - Brown County

10
PARP Program with
 Kova Fertilizer
 9:00 am - 11:30 am

12
**Hardwood
 University:** Air
 Drying Hardwood
 Lumber

13
Webinar Series:
 American Citizen
 Planner Webinar 1
 - Ethics

14
 Great Backyard
 Bird Count

20
PARP Program
 with XAG Apply

24
 National Invasive
 Species
 Awareness Week

25
PARP Program with
 PremierAg - Decatur
 County
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

26
Virtual Course:
 Forest Management
 for the Private
 Woodland Owner

28
PARP Program with
 PremierAg - Shelby
 County
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Check out some
 upcoming ANR Programs
 in Decatur County and
 around the state!

Click on any of the **GOLD**
 bubbles to read more!

Programs in **GRAY** do not
 have active web pages
 yet. Call 812-663-8388 to
 learn more.



Purdue Extension
 Decatur County



New World Screwworm

(*Cochliomyia hominivorax*)

New World screwworm (NWS) is a devastating pest of livestock. It can affect any warm-blooded animal. It can also affect people. Untreated screwworm infestations can be fatal to livestock, wildlife, and humans. Not controlling the pest in a livestock population can damage a country's economy.

Distribution

NWS is endemic in Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and countries in South America.

Since 2006, the United States and Panama have maintained a barrier zone in eastern Panama. This barrier zone prevents NWS from moving north from South America to screwworm-free areas in Central and North America.

In 2023, APHIS confirmed an unprecedented number of NWS cases in Panama. Since then, cases have been detected in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico.

Hosts

NWS can affect livestock, pets, wildlife, occasionally birds, and in rare cases, people.

This pest can infest a wide variety of wounds, from tick bites to cuts and dehorning or branding wounds. Infestations are very common in the navels of newborn animals and the genital regions of their mothers.

Description

Adult screwworm flies have orange eyes, a metallic blue or green body, and three dark stripes along their backs. The center stripe begins partway down the backside and appears shorter than the outer stripes.

Screwworm larvae (maggots) burrow into a wound, feeding as they go like a screw driving into wood. The maggots cause extensive damage by tearing at the hosts' tissue with sharp mouth hooks. The wound becomes deeper and larger as more maggots hatch and feed on living tissue.

Impact

NWS can threaten the livelihood of livestock producers. It can cause millions of dollars' worth of production losses and economic damage. Screwworm also pose a threat to humans in infested areas.

What You Can Do

Immediately report signs of screwworm to your local veterinarian, State veterinarian's office, or USDA (www.aphis.usda.gov/contact/animal-health). Look for the following signs in warm-blooded animals (including pets and birds):

- Irritated behavior
- Head shaking
- The smell of decay
- Presence of maggots in a wound



Adult screwworm fly

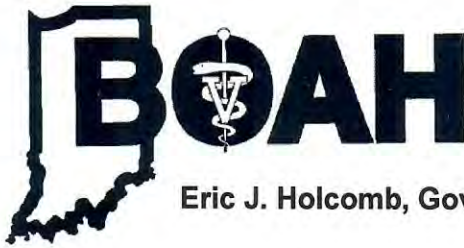
If you travel with a dog to regions affected by screwworm, know the requirements for returning to the United States. Go to www.aphis.usda.gov/pet-travel/another-country-to-us-import/dogs for more information.

If you live or are traveling in areas affected by screwworm, have your animals inspected before you move them. Use available animal checkpoints to prevent the spread of this pest.

Learn More

For more information about screwworm, including information on the NWS outbreak in Central America and Mexico, go to www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/cattle/ticks/screwworm.

For information on how screwworms affect people or to report human disease, please visit www.cdc.gov/myiasis/about/about-new-world-screwworm-myiasis.html.



Eric J. Holcomb, Governor

INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Office of the State Veterinarian
Discovery Hall, Suite 100
1202 East 38th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46205-2898
Phone: 317/544-2400

ANIMAL HEALTH ADVISORY

Updates to Federal Official Identification Requirements in Cattle and Bison (4 November 2024)

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has updated specific federal traceability requirements for electronic identification (EID) in cattle and bison, **effective November 5, 2024**.

Under the updated federal requirements, **all official ear tags applied to cattle and bison must be readable visually and electronically when used for interstate movement.**

Q: To what species does this change apply?

A: This change only applies to cattle and bison.

- All sexually intact cattle and bison 18 months of age or older.
- All dairy cattle as defined by 9 CFR 86.1 of any age, **including beef-on-dairy calves**.
- Cattle and bison of any age used for rodeo, exhibition, or recreational events.

Q: How are dairy cattle defined in 9 CFR 86.1?

A: Dairy cattle are defined as all cattle, regardless of age or sex or current use, that are of a breed(s) or offspring of a breed used to produce milk or other dairy products for human consumption, including, but not limited to Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Milking Shorthorn, and Red and Whites. **Beef-on-dairy calves are included** in this definition as animals of dairy origin.

Q: What cattle and bison are exempted from the official EID requirement?

A: Official ID is **not required** for cattle and bison during the following movements: directly to slaughter; as part of a commuter herd agreement; or directly to an approved tagging site, such as a livestock market. Beef feeder cattle (steers and heifers) younger than 18 months of age do not require official ID, except for exhibition.

Q: Can I continue to use the visual-only official ID tags I have on-hand for my cattle or bison herd (840s, metal NUES, etc.)?

A: No. Visual-only, non-electronic tags may NOT be used as official ID in cattle or bison after November 5, 2024. Producers are advised to either destroy existing tag inventories or use them in other approved species.

NOTE: Visual-only, non-electronic official ear tags will continue to be considered official ID in all other species of livestock except cattle and bison.

Q: My cattle or bison have visual-only (non-electronic) official ID tags. Do they need to be retagged?

A: No. Visual-only official ID applied before November 5, 2024 will be recognized as official ID for the life of the animal; however, all new official ID tags, including retags, applied to cattle and bison after November 5, 2024 need to be both visually and electronically readable.

Q: If I need to retag my animal after it lost an old, non-electronic tag, do I need to follow the updated rule?

A: Yes. The new tag must be an official EID tag.

Safeguarding Indiana's animals, food supply and citizens for more than 125 years.

An equal opportunity employer and provider.

Q: If I add a new visual EID tag to an animal that already has a visual-only official ear tag, which ID needs to be recorded on test charts and movement documents such as a certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI)?

A: All official animal ID numbers must be recorded, including dairy-breed offspring, steers, and spayed heifers.

Q: Can I apply a new EID tag if my animal already has an older, non-electronic ID?

A: Yes. USDA continues to support upgrades in tag technology. Do not remove the old tag. Instead, make a note in your records of both ID numbers along with the date when the new tag was applied and maintain a copy of those records for 5 years.

Q: Can I remove old official ID if I have retagged to meet the new requirements?

A: No. Official ID is intended to provide permanent identification of livestock and may only be removed in limited circumstances, such as a malfunction of the old electronic component, deterioration of the tag, or an infection at the attachment site. The owner must maintain records to correlate the old/removed tag with the new ID number.

Q: Is USDA providing free EID tags during this change?

A: Yes. USDA is supplying a limited quantity of tags to states for distribution. Indiana's allocation is 61,000 tags. USDA will be shipping EID tags directly to 15 Indiana livestock market facilities based on officially reported past sale volumes of cattle. At this time, logistics prevent shipping smaller quantities to individual producers. Tags are **not available** through BOAH. Tags continue to be available for purchase [from suppliers](#).

Q: Are backtags still an option for use in slaughter channels?

A: Yes. USDA-approved backtags may be used at markets only for direct-to-slaughter cattle and bison that are slaughtered within 3 days of their movement to the slaughter plant.

Q: Does USDA still offer an exemption for direct-to-slaughter cattle moving interstate?

A: Yes. Cattle moving directly to a recognized slaughter establishment or to *no more than one* approved livestock facility, where the cattle are shipped for slaughter within 3 days of arrival, are exempt.

ABOUT ANIMAL DISEASE TRACEABILITY IN INDIANA

Indiana was—and is—among the first states to adopt premises registration and promote electronic animal identification. Since 2014, Indiana has placed more than 2.3 million official tags by leveraging state and federal dollars. The Turn IN-Trade UP program, in partnership with veterinarians, saw more than 30,000 steel NUES tags exchanged for 13,800 840-RFID tags.

MORE INFORMATION

Requirements for interstate movement may be found online at: <http://www.interstatelivestock.com> or www.aphis.usda.gov.

Producers, veterinarians and others who need to purchase official EID tags should refer to the online buyer's guide or visit: www.in.gov/boah/traceability-and-premise-id/.

For questions regarding interstate movement of livestock, including shipments to or from an approved livestock facility in Indiana, contact BOAH at (317) 544-2400.

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PARP PROGRAM - KOVA FERTILIZER INC.

Location: "The Red Barn"

Next Generation, Inc

355 W Smith Rd.

Greensburg, IN 47240

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Agenda

IMPORTANCE OF NITROGEN STABILIZERS

NATHAN OSTING, CORTEVA

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

CORRECT ADJUVANTS FOR THE ENLIST TECHNOLOGY

NATHAN OSTING, CORTEVA

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

ADVANTAGES AND OPTIONS OF SULFUR TO BENEFIT YOUR CROPS

WESTIN RINK, SUL4R-PLUS

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

PLANT BIOSTIMULANTS, WHAT THEY ARE AND HOW THEY WORK

TYLER WILLIAMS, SUMMIT AGRO

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

OISC 2025 MANDATORY REGULATORY UPDATE

SABRINA GREGORY, PURDUE EXTENSION - DECATUR COUNTY

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

CCH's Available

Categories	Maximum CCHs available
1	3
2	1
3A	1
3B	1
4	1
5	1
6	1
8	1
7A	1
7B	1
7D	1
11	1
14	2
RT	3

Seating is Limited!

Deadline to RSVP is February 4th.

**Please RSVP to KOVA by calling
812-663-5081**

Donuts and Drinks will be provided.

**Private Applicator Fee has been
Sponsored By:**



**INDIANA
SOYBEAN
ALLIANCE®**



**INDIANA
CORN**
Marketing Council

BQA CERTIFICATION

FEBRUARY 27, 2025



With the support of the Decatur County Cattleman's Association, join us at the Decatur County Extension Office for a Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Certification Training. Participants will be led through the training by Dr. Nick Minton, State Beef Systems Specialist, and will leave the training with their BQA Certification, good for 3 years.

The training will be followed by a meeting of the Decatur County Cattleman's Association.

Food and drinks will be provided.

This training will take 3 hours to complete.

If you are interested in attending this training, please RSVP by calling 812-663-8388 or emailing allen484@purdue.edu

TRAINING BEGINS AT 6:00 PM, DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM
545 S CO RD 200 W, GREENSBURG, IN 47240

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL **812-663-8388**
MEETING WILL BE HELD IN LARGE MEETING ROOM AT THE DECATUR COUNTY
EXTENSION OFFICE

INDIANA FORAGE COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, March 6, 2025
The Branch Gathering Place
113 N Broadway St, Greensburg, IN
47240

4:00 PM IFC Business meeting
5:45 PM Dinner
6:45-8:30 PM Awards Ceremony,
Roots so Deep Viewing &
Discussion

\$20 to be paid at the door for meal

**REGISTER BY
FEBRUARY 27
TO:**

Decatur County
Extension Office
812-663-8388 or
allen484@purdue.edu



HOME VEGETABLE GARDENING

This series offers current and aspiring vegetable growers the opportunity to learn from experts about ways to increase the success and satisfaction of quality vegetable production in their gardens.

Session 1 - April 8

Getting Started in Vegetable Gardening

- Selecting site and plants
- Sizing up your garden and tools
- Soil preparation techniques
- Plant spacing and layout

Vegetable varieties

- Types/seasons of plants
- Crop rotation

Session 2 - April 15 (Dr. Laura Ingwell)

- Pest Management
- Insect Management
 - Integrated pest management
 - Organic pest management
 - Pest identification & pesticide use

Session 3 - April 22 (Dr. Cesar Escalante)

Disease Management

- Diagnosing plant problems
- Disease management (identify, manage, and prevent)

Participants of this three-week series will learn about modern vegetable production practices appropriate to home growing. They will also learn about how to manage diseases and pests in a sustainable manner.



April 8, 15, and 22, 2025

6:30-8:30 pm Eastern

5:30-7:30 pm Central

Program will be held at the Decatur County Extension Office, 545 S Co Rd 200 W, Greensburg, IN 47240

Registration fee: \$30/person for all sessions.

Register here: <https://cvent.me/Mmy7XQ>

Register by March 28, 2025



Extension - Agriculture
and Natural Resources

BLOOMING SUCCESS: MASTERING POST-HARVEST, PESTS, AND PROFITS

"Blooming Succession: Mastering Post-Harvest, Pests, and Profits" is aimed at helping Indiana cut flower growers refine essential aspects of their operations for sustainable growth. This class focuses on three critical acres: effective post-harvest handling, pest management, and maximizing profits.



Participants will learn best practices for harvesting, storing, and handling cut flowers to ensure quality and extend shelf life. The class will also cover integrated pest management strategies to minimize damage and maintain healthy crops. Additionally, growers will gain valuable insights into improving their profitability through smart business strategies, pricing, and marketing techniques.

By mastering these areas, growers will be better equipped to increase yields, reduce losses, and enhance their farm's financial sustainability.



DATE/LOCATION

Feb. 12, 2025
10:00 am – 3:00 pm Eastern

Grand Wayne Center
Fort Wayne, IN

COST

\$50 registration fee when
attending Ag Women
Engage Conference

\$60 registration fee if not
attending conference

Lunch provided

REGISTRATION

Register at
<https://cvent.me/q5GOdw>

Deadline **Feb. 3, 2025**

Limit 32 participants.

Questions? Contact 574-235-9605
or everse@purdue.edu



Extension

Women in Agriculture

Purdue University is an EA/EO/AA institution.



Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (Day) _____

Email: _____

Fees:

_____ Registration - \$50 = \$ _____

Couples/family registration -
\$30 each additional \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Class size is limited to 40 registrants on a first-come, first serve basis.

Make checks payable to:

Purdue CES Ed Fund/Brown County

Advanced registration is required by
February 4th

Mail completed form along with your payment to:

Allison Roberts

Purdue Extension - Brown County

P.O. Box 7

Nashville, IN 47448

☐ I require auxiliary aids and services due to a disability. Please contact me at the above address. (If multiple registrants, indicate the individual who needs to be contacted.)

Directions



From the west:

From the intersection of State Rd 135 & Main St. in the Town of Nashville, turn onto Main St and follow for 0.6 miles. turn left at the entrance to the fair grounds.

Please park surrounding the Green Exhibit Hall located next to the Purdue Extension Office.

From the east:

From State Rd.46 turn right onto Snyder Rd. Turn left onto Old State Rd 4at the stop sign (In Front of Hard Truth Hills Entrance). Turn right immediately following the curve at the entrance of the fair grounds. Please park surrounding the Green Exhibit Hall located next to the Purdue Extension Office.

It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons have equal opportunity and access to its educational programs, services, activities and facilities with-out regard to race, religion, color, sex, age national origin or ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, disability or status as a veteran. Purdue University is an Affirmative Action Institution. This material may be available in alternative formats.

www.extension.purdue.edu



Extension - Forestry
and Natural Resources

Forest Management for the Private Woodland Owner

Eight **Tuesday** Evenings and
One Saturday Field Sessions
February **11** to April **1**, 2025

**Purdue Extension - Brown County
Brown County 4-H Fair Grounds
802 S Memorial Dr. Nashville, IN
47201**

The program is sponsored by:

Purdue University Department of
Forestry and Natural Resources

Brown County Cooperative Extension
IDNR, Division of Forestry

Forest Management for the Private Woodland Owner

View from Hickory Ridge Fire Tower, Monroe Co.

About the Course . . .

Forest Management for the Private Woodland Owner is a Purdue University short course providing knowledge and resources to help landowners make informed decisions in the care and management of their forests. The workshop will run eight (8) **Tuesday** evenings, Feb 11 through **April 1**, according to the course schedule. Class size is limited to 40 registrants on a first-come, first-serve basis.

When and Where . . .

February 11 to April 1, 2025

Exhibit Hall Building located on Brown County 4-H Fair Grounds next to Purdue Extension - Brown County office.

The workshop will run from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (EST) each scheduled week (except the Saturday morning field tour, running 9 am to noon at South East Purdue Ag Center in Butlerville, IN)

For more program information, contact **Allison Roberts** at 812-988-5495 or by email at rober398@purdue.edu

Instruction will be provided by Purdue Extension staff, and state and private sector foresters.

Course Schedule

Tuesday, February 11, 2025	6—9 p.m.*
Forest Resource & Tree Identification	
Tuesday, February 18, 2025	6—9 p.m.
Forest Biology & Ecology	
Tuesday, February 25, 2024	6—9 p.m.
Forest Management I	
Tuesday, March 4, 2025	6—9 p.m.
Forest Management II	
Tuesday, March 11, 2025	6—9 p.m.
Marketing Timber	
Tuesday, March 18, 2025	6—9pm
Wildlife Management	
Tuesday, March 25, 2025	6—9 p.m.
Managing the Woodland Investment	
Saturday, March 22, 2025	8 a.m.—12 p.m.
Field Tour SEPAC Farm	
Tuesday, April 1, 2025	6—9 p.m.
Management Resources	

*All times are Eastern Standard Time

Fee Schedule

Registration includes:

- Forestry Specialists
 - Thumb drive of all publications
 - Tree measuring stick
 - Course materials
 - Snacks
- \$50
- Couples or family registration (first person at regular rate of \$50 with one set of materials provided as above) - each additional attendee
- \$30



northern red oak (*Quercus rubra*)

GRAIN MARKETING - GETTING THE BASICS

Agricultural producers looking to develop their marketing skills are encouraged to participate in Grain Marketing – Getting the Basics. This program will empower producers to make commodity marketing decisions for their farming operation and communicate those decisions to the farm management team, key financial advisors, and family.



Photo Credit: CCSI

Participants in Grain Marketing – Getting the Basics will learn about:

- Risk Tolerance,
- Cost of Production,
- Risk Management Tools,
- Marketing Matrix & Tools, and
- How to Make a Grain Marketing Plan.



By the end, participants will understand the grain market, where prices are headed, and have new tools they can use to help develop a grain marketing plan. Grain Marketing – Getting the Basics will feature Amanda Bennett and Amanda Douridas from The Ohio State University Extension.

DATE/LOCATION

Feb. 12, 2025
10:00 am – 4:00 pm Eastern

Grand Wayne Center
Fort Wayne, IN

COST

\$40 registration fee when
attending Ag Women
Engage Conference

\$50 registration fee if not
attending conference

Lunch provided

REGISTRATION

Register at
<https://cvent.me/q5GOdw>

Deadline **Feb. 3, 2025**

Limit 32 participants.

Questions? Contact 765-653-8411
or smith535@purdue.edu



Women in Agriculture

Purdue University is an EA/EO/AA institution.



HortCalculator

A Financial Tool for Leafy Green Farmers



Are you a leafy green farmer seeking innovative solutions to optimize your operations?

The HortCalculator is an online tool that helps you evaluate the economic impact of adopting pest management strategies. The tool provides you with financial indicators including projected profitability, breakeven analysis, and return on investment.

Interested in this project?

Join our mailing list to access upcoming webinars and workshops. Leave your name and email by scanning the QR code or accessing the link below.

<https://bit.ly/PurdueHortCalculator>



Find More Information on the
Indiana Small Farm Conference
Here:

<https://purdue.link/INSmallFarm>

Purdue Center for Commercial Ag Webinars on Land Leasing

There are three recorded webinars available at the Purdue Center for Commercial Ag website (<https://ag.purdue.edu/commercialag/>). Join Purdue ag economists Todd Kuethe, Michael Langemeier and James Mintert as they discuss Indiana farmland values on two episodes reviewing the 2024 Purdue Farmland Values and Cash Rental Rates Survey results. In a third segment, they discuss the benefits and challenges associated with flex leases, emphasizing the importance of clear agreements. This episode also provides an update on Indiana farmland values and points listeners to the array of farmland leasing resources available on the Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture's website.

MORE THAN A VISIT: INTEGRATING HANDS-ON LEARNING, URBAN AGRICULTURE, AND FOOD PRESERVATION INTO FARM TOURS AND FIELD TRIPS

Explore how to transform traditional farm visits into enriching educational experiences during this pre-conference session. In light of Indiana Senate Bill 395, field trips may face funding challenges, but affordable, educational farm tours aligned with classroom goals are still within reach. Learn how to incorporate core subjects like math, geography, and science into farm-based learning for elementary students.



Photo by [Ray Shrewsberry](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Dive into the growing role of urban agriculture with a tour of Johnnie Mae Farm, a community-centered urban farm. This unique space provides fresh, culturally relevant produce and serves as a hub for learning and community engagement. With its commercial-grade kitchen and farm market, Johnnie Mae Farm offers opportunities for field trips that go beyond a simple visit.

As a special feature of this session, participants will experience a hands-on food preservation workshop. The topic of the day will be *Boiling Water Bath Canning* with a focus on making jams and jellies. Attendees will learn to safely use boiling water bath canning equipment, gain hands-on practice, and take home their own homemade product.

Whether you're looking to bring agricultural education into the classroom or introduce youth to urban farming and food preservation, this session offers innovative ideas and practical skills for a robust learning experience!



DATE/LOCATION

Feb. 12, 2025
9:00 am – 4:00 pm Eastern

Johnnie Mae Farm,
Fort Wayne, IN

COST

\$35 registration fee
Lunch provided

REGISTRATION

Register at
<https://cvent.me/q5GOdw>

Deadline **Feb. 3, 2025**

Limit 20 participants.

Questions? Contact 765-653-8411
or smith535@purdue.edu



Women in Agriculture

Purdue University is an EA/EO/AA institution.



WOMEN IN AG - LIVE!

WEBINAR SERIES



Women in Agriculture



Geoff Schortgen
Purdue University



Marty Huseman
Purdue University



Bill Horan
Purdue University



Monica Nagele
Purdue University

Join the Purdue Extension Women in Ag Team for the 2025 webinar series centered around topics effecting the agriculture industry today!

12pm-1pm, EST - Webinar on Zoom

January 23rd - Pesticide Basics with Geoff Schortgen

February 27th - Grain Bin Safety with Marty Huseman

March 27th- Land Leases with Bill Horan

May 22nd Meat & Meat Alternatives with Monica Nagele



Register Here: bit.ly/WIAgLive



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IN BECOMING
A PURDUE
EXTENSION
MASTER
GARDENER
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IN
DECATUR
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FILL OUT OUR
INTEREST
SURVEY TO HELP
US MEASURE
COMMUNITY
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