

# Newsletter

October 2024

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**Chelsea Brewer**  
**County Extension Director;**

**HHS Educator**

HHS (Health and Human Sciences) -  
Programing survey / Parents Forever  
Classes/ Upcoming events **Pages 3-5**



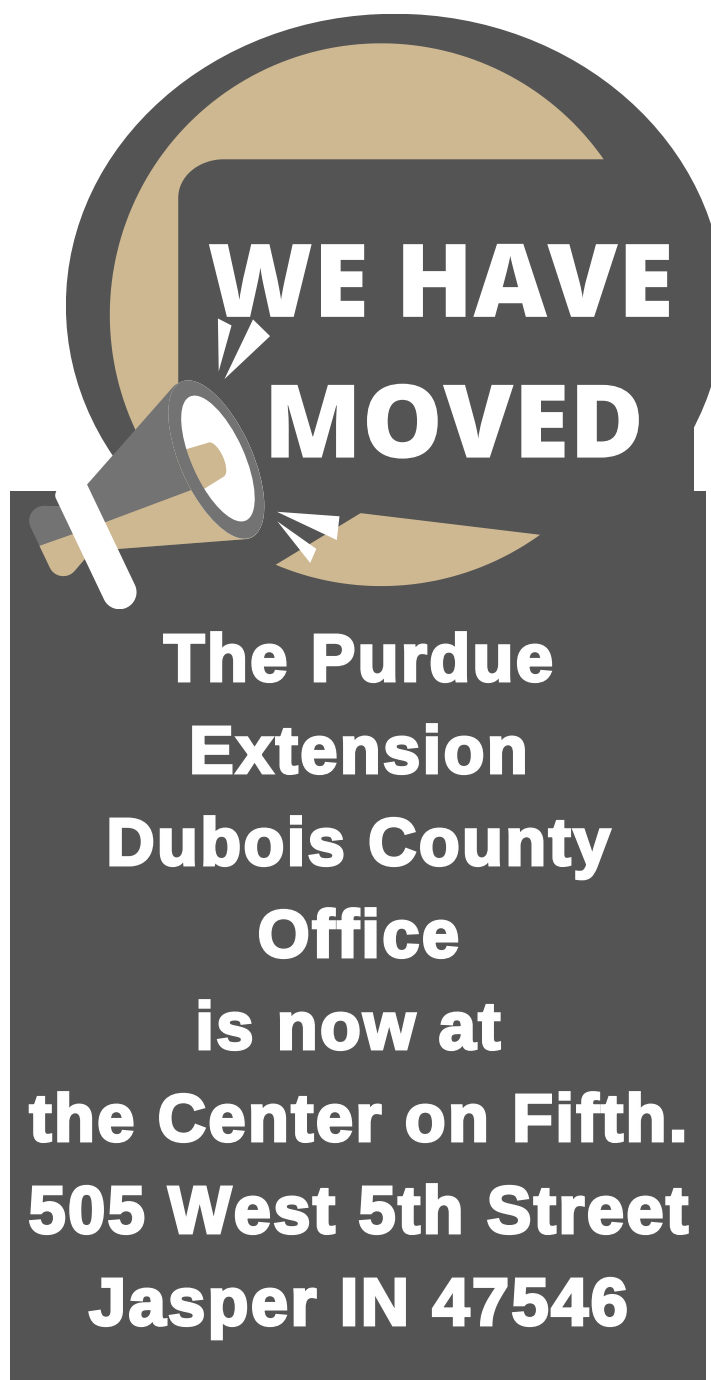
**Kenneth Eck**  
**Agriculture and Natural Resources**  
**ANR Educator**

ANR (Agriculture and Natural Resources) -  
Garden Calendar / Deck care /Fall Lawn  
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**Lauren Fenneman**  
**4-H -Youth Development Educator**

Youth Development (4-H) - New Band  
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<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/dubois>

# UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

**P**  
**PURDUE**  
UNIVERSITY  
Extension

Join the 4-H

**BAND**

Group

<https://band.us/n/adaaA2B4zd668ding>



## SEAL THE MEAL

HANDS-ON FOOD  
PRESERVATION WORKSHOP

**Cost: \$150**

**covers materials, take-home product, and lunch**

To register: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/SEALTHEMEAL](https://bit.ly/SealTheMeal)

Questions? [brotherm@purdue.edu](mailto:brotherm@purdue.edu), or 812-435-5287

**MON, OCT 28 &  
TUES, OCT 29  
9:00 - 4:00 CST**

**TRINITY UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH**

**216 SE 3RD ST,  
EVANSVILLE, IN**



At the Jasper Public Library

Sign Up under 4-H Online after October 1

Youth Grades K-12 learn to sew smart! We will learn the basics of sewing machines. This is meant for beginner sewers and items created here can be exhibited at the 4-H Fair for Grades K- 4.

**Nonwearable**

**Sew a nonwearable like tote or apron.**

October 23 - 5:30 -7:30 pm / Cherry Room

October 24 - 5:30 -7:30 pm / Hickory Room

**Wearable**

**Sew a wearable item like shorts or a skirt.**

January 18 - 10 am – 2 pm / Hickory Room)

**Limit 10 Participants**

## LEADERSHIP LAUNCHPAD

**November 19th**

**6:00-8:00 pm**

**Center on 5th**

**505 W 5th St**

**Jasper**



Sign Up under 4-H Online after October 1

Want to be a leader in your 4-H club?

Unsure what the duties would involve for each of the positions? Launch your leadership with this training and learn all that you need to be a leader in your club.



**Chelsea Brewer**  
County Extension Director;  
Extension Educator - HHS  
cebrewer@purdue.edu

# HHS

Health and  
Human  
Sciences



**Money**



**Food and Nutrition**



**Family**



**Healthy Communities**



I created a quick survey to gather input about future programs that people would enjoy seeing. Please follow this link.

[bit.ly/HHSSurvey23](https://bit.ly/HHSSurvey23)

If you're seeking a presenter for your group or organization in regards to food, nutrition or other wellness topics, reach out. Chances are we can help!

**Contact**

**Chelsea Brewer**  
County Extension Director; Extension Educator - HHS  
cebrewer@purdue.edu / 812-482-1782

## PARENTS FOREVER

**\*\*This course is appropriate for adults only. Please make childcare arrangements.**



to register,  
visit [bit.ly/ParentsForeverIN](https://bit.ly/ParentsForeverIN)  
or scan the QR code



**Financial  
assistance may be  
available**



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION



PURDUE  
UNIVERSITY

Extension - Dubois County

# SEAL THE MEAL

## HANDS-ON FOOD PRESERVATION WORKSHOP

During this two-day workshop, you will learn:

- Food safety related to food preservation
- Science and process of fermenting and pickling
- Pressure canning basics
- Safe preservation of meat and combination foods

**Cost: \$150**

**covers materials, take-home product, and lunch**

To register: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/SEALTHEMEAL](https://bit.ly/sealthemeal)

Questions? [brotherm@purdue.edu](mailto:brotherm@purdue.edu), or 812-435-5287

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# Freezing Pies

## Unbaked



Assemble your pie as directed. Place it in the freezer on a baking tray for 2-3 hours. Once frozen, wrap with 2-3 layers of plastic wrap and seal in a freezer bag. Consume within 3 months.



Do not allow the pie to come to room temperature. Thawing of your pie is best done during baking.



To bake: Cover the frozen pie with foil. Bake in a preheated 450F oven for 15 minutes. Reduce the temperature to 375F and bake for 15 minutes. Remove the foil, bake for 55-60 minutes or until the crust is golden & filling bubbling.

## Pre-baked



Assemble your pie and bake as directed. Allow the pie to cool completely.



Place the pie in a freezer bag or double wrap in foil or plastic wrap. For best quality, consume within 4 months.



To serve, bake the pie at 425F for about 15 minutes or until warmed through.

**Note:** These tips won't work for cream, custard or meringue pies. Those are best enjoyed fresh.

For more information, check out these resources:

<https://extension.psu.edu/freezing-pies-and-pie-fillings>; <https://www.bhg.com/recipes/how-to/bake/how-to-freeze-fruit-pies/>; <https://easyfreezing.com/freezing-pies-cooked-or-uncooked/>



**Kenneth Eck**  
**Extension Educator - ANR**  
**kjeck@purdue.edu**

## **Tips for a Healthy Lawn**

With the stress from high temperature, wet springs droughty 2010 fall and other factors beyond most residential owners' control, lawns take a lot of beatings while still trying to give us places for kids and play and backyard barbeques to be held. Below are some hints to help your lawn be all it can be.

**WATERING TIME**— Try to water just before sunrise, as this is a cooler time for the grass to take up water and reduces losses from midday evaporation. Grass can also dry off in early morning, avoiding chances for turf diseases. Worst time is late evening, since warm, excess moisture sits on grass blades and can cause additional or accelerated disease concerns.

**WATERING AMOUNT**— Rule of thumb is if you must water, do so infrequently and deeply. Soaking a lawn encourages the roots to go deeper into the soil, where they'll find other potential sources of moisture during times when you and your family may not be able to drag out the hose. Sprinkling on a daily basis should always be avoided.

**MOWING HEIGHT**— Mow higher during dryer period to again promote deeper root growth. The rule of thumb is that the height above the ground (the blade of grass) is about the same below the ground (the roots). Set mower blade heights at 3" or more in the summer (this also reduces weed competition).

**MOWING TIME**— Mow in the evenings. Mowing in the morning causes clogging problems due to morning dew. Mowing around noon can rob turf of moisture due to excess heat.

**FERTILIZATION**— Don't apply fertilizers during droughts or in summer months. The extra nitrogen encourages new growth, which is especially susceptible to dry conditions.

**SEEDING TIMING** - The optimum time to seed cool-season turfgrasses is between Aug. 22 and Sept. 8 in Dubois County/southern Indiana. Apply the seed to the lawn with either a drop-seeder or a power overseeder/slit seeder. Try to make 2 to 4 passes over the lawn in different directions to insure a uniform seeding.

### **SEEDING RATES.**

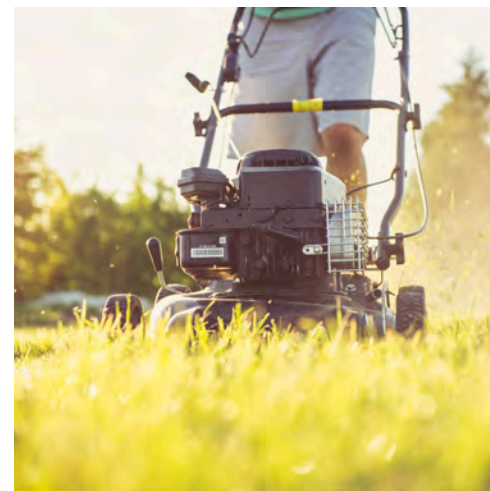
Rates should be 1.5-2.0 lbs. per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup>

pure Kentucky bluegrass- 3.0-4.0 lbs. per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup>

85% Kentucky bluegrass + 15% perennial rye- 4.0-5.0 lbs. per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup>

60% Kentucky bluegrass + 40% fine fescue- 6.0-9.0 lbs. per 1000 ft<sup>2</sup>

pure tall fescue.





# FALL Gardening Calendar

## Flowers, Vegetables, and Small Fruits

### **October**

- Harvest root crops and store in a cold (32°F), humid location. Storing produce in perforated plastic bags is a convenient and easy way to increase humidity.
- Harvest pumpkins and winter squash when rind is hard and fully colored but before frost. Store in a cool location until ready to use.
- Harvest gourds when stems begin to brown and dry. Cure at 70 to 80°F for two to four weeks.
- Asparagus top growth should not be removed until foliage yellows. Let foliage stand over the winter to collect snow for insulation and moisture.
- Remove plant debris from the garden to protect next year's planting from insect and disease build-up. Compost plant refuse by alternating layers of soil, plant material, and manure or commercial fertilizer.
- Carve a Halloween jack-o'-lantern.
- Complete planting of spring-flowering bulbs.
- Strawberry plants need protection from winter's extremes, but applying winter mulch too early may cause crowns to rot. Wait until later in November.

### **November**

- Have garden soil tested for fertilizer needs every three to five years.
- Fall tilling, except in erosion-prone areas, helps improve soil structure and usually leads to soils warming up and drying faster in the spring, thus allowing crops to be planted earlier.
- Apply winter mulch to strawberries when plants are dormant but before temperatures drop below 20°F, usually in late November or early December.

## Lawn

### **October**

- Rake the fallen leaves from lawn, particularly larger-sized leaves, such as maple and sycamore leaves; they can smother the lawn as they become wet and mat down. Raking of smaller leaves, such as honey locust, is optional.

### **November**

- Late fall fertilizing can help keep the lawn green longer and boost early spring recovery. Although top growth stops when air temperature drops to 45 to 50°F, roots remain active as long as soil temperatures remain above 35-40°F. Apply 1 pound actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of lawn.

## Woody Landscape Plants and Fruit Trees


### **October**

- Keep plants, especially newly planted stock, well-watered until the ground freezes.
- Have soil ready for mounding roses for winter protection. Do not mound or cover the roses until after leaves drop and soil is near freezing, usually in late November or early December.

### **November**

- Prevent rabbit and rodent feeding damage by erecting physical barriers, such as metal mesh (1/4") hardware cloth. Pull mulch away from the trunk a few inches because the mulch provides a warm winter home for rodents. Chemical repellents are also available, but their effectiveness is temporary and not fool proof.
- Prevent frost cracking (or sunscald) by wrapping trunks with commercial tree wrap or painting the south and southwest facing sides of the trunk with white latex outdoor paint. Young, thin-barked trees such as maples and many fruit trees are especially susceptible.
- Remove dead, diseased, or damaged branches.
- Protect the graft union on rose bushes by mounding soil up 12 inches around the plants and adding mulch on top. Wait until after several killing frosts have occurred so that plants will be dormant when covered. Plants covered too early may be smothered.
- If you are planning to order a "live" Christmas tree, prepare its planting hole before the soil freezes. Mulch the area heavily to prevent freezing, or dig the hole and put the fill in a protected, nonfreezing area, such as a garage or basement.

## Why Do Local Trees Have “The Broccoli Cut”?



One of the worst on-going tree care problems in southern Indiana deals with the improper trimming of area shade trees, also known as the notorious “broccoli cut”. Rather than trimming appropriate amounts of diseased or wind-damaged branches from needing trees, this damaging technique removes almost all medium to small sized branched and opens the tree up to excessive stress as well as potential disease and insect damage on the numerous “stumps” that remain.

The question is, however, how did this local practice get started?

No one is sure, but best guesses trace the “broccoli cut” back to German communities where woodlands, timber and firewood were at a premium. To insure a steady stream of fuel for warmth and cooking, folks in German communities would supposedly harvest more selectively from existing community trees and only take diseased or dying branches.

In the “New World” immigrants continued this practice of pruning community trees, although neither the need for firewood and the more selective harvesting of branches survived the voyage to America. Instead, the “broccoli cut” became a normal look in communities until efforts by local foresters, community leaders, extension and conservation staff and others began educating residents on the harm associated with the improper pruning practice.

For more information on pruning care of your tree, consult the Purdue publication:

“Trees Need a Proper Start – Prune Them Right”

<https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/FNR/FNR-FAQ-19-W.pdf>

Also, for a local arborist (“tree professional”),  
consult the Indiana Arborist Association at:  
<http://www.indiana-arborist.org/>



## Fall Deck Care

If you have a wooden deck on your home, fall is a great time to inspect it and perform any needed maintenance so that it will be ready to enjoy throughout the fall and next spring. For inspection, all you need is a pocketknife, ice pick or small screwdriver (to use as a probe for decayed wood) and perhaps a flashlight (to look at structural members under the decking). Take a little time to look over your deck, top and bottom.

Underneath, it is important to look for signs of decay or insect damage that might be revealed by discoloration or splitting of the wood. Use your knife to probe areas you suspect of decay. If your knife can easily penetrate the wood (beyond the first quarter of an inch or so), you may have decay present. Areas most likely to deteriorate first are at the base of supporting columns. Look carefully at joints where the deck joists are attached to the home, and be sure not to overlook the surrounding areas of the home itself. Structural members with decay, excessive splitting, or loosening of fasteners should be repaired or replaced to maintain the usefulness and safety of your deck.

The upper part of the deck should also be inspected for decay, but here, it is more likely that you may find splits, loose fasteners, iron stain from nails or screws, or wood in need of refinishing.

Iron stain (dark black discoloration) may be removed with a saturated solution of one pound of oxalic acid in one gallon of hot water (Warning: Avoid ingestion and contact with your skin). Apply the solution, allow to soak for a few minutes, and rinse thoroughly with clean water.

Replace offending screws with non-corrosive deck screws.

Rough areas may be sanded with 80 to 100 grit sandpaper and refinished. For refinishing, use your choice of either water repellent or a semi-transparent penetrating stain. Finishes formulated especially for decks are usually preferred as these contain higher amounts of water repellants and are more abrasion-resistant than are stains and finishes intended for exterior siding. First clean the deck with a dilute solution of household bleach (1 quart bleach to 3 quarts water), rinse thoroughly, and let dry for 1-2 days before applying the finish according to the manufacturer's recommendations.



**Prepared by Iowa State University FAMILIES  
EXTENSION ANSWER LINE**



**Lauren Fenneman**  
**Extension Educator**  
**4-H Youth Development**  
**lhaase@purdue.edu**

**Youth  
Development  
4-H**  


**Enrollment Opens**

  **Oct 1st**  

**v2.4honline.com**



As we transition from summer to fall remember 4-H Enrollment is now open! It's best to enroll right away to not miss out on 4-H experiences that take place over the fall and winter. Some of those experiences include workshops, Livestock Judging, Career Development Events, Junior Leaders, and more. There are some experiences that require to be an active 4-H member to participate and others that require to be active to even get the information. Please enroll early so youth don't miss out on any opportunities they may be interested in.

Unsure of what the opportunities above are? Contact me to learn more about them and how 4-H youth can be involved.

*Thank you, Lauren Fenneman*

**2024-2025 Dubois County**

**4-H Fair**

**July 14-18, 2025**

**Where Leaders are Grown**



Design our t-shirt for 2025: Go to  
<https://forms.gle/CYhVg87T3hmgY2tj>  
for T-shirt template and all the requirements.  
All designs are due October 4th.

<https://extension.purdue.edu/news/county/dubois/2020/08/Dubois-County-4-H-FairEntry.html>

# 4-H Band group

**Dubois County 4-H Band App Page – To assist in learning about upcoming events, sign ups and more we are going to utilize the 4-H Band page as an additional resource.**

**This is an opt in and you will still get the information via 4-H Online, Purdue Extension Facebook Page and email.**

**Join the 4-H**



**Group**

<https://band.us/n/adaaA2B4zd668ding>





## 4-H KICKOFF NIGHT

**GREEN and GHOULISH**  
OCTOBER 8, 6:00-8:00PM  
DUBOIS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS  
CLOVER PAVILLION







### COSTUME CONTEST

**7:00PM**

**GROUPS:**  
MINI 4H (UNDER 3RD GRADE)  
4H (3RD-12TH GRADES)  
GROUP COSTUME

**CATEGORIES:**  
MOST CREEPY  
SILLIEST COSTUME  
CUTEST COSTUME  
BEST HANDMADE



**REVERSE TRICK or TREAT**

**DONATE A NON-PERISHABLE ITEM TO COMMUNITY CHEW AND DRAW FOR A PRIZE!**



Extension - Dubois County



**Join us on October 8th from 6-8 pm in the Clover Pavilion for some green and ghoulish activities to kick off the 4-H year.**

**Need assistance with enrollment? We will be there with computers so that you can enroll that night. Celebrate everything green and ghoulish with Halloween Costume contest at 7 pm.**

**Hotdogs, chips and drinks from 4-H Council.**

**Popcorn, craft and more. Enjoy learning more about 4-H and some green and ghoulish activities at the 4-H Kickoff Event! This is open to current and prospective 4-H members.**

# Upcoming Events

## NATIONAL 4-H WEEK OCT 6TH- 12TH

Beyond Ready. Wear Green! Spread the word about 4-H! I will be at schools September 30- October 4th, Career Development events and more. If you are spotted wearing a 4-H shirt, there might be a 4-H gift for you!

Building a ready generation in a world of change, 4-H equips youth with skills for the future while meeting them where they are today. Becoming Beyond Ready encompasses opportunities and experiences, connections and discovery, shaping youth into their true and authentic selves.



At the Jasper Public Library

Sign Up under 4-H Online after October 1

Youth Grades K-12 learn to sew smart! We will learn the basics of sewing machines. This is meant for beginner sewers and items created here can be exhibited at the 4-H Fair for Grades K- 4.

**Nonwearable**

Sew a nonwearable like tote or apron.

October 23 - 5:30 -7:30 pm / Cherry Room

October 24 - 5:30 -7:30 pm / Hickory Room

**wearable**

Sew a wearable item like shorts or a skirt.

January 18 - 10 am – 2 pm / Hickory Room)

**Limit 10 Participants**

Launch into 4-H Club Leadership with this Leadership Launchpad training.

Sign Up under 4-H Online after October 1

Want to be a leader in your 4-H club? Unsure what the duties would involve for each of the positions? Launch your leadership with this training and learn all that you need to be a leader in your club.

Learn about:

- parliamentary procedure
- creating an agenda
- what it means to be club officer

This is a great training for current and potential club officers

## LEADERSHIP LAUNCHPAD

**November 19th**

**6:00-8:00 pm**

**Center on 5th**

**505 W 5th St Jasper**



**SERVE GROW THRIVE MAKE**

# Upcoming Events

**SERVE GROW THRIVE MAKE**

Youth  
Development

**4-H**



## October

- 1st - 4-H Enrollment opens, [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com)
- 7th - 4-H Council Meeting, 6:30 pm, Clover Pavilion Office
- 7th - Jr Leader meeting 7-8pm Dubois County Park Shelterhouse
- 7-12: National 4-H Week, Beyond Ready, Wear Green.
- 8th - 4-H Kickoff Night, 6-8 pm, Clover Pavilion
- 22nd - Adult Leader Meeting, 6:30 pm, Clover Pavilion
- 23-24th- Sew Smart Workshop for beginners, non-wearable, 5:30-7:30, Jasper Public Library

## November

- 4th - 4-H Council Meeting, 6:30 pm, Clover Pavilion Office
- 11th - Junior Leader Meeting, 7-8 pm, Center on 5th
- 19th - Leadership Launchpad, Potential 4-H Club Officers, 6-8 pm, Center on 5th
- 23rd - 4-H Council Trivia Night Fundraiser, Secret Meadow in Celestine

## December

- 2nd - 4-H Council Meeting, 6:30 pm, Clover Pavilion Office
- 9th- Junior Leader Meeting, 7-8 pm, Center on 5th



## IMPORTANT DATES 2025

- May 15th - Animal Identification due in 4-H Online, [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com)
- May 26th - June 23rd FairEntry OPENS Enter ALL 4-H Projects
- June 11-13 - 4-H Academy Grades 9-12, Purdue University
- June 21-23 - 4-H Band and 4-H Chorus, Purdue University
- June 23rd - FairEntry due to pick up Project Labels early
- June 23-25 - 4-H Round Up Grades 7-9, Purdue University
- June 26th - Project Label and Supply Pickup Night, CP 5-7 pm
- June 23 - Hay Coring, 3-6 pm, Clover Pavilion
- July 8th - Project Label Pickup Night, 5-8 pm, Clover Pavilion
- July 10th - Project Check In Non Community Judged Projects, 5-8 pm
- July 11th - Community Judging and Project Check In for all projects, 5-8 pm

# JULY 14-18: 2025 Dubois County 4-H Fair