Over the Back Fence

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Newsletter

Step into Spring!

With spring around the corner, that means we can hopefully say goodbye to the snow and cold weather and hello to the warm and sunshine. ANR within Extension is in full swing with a range of programs from starting the Extension Master Gardener Training Course, to having the Ag Outlook Breakfast and a PARP class. Now we are looking ahead to the Harrison County Family Ag Day and free tree giveaway. This event will be a great way to show how important agriculture and natural resources are in Harrison County. There will be something new for everyone to learn whether you are new to agriculture or have been in the industry for multiple years. As spring is upon us, please let me know if you have questions pertaining to agriculture or natural resources. I am looking forward to the programs still to come and the learning experiences to be made!











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Ag Spotlight

This is a section which features an interview of community members involved in Agriculture or Natural Resources fields!

Name: David Armstrong

<u>Hometown:</u> Although I was raised in Louisville, Kentucky until my teenage years, Palmyra will always be my hometown. I also lived in the St. Louis, Missouri area for 20 years. I much prefer the small close-knit community of Palmyra where when you walk in the bank, the post office, or the convenience store and they call you by name.

Education: I graduated High School from North Harrison and played baseball there. I continued to play baseball at IU Southeast where I was team captain. I earned a BS in Business Management, along with the equivalent of a BA in Psychology, and Economics as well

Occupation: I spent most of my working career in the insurance industry with the vast majority of it spent in executive management and chairman roles. I retired from that industry before embarking on my agriculture career.

What interested you Agriculture?

I have always been fascinated by the fact that you can take a seed, put it in the dirt, give it some love and care, and then watch it turn into something spectacular. That is a miracle in itself! My grandparents were sharecroppers in Western Kentucky, and we would visit them quite often during the summer and fall. As a young kid I was fascinated by it all. I learned to drive on my uncle's International tractor pulling a hay wagon. It was hard work, but it was enjoyable at the same time.

After retiring, I became my elderly parents' caregiver. My mother was in the late stages of Alzheimer's and my father was old and feeble. My oldest son, Nick, had moved back to help me with them. It was then that I started to grow a large organic garden. I learned to care as well. I wanted my parents to have the very best food in their last years. The same year my mother passed, my ex-wife, the mother of my children, was diagnosed with Early Onset Alzheimer's along with Primary Progressive Aphasia. Those two events set my son and I on a quest to research and develop alternative wellness products. On earth, we are provided with an abundant array of plants which are capable of helping us with our health issues.

In 2019 we become a licensed Hemp grower for CBD products, and in 2020 we added American Elderberry. We also became a certified organic farm. Today we produce over 40 different wellness products for humans, pets, equine, and livestock all from the crops we grow right here on the farm. What started out as a thought has now become my passion.

What advice do you have for someone wanting a career in Agriculture?

There is a lot more to it than just growing plants. It needs to become a way of life and your passion. Don't go into it with the thought of making a lot of money. There has to be another catalyst to motivate you in order to endure the disappointments and trials that any business goes through. It can't be just about the money!

Any other additional information you would like to be added?

Firefly Farms Botanical Wonders is my way of life. Our passion is helping our fellow humans, pets, equine and livestock have a better quality of life. It is absolutely the hardest work, both physically and mentally, then I have ever done in my life. It is also, by far, the most rewarding. Find a niche` and fill it!









FEATURED ANR EVENT: FAMILY AG DAY







HARRISON COUNTY FAMILY AG DAY

APRIL 5, 2025 10:00 AM- 1:00 PM

HARRISON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS EXHIBIT HALL BUILDING

Learn about Agriculture and Natural Resources in Harrison County at this **FREE** event. Come join Purdue Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources and Harrison County Soil and Water District for a day of fun with a purpose!



- Free admission
- Educational booths
- Free tree giveaways sponsored by Harrison County Soil and Water (while supplies last)
- Free bottled water and popcorn available

This event is **for anyone**, whether you are new to the industry or you've been around a while. There's always something to learn!

Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Questions? Contact the Extension Office at (812) 738-4236 or SWCD at 812-738-8121 EXT# 3

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HARRISON COUNTY EXTENSION ANR EVENTS/NEWS

2025 Annual Extension Board Meeting and Open House



PARP Class

Harrison County PARP: Wednesday, March 19th, 10am-Noon Harrison County Extension Office RSVP appreciated by 3/17/25 to 812-738-4236 Our speakers:

Purdue University is an equal opportunity equal access institution

Trevor Mills, NRCS Soil Conversationist, Cover Crops and Soil Health Lucas Windell, Bayer, Tar Spot

Ariel Wilson, Purdue Extension ANR Educator, Regulatory Topic Sponsors: Indiana Corn Marketing Council and Indiana Soybean Alliance

Women in Ag: Farm Records Program

Monday, April 21 12pm-1:30pm Harrison County Extension Office Cost \$15 RSVP by 4/17/25 to 812-738-4236

Learn how to keep your farm records organized online and with a binder. This program will focus on creating a binder for paper records as well as an online code red system.

Lunch will be provided. For special dietary needs contact Ariel at 812-738-4236 by April 14th.





Invasive Species Series

April 14, July 28, October 20 2025

Join Kaila Laplace, State of Indiana Cooperative Invasive Management Regional Specialist for three sessions on how to identify and control invasive species. Some of the species covered will be garlic mustard, callery pear, poison hemlock, and johnson grass.

Join us for the first session

April 14th at 6pm at the Extension Office

RSVP appreciated at 812-738-4236

Master Gardener Association Spring Workshop

The Harrison County Master Gardener Association will be having their Annual Spring Workshop on Saturday, April 26th at the Harrison County Purdue Extension Office. There will be multiple sessions offered covering all aspects of gardening and promoting local. More information will be provided in the future.

ANR Needs Assessment

Purdue Extension Harrison County Agriculture and Natural Resources wants to ensure we are meeting community needs to help educate farmers, producers, and community members. This survey will be used to determine what types of agricultural programs community members would benefit from and what they would most like to learn about.

If you have additional questions, please contact Ariel Camm-Wilson, Harrison County Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Educator at 812-738-4236 or camm@purdue.edu.

Survey Link: https://bit.ly/anrsurvey



OTHER ANR INFORMATION

Farm Record Book

The Farm Record Book is a 100-page book enabling farmers to keep accurate and effective farm records.



Pick Up at the Extension Office: 247 Atwood St. Corydon, IN 47112

Call with any questions: 812-738-4236

- **Income Tax Notes**
- Farm Acreage
- **Crop Production**
- **Inventories**
- Livestock Receipts
- Sale of Purchased Items
- Egg Receipts
- **Dairy Product Receipts**
- Other Farm Receipts
- Commodity Credit **Corporation Activities**
- Future Accounts
- Farm Expenses
- Farm Expense Summary Guides and Tables and Cash Flow Projection

- Farm Identification and Purchase of Depreciable Items
 - Depreciation
 - Labor Costs- Regular **Employees**
 - Labor Costs- Part Time Labor
- Sale of Depreciable Items Nonfarm Business Records
 - Insurance Record and Accounts Receivable
 - Loans Payable Records
 - Farm Credit Summary
 - Balance Sheet Information and Summaries
 - · Livestock Breeding and **Production Record**
 - Notes

Indiana Pesticide Applicator Core Training Manual

Are you or someone in your family or business needing to get licensed as a pesticide applicator? This manual makes a great study guide and contains all of the information to help pass the CORE pesticide applicator exam.

COST OF THE MANUAL IS \$45.

Topics include:

Applicator certification, pest management, handling pesticides, transporting pesticides, pesticides in correlation to the environment, pesticide labels, and calibration and maintenance.

Stop by the Harrison County Extension Office Monday-Friday from 8:00am-4:30pm to grab yours!



National Cattlemen's Beef Association Redbooks

The Redbook is a pocket-sized record book containing more than 100 pages to record calving activity, herd health, pasture usage, cattle inventory, AI breeding and sales, plus a date book and notes section. The book also includes Beef Quality Assurance national guidelines and proper injection technique information. Available while supplies last.



ANR RECAP

Harrison County Cattlemen's Annual Meeting

On Saturday, January 18th the Harrison County Cattlemen's Association met for their 2025 Annual Meeting. This event was located at the Harrison County fairgrounds with over 90 people in attendance. Guest Speaker, Amy Radunz spoke about beef cattle genetics and fetal programing and how that can impact the performance of the offspring. Thank you to everyone who attended this event!





Extension Master Gardener Training Course

The Extension Master Gardener Training Course in Harrison County is having a great start to the class! So far in 3 weeks, they have learned about what an Extension Master Gardener is, how they can help with horticultural education in Harrison County, Plant Science, soils, and plant nutrition. With 12 weeks left to go in the course, there is so much more to learn!





Project to Plate: Beef

Our 4-H members had a hands-on learning experience at the Project to Plate workshop with Purdue Extension Educators Anna Denny and Ariel Camm-Wilson. Participants explored beef cuts using a beef cut model, learning where different cuts come from and how to identify them. They practiced recognizing various cuts. The 4-H'ers connected with the Livestock superintendents, Shirley Jones and Kristen Garwood.

The 4-H'ers also cooked sirloin steaks and had a delicious meal with baked potatoes, and a veggie salad!

It was a fantastic opportunity to connect agriculture to the dinner table while building valuable life skills in food preparation.









2025 Ag Outlook Breakfast and Meeting

On Friday, January 31st, the 2025 Ag Outlook Breakfast and meeting was held at Beckort Auctions with over 45 people in attendance! The morning started off with a homemade breakfast by Purdue Extension Harrison County Office Manager, Mary Eve. The meeting featured Dr. Michael Langemeier, Professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University. Dr. Langemeier spoke about the grain markets for 2025 as well as carbon credits, and land values. The participants asked a lot of great questions. After the meeting concluded, everyone was able to socialize and have discussions. Thank you to Beckort Auctions, LLCs for hosting and sponsoring the breakfast. It is great seeing the amount of the support for agriculture in Harrison County!











Premier Ag PARP

On Tuesday, February 19, 2025 ANR Educators Ariel Camm-Wilson and Molley Hasenour led The Premier Ag Winter Meeting PARP with over 50 people in attendance. Topics covered were yields in soybeans and corn, weeds, and soil nutrients by Glenn Longabaugh, Premier Ag Agronomist, and Business Licensing, record keeping, and becoming drone certified by Ariel Camm-Wilson, Harrison County ANR Educator.

Thank you to the Indiana Corn and Soybean Alliance for sponsoring the PARP fees and thank you to Premier Ag for hosting the event and providing breakfast and lunch for participants!







Beginner Gardener Workshop

On Wednesday, February 26th ANR Educator Ariel Camm-Wilson hosted 2 sessions of the Beginner Gardening Workshop. The first session was held at the Corydon Branch with 9 participants. Ariel discussed types of gardens, reading seed packets, warm season vs. cool season plants, and common insects and diseases. Julie Carrell, Orange County ANR/4-H Educator lead a planting activity, discussed crop rotation, and how to start seeds. The second session was held at the Elizabeth Branch with 10 participants. Ariel discussed types of gardens, reading seed packets, warm season vs. cool season plants, and common insects and diseases. She also led a planting activity, discussed crop rotation, and how to start seeds. Participants planted wildflowers in a biodegradable egg carton to transplant this summer!







We're Hiring Part-time & Summer Internship



AG EDUCATION & INFORMATION

ADVICE FOR FIRST-TIME GARDENERS: START SMALL

By: Rosie Lerner

As so many of us are spending much more time at home these days, this might be the perfect time to think about starting a vegetable garden! In addition to adding fresh produce to your diet, gardening can offer both physical and mental therapeutic benefits.

Anyone can develop a green thumb, as long as they're willing to invest a little time, patience and elbow grease.

Good planning is essential to successful gardening. Start your garden off right by selecting a location that receives at least six hours of direct sunlight daily, if possible. Good drainage of excess water is critical. Observe the site during these rainy days to avoid areas where water tends to stand. Try to steer clear of trees and shrubs that would compete with your garden plants for water, light and nutrients. Walnut trees in particular produce a substance called juglone that is toxic to some garden plants.

Once you've selected your site, sketch your plans on paper. Decide how big the garden will be, what crops you want to grow and where to place them. Beginners tend to go overboard, not realizing how much work lies ahead. It's best to start out small and gradually add to your patch each year as needed. A 100-square-foot plot should be plenty for your first venture. Or consider making a small raised bed garden. Those without adequate space can consider gardening in containers.

Many different vegetables will produce well in Indiana. Most new gardeners start out by picking up a few seed packets at their local grocery. This is an acceptable way to get started, although there is no guarantee that the cultivars of vegetables being sold are best suited for Indiana conditions. Garden centers are more likely to have a wider choice available. Moreexperienced gardeners often order online to supplement what is available from local garden centers, taking time to pick out cultivars that have the particular characteristics they're interested in.

Before heading out to the garden to plant, you'll need to gather some tools and properly prepare the soil. A hoe, rake, spade, sprinkler, string and stakes are about the minimum tool supply you'll need. It's a good idea to have your soil tested as early as possible to learn how much of what kind of fertilizer to apply.



To continue reading visit:https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/advice-for-firsttime-gardeners-start-small/

INDIANA SHEEP AND GOAT INVENTORY DECLINES

PUBLISHED ON FEBRUARY 6, 2025 | MORNING AG CLIPS

All sheep and lamb inventory in Indiana on January 1, 2025, was 74,000 head, down 6,000 from 2024, according to Nathanial Warenski, State Statistician, USDA NASS, Indiana Field Office. The breeding sheep inventory, at 65,000 head, was down 5,000 from last year. Market sheep and lambs totaled 9,000 head, down 1,000 from last year. The 2024 Indiana lamb crop was 56,000 head, down 3,000 from the previous year.

The number of sheep and lambs shorn in <u>Indiana</u>, at 42,000 head, was down 2,000 from the previous year. Indiana shorn wool production in 2024 was 250,000 pounds, unchanged from 2023. The average price paid for wool in Indiana was \$0.50 per pound, a decrease of \$0.20 from the previous year. The total value of wool was \$125,000, down \$50,000 from the 2023 value.

As of January 1, 2025, there were 14,000 milk goats in Indiana, up 500 from a year earlier. The Indiana meat and other goat inventory was 33,000 head, down 4,000 from the January 1, 2024, inventory.

All sheep and lambs inventory in the United States on January 1, 2025 totaled 5.05 million head, up slightly from 2024. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.68 million head on January 1, 2025, increased slightly from 3.67 million head on January 1, 2024. Ewes one year old and older, at 2.88 million head, were slightly above last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2025 totaled 1.37 million head, up 1 percent from January 1, 2024.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2024 was 22.5 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2023. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.17 million head, down 2 percent from 2023. The average price paid for wool sold in 2024 was \$1.43 per pound for a total value of 32.1 million dollars, down 9 percent from 35.4 million dollars in 2023.

All goats and kids inventory in the United States on January 1, 2025 totaled 2.51 million head, up 1 percent from 2024. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.07 million head, up 1 percent from 2024. Does one year old and older, at 1.54 million head, were 2 percent above last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 442,000 head, up 2 percent from a year ago.



EGGS, POULTRY PRODUCTS REMAIN SAFE

PUBLISHED ON JANUARY 27, 2025 | HOOSIER AG DAY

You've been hearing a lot lately about Bird Flu impacting Indiana's poultry producers—especially since a positive test for the virus was found last weekend at an egg production facility for Rose Acre Farms near Seymour impacting 2.8 million birds.

However, there has been a lot of misinformation out there on social media when it comes to Bird Flu.

"Our poultry and egg supply remains safe," says Becky Joniskan, President of the Indiana State Poultry Association.

Even though at least six commercial poultry farms across Indiana have had a positive test for the virus since the beginning of the year, state health officials stress that eggs and poultry products that are currently on grocery store shelves are still safe for you and your family to eat.

"We have safeguards that are in place," she says. "We have testing 24/7, 365 days a year to detect health concerns so people can be confident in their food supply."

She says a national poultry testing program was started nearly a hundred years ago to keep a different disease at

that time called Pullorum Typhoid from spreading.

"The National Poultry Improvement Plan was started in the 1930's—partially by a Hoosier. Over time, diseases that we test for and the protocols and test methods have evolved, but the poultry industry is very engaged and dedicated to doing all testing necessary to detect and control any disease," says Joniskan.



Factors leading to higher egg prices

With each new poultry production facility that receives a positive test for the virus, federal and state health officials work to depopulate and disinfect the premises before restocking of the flock can take place. That has also caused a strain on egg and poultry supplies leading to an increase in prices.

ith prices and availability of product, that's really a simple supply and demand equation," she says. "We have had a number of avian influenza incidents and lost parts of our flock, and so there is just less product out there to sell. That's really where you're seeing the higher prices come. Hopefully, as that supply increases again we'll see an easing up in prices."

Emily Metz, President and CEO of The American Egg Board, released the following statement on Monday, which also explains the spike in prices due to the recent bird flu incidents:

 $Continue\ reading\ at:\ https://www.hoosieragtoday.com/2025/01/27/eggs-poultry-products-remain-safe/?\ utm_source=hat+e-news\&utm_campaign=5c6edfdbcf-$

AUTHORS: TOREY FISCHER GEOFF LASSIE, DVM DARRIN KARCHER, PHD

BIOSECURITY BASICS FOR BACKYARD AND SMALL FLOCK POULTRY

Authors: Torey Fischer, Geoff Lossie, DVM and Darrin Karcher, PhD



Biosecurity includes a variety of procedures that can protect both you and your animals from disease and is an important consideration to ensure the health of your livestock. With the recent outbreak of high pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI), poultry practitioners should take extra precautions and reevaluate their biosecurity. Numerous reports of backyard and small flocks infected with the HPAI virus have occurred. Everyone must do their part to ensure their flock's safety and protect others' poultry enterprises.

THREE MAIN COMPONENTS OF BIOSECURITY

- Isolation keep your birds away from wildlife (wild birds and other animals)
- Traffic Control limit people that visit your flock
- Sanitation keep your equipment and buildings clean



WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROTECT YOUR FLOCK?

ANIMALS (ISOLATION)

- Don't let dogs or cats in with your flock
- Keep wild birds and wildlife away from your birds
- · Remove dead birds quickly
- Quarantine all new birds at least 21 days before mixing them with your current birds



PEOPLE (TRAFFIC CONTROL)

- Shower and change clothes after being around other birds before seeing your birds
- · Limit people coming to see your birds
- Limit going to see other people's birds
- If possible, have visitors coming to see your birds put on clean boots and clothes and ask them not to interact with other poultry prior to visiting your flock

EQUIPMENT (SANITATION)

- Clean out your chicken coop or building at least twice a year
- Keep the area around the coop clean from waste and debris where rodents can hide
- Mow grass 10 feet around the chicken coop to ward off rodents
- Wash and disinfect water containers weekly
- Clean and disinfect all equipment you use: feeders, waterers, nests, crates, etc.
- Do not share equipment with others who have poultry

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF HPAI TO WATCH OUT FOR

- Sudden high mortality
- · Lack of energy and very quiet birds
- Swelling of head, comb, eyelids, wattles, and hocks
- Purple discoloration of wattles, comb, and legs
- Nasal discharge, coughing, and sneezing
- Diarrhea (particularly green in color)
- Decrease in feed and water consumption
- Neurologic signs

HPAI can occur quickly leading to sudden death with no warning signs, and is extremely contagious. If you observe any of the symptoms noted above, with sudden high mortality being the most concerning, we encourage you to report it immediately to USDA Healthy Birds Hotline: 866–536–7593.

WE MUST WORK TOGETHER TO ERADICATE THIS DISEASE

To find the most up to date information you can visit the USDA website

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultrydisease/avian/defend-the-flock

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES



- https://vet.purdue.edu/news/highly-pathogenic-avian-influenzacontinues-in-the-news-even-as-cases-end-in-indiana-heres-whatyou-need-to-know.php
- https://www.in.gov/boah/species-information/avianbirds/highlypathogenic-avian-influenza/



Extension
ANIMAL SCIENCES

Anaplasmosis in Cattle

Guy Sheppard, DVM | TVMDL Veterinary Diagnostician (retired)

Anaplasmosis is a blood cell parasite of cattle with a worldwide distribution, but the disease is most common in tropical and subtropical areas. Anaplasma marginale is the most common organism involved in cattle, and it is transmitted through the bite of Dermacentor spp. ticks or tabanid flies, as well as through the use of blood-contaminated instruments. As a result, transmission is highest during heavy tick and fly seasons. Severe outbreaks of the disease can occur when naïve animals are moved into an endemic area or carrier animals are moved into a herd in a nonendemic area. Death losses in such herds can approach 50%. Mature cattle are the most susceptible to severe clinical signs of the disease while cattle under six months of age generally show no signs.

The Anaplasma organism invades the red blood cells of infected cattle and the spleen destroys the infected cells. As a result, infected animals become anemic, weak, lethargic, go off feed, and run a fever. The mucous membranes become pale and possibly yellow from the waste products of red blood cell destruction. A characteristic of anaplasmosis, however, is that the urine will not be red or brown as with "redwater" or leptospirosis. The packed cell volume of severely infected cattle can get extremely low making these animals prone to die with minimal exertion. Acute death and abortion have also been associated with some outbreaks of anaplasmosis.

Animals showing signs from anaplasmosis should be treated with appropriate antibiotics as soon as possible. Some animals are anemic to the point that a blood transfusion may be indicated. For animals in which standard antibiotic dosage therapy is successful in curbing clinical signs of infection, a carrier state will persist. Carrier animals will be immune to further disease from anaplasmosis and may be desirable in endemic areas. More intensive antibiotic therapy is sometimes administered in an effort to eliminate the carrier state with mixed results.

In endemic areas, control of the disease can be achieved with daily low-level antibiotic therapy in the feed during the vector season. Control of ticks and flies as well as proper cleaning and disinfection of dehorning, tagging, and injection equipment and supplies is also helpful in reducing the spread of this disease. A few vaccines are available for anaplasmosis, but consideration should be made for using these vaccines in late gestation due to the possibility of neonatal isoerythrolysis in calves born to vaccinated cows.

Preliminary diagnosis of anaplasmosis can be made based on the clinical signs of anemia and fever. The Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) offers multiple tests to detect Anaplasma marginale that vary from very simple (direct examination of blood) to complex (ELISA and PCR). Veterinary assistance in suspected cases of anaplasmosis is very helpful in diagnosis, treatment, and control of this disease.

What About Drones Flying Over Property?

Jeff Burbrink, Extension Educator - Ag & Natural Resources, Purdue Extension- LaGrange County



There has been a lot of chatter about drone (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles or UAVs) use over agriculture land the past two months. The rules regarding UAV usage generally start at the federal level with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and can be enhanced by state and local rules.

All recreational flyers must pass an aeronautical knowledge and safety test, called TRUST, and provide proof you passed the test if asked. All drones, whether for recreation or commercial, must be registered through the FAA Drone Zone if they exceed 0.55 pounds.

Commercial flyers (non-recreational use) must pass a pilots test under the FAA Part 107 Small UAS Rule. On that exam, you learn a great deal about how the FAA governs airspace, including spaces around airports, crowded venues like sporting events, and cities, towns and towers. To fly in controlled airspace, a person must seek permission prior to the flight.

In open agriculture country, the general ceiling to fly is 400 feet, called Class G or uncontrolled airspace. There are exceptions for flight paths in and out of airports, around towers and such. The drone is to be flown within line of sight or using an observer who is next to you and in line of sight. There are rules in place for night flying, operating over people and events, identification marking on the drone, broadcasting an electronic ID, etc.

There are airspaces within the state, such as DNR properties, where permission is needed prior to a flight. The City of Fort Wayne, for instance, has rules concerning flights in specific areas.

Lately there have been questions concerning UAVs flying over private property. The airspace above a property belongs to the federal government, but obviously a low flying drone could be considered an invasion of privacy. Indiana prohibits use of drones for surveillance (law enforcement requires a warrant), harassment, and sex offenders are not allowed to use UAVs to follow, contact or capture images of people. UAVs passing over private areas frequently and without permission could be construed as direct and immediate interference of the use of one's land.

The current law is gray concerning how low you can fly, but one thing is certain, if a drone flies over your property and you attempt to shoot it down, the FAA takes that very seriously. UAVs are classified as aircraft by the FAA (unmanned, but still aircraft) and under federal law, it is a felony to "damage, destroy, disable, or wreck any aircraft" and the potential punishment is up to 20 years in a federal prison.

What should you do if you believe drones are harassing you? Contact your local law enforcement. Documentation is important. Record the times and dates when you see this happen. If you capture photos or video, it may help the officials to track down the UAV operator. There are also apps for phones, such as Drone Scanner, which may help determine the registration number of the drone, if is flying legally.

Do not be surprised if there are efforts to refine the rules of drone flying. UAVs are useful tools when used responsibly, but it's clear some people do not understand that.

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ANR Newsletter





Extension - Harrison County

Over the Back Fence

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Newsletter

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