



Hendricks County 4-H Clover Connection

Volume 12 Issue 1 | January 2026

Happy New Year!

Welcome by Ashley Alexander - 4-H Educator

With January comes a time of reflection. A lot of people make new years resolutions. They want to lose weight, save money or even eat healthier. I challenge you to make your own new years resolutions this year! I challenge you to get more involved in your local club or workshop. I challenge you to bring a friend to your next 4-H Club Meeting. I challenge you to start your 4-H project by May 1st.

This year, we are targeting 1,500 youth and adults entered in Hendricks County 4-H! We are looking forward to having even more youth enrolled in 4-H than prior to the Covid pandemic. If you have not enrolled in 4-H yet, I encourage you to do so by January 31st, 2026. After this time, we will not be sending anymore emails or mailings to the “inactive” members from last year. Please make sure that you enroll so that you get the correct information sent to you!

Again, I challenge you to “Make the Best Better” in 2026!

*Happy
New Year!*



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Extension Office Info

The Office will be closed January 1 and 2, 2026, in observance of New Year's Day and January 19 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Contact Us

Purdue Extension — Hendricks County
1900 E. Main St. P.O. Box 7
Danville, IN 46122
317-745-9260

hendrces@purdue.edu

Open 8 a.m.—4 p.m.

Monday—Friday

<https://hendricksco4h.com/HCGS>

<https://v2.4honline.com>



4-H Opportunities



2026 Jr. Leader Meeting Dates:

January 22

February 12

March 17 (Offsite)

April 16

May 19

June 8

June 30

All Meetings 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

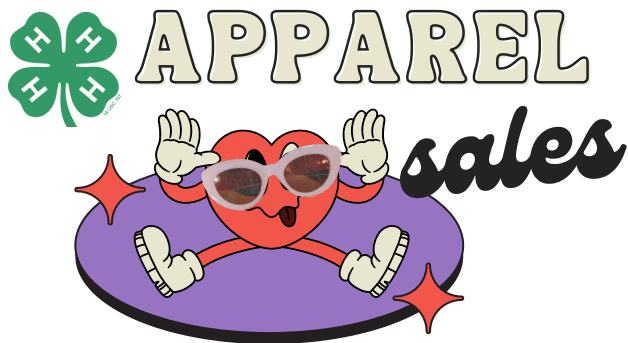
Next Jr. Leader Meeting:
Thursday, January 22nd from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Hendricks Co. 4-H Fairgrounds

Jr. Leaders is open to youth in 7th-12th grade who are interested in taking more of a leadership role in the 4-H Program! We meet monthly and do monthly community service projects. Be sure to sign up for "Junior Leaders" on 4-HOnline when enrolling in projects!

Jr. Leader Community Service Opportunity

Thank you to Shirley Larson and Susan Gackenheimer for presenting to the Jr. Leaders in November. To help their organizations, we encourage the Jr. Leaders to donate non-perishable items to the food pantry or no larger than a kitchen size trash bag of clothes. **Bring them to this month's meeting**, so we can distribute them to those organizations!

4-H HENDRICKS COUNTY



Some options available are:

- t-shirts
- long sleeves
- crew neck sweatshirts ****NEW OPTIONS****
- hoodie sweatshirts
- sweatpants
- shorts
- ¼ zip sweatshirts
- full zip soft shell jackets
- polo shirts

scan to order!



NEW FAMILY ORIENTATION

Are you new to Hendricks County, or would you like some more guidance on what to expect in 4-H?!? This meeting is for YOU! Our Extension Educator, Ashley Alexander, will be hosting a New Family Orientation on **Tuesday, January 20th at the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds**

Mini 4-H: 6-6:45 p.m.

Regular 4-H: 7 p.m.

We will have New Family Guides available, and will be able to answer the questions that you may have regarding 4-H.

4-H Opportunities

Teen Leadership Weekend

Join
US!

The Teen Leadership Weekend is an exciting opportunity for 4-H members to build their leadership skills, connect with peers from across the state, and prepare to make a positive impact in their communities. Held annually, this conference is designed for youth in grades 7-12 who are ready to take their leadership journey to the next level.

Participants engage in hands-on workshops, interactive team activities, and inspiring sessions led by experienced mentors and fellow 4-H members. With a focus on personal growth, teamwork, and service, the weekend empowers youth to step into leadership roles, develop practical skills, and create lasting memories!

Where: Camp Tecumseh

When: March 27-29

Ages: Grades 7th-12th



**PURDUE
EXTENSION**
INDIANA 4-H 

MINI MEETING DATES

February 10

March TBD

April 13

May 21

All regular meetings will be
6:30-7:30 PM

June 16 – Mini 4-H Day
Camp (9 AM to 12 PM)

Keep a lookout in your mailbox in January for a special Mini 4-H Newsletter called the "Clover Corner"! This will have important Mini 4-H dates, information, and activities!

Hendricks County Mini 4-H is for children in grades 1 or 2 as of January 2026. Mini 4-H members meet once a month from February to May from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (unless stated otherwise).

You can sign up your Mini 4-H'er at: v2.4honline.com (they can be on the same account as regular 4-H members).

Please choose "Hendricks County Mini 4-H" as your primary club so you can get all the details on meetings and more!



Summer Assistant Applications are open!

Our office is looking for 2 individuals to join our office for a summer full of fun!

We are once again hiring 4-H Summer Assistants to experience Extension and 4-H for a summer!

See link below for description and application!

Applications due: February 13th, 2026.

<https://hendricksco4h.com/SummerAssistant25>

Summer

Adult Leader Meeting/ Volunteer Training Workshop

Adult Volunteers, please mark your calendars!

Join us on January 15, 2026 at the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds for a volunteer training workshop!

We will begin at 7:00 PM



4-H Scholarships



State and Local Scholarships are now available!

You can find state scholarships at: <https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/get-involved/scholarships.html>. These State Scholarships are due January 25th! Applications must be submitted on 4-HOnline!

You can find links to our local scholarships <https://hendricksco4h.com/scholarships26> Be sure to follow the application deadlines!

More applications will be added as they become available.

Blessing Box

We are looking for clubs and groups to help us stock our box. You can bring **NON-PERISHABLE FOOD OR TOILETRY ITEMS AT ANY TIME!** If the blessing box is full, please bring your items into the Extension Office and we will fill the box at a later time.



We appreciate and thank each and every person, family, club, or group that has donated to our Blessing Box!!



Community Lessons Tuesday, February 3, 2026

Hosted by Hendricks County Homemakers

Education provided by Purdue Extension Health and Human Science Educators

1:00 PM



Let's Sharpen Our Memory

Ever find yourself forgetting names, misplacing keys, or losing track of your to-do list? Don't worry - it's more common than you think! But what if you could boost your memory in fun, effective ways? Join us as we dive into techniques designed to enhance your memory skills. Through interactive activities, relationship building techniques and creative strategies, we'll explore practical ways to keep your mind sharp and your memory stronger than ever.

2:00 PM



Mediterranean Diet & Health Benefits

This lesson explores the history and cultural significance of the Mediterranean diet, highlighting its origins and evolution over time. Participants will learn practical ways to incorporate Mediterranean-inspired foods into their daily meals, focusing on whole grains, lean proteins, healthy fats, and fresh produce. Additionally, the session will cover the scientifically supported health benefits of this eating pattern, including its role in chronic disease prevention.

6:00 PM



Strategies For Living on Less

1 Tips and strategies for stretching your income in the areas of food, utilities, cleaning products, personal care items, clothing and entertainment will be shared during this interactive program. Living on less does not have to mean doing without. Join us to learn how to enjoy your current lifestyle while spending less money. If you have a favorite saving tip, please bring that to share as part of the program.

WHERE: HENDRICKS COUNTY 4-H
FAIRGROUNDS & CONFERENCE
COMPLEX, DANVILLE, IN

There is no cost to participate, but registration by January 27 is required. Scan the link to register or call the Hendricks County Extension Office at 317-745-9260.



UPCOMING HHS PROGRAMS

Food Budgeting & Meal Planning

January 15th

Washington Town Park Pavilion

5-7 pm

Registration open – visit Washington
Township Park Website

Cooking for 1 or 2

February 11th

Washington Town Park Pavilion

6-7pm

Registration coming soon

Cooking with Herbs & Herb Benefits

March 11th

Washington Town Park Pavilion

6-7pm

Registration coming soon

To stay up to date on HHS community
programming, follow us on Facebook!

For questions call (317)-745-9260
or email at hendrces@purdue.edu



FRUITFUL FRIDAYS IN FEBRUARY!

Purdue Extension invites current and aspiring adult backyard fruit growers to join our 4-session program and learn about ways to improve their fruit production. Educators and Specialists will discuss modern fruit production practices, pest and disease management, and more!

Live/Virtual Program

February 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM Eastern

In Person Host Site:

Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds
and Complex
1900 East Main Street,
Danville, IN 46122

To register, visit:

\$30 Fee



If you are in need of accommodations to attend this program, please contact Jeff Pell prior to the meeting at (317) 745-9260 or jpelle@purdue.edu by January 23rd.

If you need an interpreter or translator, please contact Jeff Pell prior to the meeting at (317) 745-9260 or jpelle@purdue.edu by January 23rd.

Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.



**PURDUE
UNIVERSITY**

Extension - Agriculture
and Natural Resources

Purdue University is an equal
opportunity/equal access university.



MANAGING FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

Succession, Business, Estate and Retirement Planning

**5 Week
Virtual Series**
January 15, 22, 29
February 5, 12
10am - 12pm
Cost \$25



It can be challenging to create a transition plan for a farm, ranch, or growing operation to continue as a productive agricultural business. In this multi-session course, you will develop these skills as well as develop networks. Participants will learn how the areas of succession, business, estate, and retirement planning join together to create a transition plan.

**Register by
January 11th**



<https://cvent.me/y42VoZ>

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If you are in need of accommodations to attend this program, please contact Emily Evers prior to the meeting at 574.235.9605 or everse@purdue.edu

If you are in need of a translator please contact Emily Evers prior to the meeting at 574.235.9605 or everse@purdue.edu

Seeking Participants for

Purdue Extension

Master Gardener Basic Training

Registration Deadline:
January 14th, 2026

Every Monday from
January 26th- May 4th



Request or Complete the Master Gardener Class Application to begin registration

Cost: \$185

Participants must be 18 or older to apply. For further information or accommodations to participate in the program, please contact Jeff Pell or Hendricks County Extension office.

Jeff Pell, jpell@purdue.edu, 317-745-9260

**Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds
and Conference Complex 1900
East Main Street Danville, IN 46221**

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CLASS TOPICS

- Composting
 - Soil & Plant Nutrition
 - Plant Science
 - Plant Disease Diagnosis
 - Lawn Care
-
- Weed Identification & Control
 - Insect Identification & Control
 - Animal Pest/ Invasive Species
 - Pollinator/ Pollinator Protection
-
- Fruit Gardening
 - Pesticide Safety & Pesticide Alternatives
 - Vegetable Gardening
 - Woody- Ornamentals
 - Herbaceous Ornamentals

Calendar of Events

4-H Open Enrollment

4-H Enrollment is OPEN! Help us meet our goal of 1,500 4-H members and volunteers in 2026!

Enroll on 4-H Online at: <https://v2.4honline.com>

Volunteers must re-enroll each year and stay current on training.

January Dates

- 3 - Sew Savvy - 6:00pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 6 - Sew Savvy - 6:00pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 12 - Bridle Bunch Meeting - 6:30pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 14 - Washington Winners Meeting - 6:30 pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 14 - Robotics 101 Workshop - 6:30 pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 14 - Poultry - 7:00pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 15 - Shooting Sports Meeting - 6:30 pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 20 - New Family Orientation - 6:00 pm, 7:00 pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 22 - 4-H Explorers Meeting - 7:00pm @ Plainfield Library
- 28 - Robotics 102 Workshop - 6:30 pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds

February Dates

- 3 - 4-H Explorers Meeting - 6:30 pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 5 - Shooting Sports Meeting - 6:30 pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 9 - Bridle Bunch Meeting - 6:30pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 11 - Washington Winners Meeting - 6:30 pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 11 - Robotics 101 Workshop - 6:30 pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 19 - 4-H Explorers Meeting - 7:00 pm @ Plainfield Library
- 25 - Robotics 102 Workshop - 6:30 pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds
- 26 - Rabbit Workshop - 6:30 pm @ HC 4-H Fairgrounds

Bad Weather Policy

NOTE: As the weather is constantly changing, we want you to know that SAFETY is the number one concern of Purdue Extension—Hendricks County and Hendricks County 4-H. Therefore, should inclement weather happen, please pay close attention to our website and social media accounts for cancellations. If schools have been canceled for the day, MOST LIKELY 4-H related events will be canceled as well for that day. When bad weather happens, please make sure that you only attend meetings where you are comfortable getting to and from the meetings. Again, we want you to stay SAFE while driving this winter!

4-H Youth Council

Next Meeting: January 26th



4-H Adult Leaders

Volunteer Workshop:
January 15th at 7 p.m.



4-H Fairboard

No meeting this month.



4-H

VOLUNTEERS

NEEDED



18 USC 707



18 USC 707

CLUBS

- Gifted 4-H'ers
 - The Gifted 4-H'ers Club is seeking a co-leader to help facilitate meetings in the Danville area.
- Working Wonders
 - Working Wonders is seeking one or two club leaders looking to serve youth in the Clayton Area.
- Possible new Stilesville/Amo Club volunteers needed

PROJECT ADVISORS

- ATV: Safety Co-Leader
- Bicycle
- Computers
- Entomology
- Forestry
- Geology
- Health
- Our Environment (Recycling)
- Shooting Sports (Volunteers/Instructors)
- Small Engines
- Sportfishing
- Veterinary Science

STEM VOLUNTEERS

We are seeking an energetic STEM volunteer to help facilitate workshops. Workshops are frequently held during Spring Break and in the Fall. More workshops can be added as the leaders deem appropriate.

MINI 4-H VOLUNTEERS

We are in search of help to facilitate our ever-growing Mini 4-H Program! Our Mini 4-H'ers meet once a month beginning in February and have meetings through the beginning of June.

GENERAL VOLUNTEERS

We are always looking for general volunteers to help where needed! This could be serving on a committee or helping at the fair. If you are interested in helping our rapidly growing program, call us to get more information!

CONTACT US 317-745-9260
TO VOLUNTEER hendrces@purdue.edu