

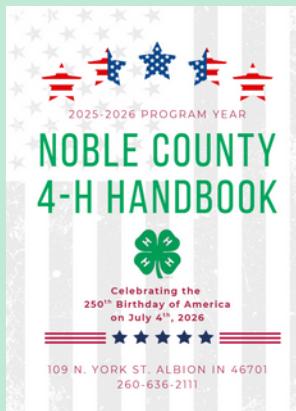


# Noble County 4-H News

January 2026



Extension - 4-H Youth Development



*Digital Handbooks are available online at <https://bit.ly/nobleco4h>*

*Printed Handbooks are ready in the Extension Office. 1 Free printed book per family, additional books are \$6.*

*Extension Office closed:  
1/19/26- MLK Day*

**Purdue Extension**  
**Noble County**  
**Office Info:**  
109 N. York St.  
Albion IN 46701  
260-636-2111  
Hours: 8am-4pm  
Monday-Friday  
Closed All Government  
Holidays

## Upcoming Dates

- February 1st 4-H Camp Counselor applications due
- February 19th Extension Office Conference Room.
  - I4H-QLC 6pm
  - 4-H Adult Leaders Mtg 7pm
- March 29th Graduating Seniors Bios and Photos Due
- April 18th Cattle Tagging & Check IN
  - 7:30am Beef & 9am Dairy Steers
- April 24<sup>th</sup> Fair Ground Clean up
- May 8th Sheep/Goat Tagging 5pm-7pm
- May 15th Last Day to Add or Drop a Project
- May 15th Last Day for Animal ID in 4HOnline.com
- June 3rd-5<sup>th</sup> 4-H Camp for 3rd-6<sup>th</sup> Grades
- June 13th Nominations due for:
  - 4-H Legacy Award
  - Volunteer of the Year
  - Livestock Hall of Fame
- June 15th Mini Camp for K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grades
- June 17th Show Ring Set up- Leaders & Livestock Mtg.
- June 18th Pen Set Up- Everyone
- June 26th I4HQCA or YQCA Due for County Fair
- June 29th Fair Entry Due
- July 9th Foods Judging and Foods Auction
- July 10th-11th Static Project Judging
- July 10th Yearly Awards and 10 Year Graduation
- July 11th-17th Noble County 4-H Fair
- July 17th Noble County 4-H Livestock Auction
- July 31st Record of Achievement Due

*Additional dates and times to come.*

*Subject to change if need arises*

Youth Canvas Painting  
Workshop  
Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm  
Extension Office- Albion

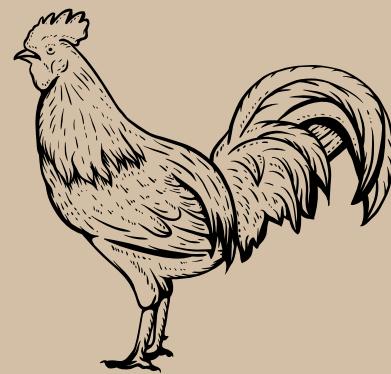
Cost \$7

RSVP to Noelle at  
[ngaerte@purdue.edu](mailto:ngaerte@purdue.edu)  
or call 260-636-2111

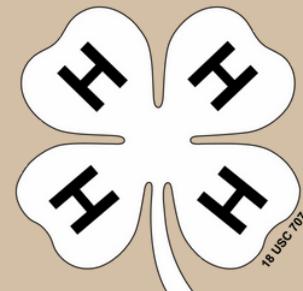
**Leaf Raking &  
Fair Ground Clean up.  
April 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm.  
Bring rakes, blowers  
and tools. Dress for  
weather.**

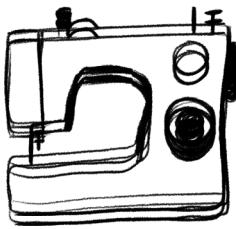


**4-H Rabbit &  
Poultry  
Workshops**



**May 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm  
4-H Park- Albion  
&  
April 18<sup>th</sup> @ 9am  
Fair Grounds-  
Kendallville**





# FIBER ARTS WORKSHOP STARTING JAN. 28TH

6-week youth program at Augusta Hills where each week we will delve into the world of sewing and crafting.

Suggested for grades 3rd-8<sup>th</sup>.

Wednesdays Starting January 28<sup>th</sup>. 1-3pm

Cost is \$30 per student.

To sign up go to: <https://forms.gle/spr5UhEhwKXA4BmD9>

## Noble County 4-H Duck for a Buck

**program is happening again this year!**

- For just \$1 per duck you can purchase a Peking Duck to be used as your 4-H project at the 2026 Noble County Fair.
- Order your Ducks through the Extension office by April 3rd at 4pm.
- Ducks MUST BE picked up at 4-H park from 10am - 5:30 pm on Friday May 8th.
- Payment due at pick up, cash or check
- Max of 5 Ducks per child.
- Must be Enrolled in Noble County 4-H and have enrollment dues paid before placing orders.

For more info or to place your order contact Noelle at [Ngaerte@purdue.edu](mailto:Ngaerte@purdue.edu) or call 636-2111.



## Wood-working with Epoxy

Join us at the CLC in Kendallville for a 3 day program where we will create a beautifully unique small wood table accented with colored epoxy resin. Casting epoxy is the go-to for thick pours, river tables, embedding objects, and filling voids in wood. All materials are provided. No prior experience necessary. Recommended for ages 13+

**January 27th-29<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:00pm**

**Cost \$145**

**Sign up at:  
<https://finearts.eventcalendarapp.com/3-day-epoxy-over-wood>**



# INDIANA 4-H QUALITY LIVESTOCK CARE



To exhibit BEEF CATTLE, DAIRY CATTLE, SWINE, SHEEP, MEAT GOATS, DAIRY GOATS, POULTRY, and RABBITS, 4-H members **must be** certified through the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care training OR the online Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program (YQCA). Classes last around 1 hour. **Due by June 26<sup>th</sup>**

## Upcoming Dates for Noble County

**February 19<sup>th</sup>** Extension Office, Annex Albion 6pm  
**March TBD** Central Noble Highschool 3:30pm  
**April 24<sup>th</sup>** Fair Grounds Kendallville, Log Cabin 5pm  
**May 28<sup>th</sup>** 4-H Park, Albion 6-7pm

1. This certification must be done an annual basis
2. Members must be registered BEFORE attending a training
3. Members may attend any training dates listed on this flyer  
OR a training in another county  
OR complete the online YQCA training

**To register for the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care program, please use the events tab at: <https://www.4honline.com>**

Those planning to be certified through the YQCA program, will register at [www.yqcaprogram.org](http://www.yqcaprogram.org) and will present their completion certificate to their 4-H Educator **before June 26th..** We do not have access to look up YQCA completion so please send us a copy of the certificate.

**\$3.00 fee for class paid at the door, cash or check only.**

**Make checks to Purdue Extension Noble County**

If you need to request special accommodations, please contact the Extension office. Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action institution.

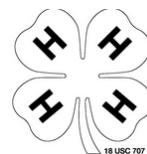


# Enrollment Happening Now!

Go To: <http://4honline.com/>

## To Join Noble County 4-H:

1. Sign up at 4honline.com (or call 260-636-2111)
2. Pick a Township Club
3. Enroll in Projects
4. *Check out Project Clubs, Events, Camps, Trips, Workshops and more!*
5. Showcase your work at the County Fair in July and win a chance to compete at the Indiana State Fair in August.



## Costs:

- Regular 4-H Grades 3-12 the program fee is \$20
- Mini 4-H Grades k-2 the program fee is \$5

*Assistance maybe available to cover 4-H dues, ask for info in the Extension Office.*

## **Want to donate more to your community but don't have the extra time or cash?**

Don't worry you don't have to break the bank! Did you know you can donate to 4-H by simply doing your regular shopping? 2 local businesses are making it easy to donate to Noble County 4-H! Your local **Kroger** store lets you pick where your charitable donations go to from every transaction that comes down their check-out lane! Simply go online to your **Kroger Card** account and select Noble County 4-H as your donation recipient and every time you shop with your Kroger card, a portion of the transaction will come directly to the Noble County 4-H.



**Midwest America Federal Credit Union**, offers a **Noble County 4-H debit card, free of charge!** Any purchases made with your debit card will send a portion of those transactions to your Noble County 4-H program at no charge to you. Stop by their new location at 648 E. North St. in Kendallville for more details.



## **Indiana 4-H Scholarships**

All 4-H scholarship applications found on the State 4-H website:

[extension.purdue.edu/4-H/get-involved/scholarships.html](http://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/get-involved/scholarships.html) and then submitted on 4Honline.com under the events tab.

All submissions must be uploaded by members **no later than January 25, 2026**. This includes all 4-H Club, Senior Year, Purdue Horticulture, and Accomplishment scholarships. A member must be in an "Active" status in 4-H Online to submit an application. Please reach with any questions.



# AREA YOUTH PROGRAMS

## FOR MORE INFO CONTACT THE EXTENSION OFFICE

### 2026 PROGRAM YEAR

#### FOOD SCIENCE



3 Day youth program at Augusta Hills where each week we will delve into the world of Food and Nutrition! Welcome to all skill levels but suggested for grades 3-8.

April 15, 22, 29, 1:00-3:00 PM

Cost: \$30 per student

Sign up at:

<https://forms.gle/eDnPtMrAUjaiSDqw8>

#### BBQ FOODS



2-night youth program at Augusta Hills tasting the world of BBQ cooking! Welcome to all skill levels but suggested for grades 3rd-8<sup>th</sup>. April 27 & 28, 6:00-8:00 PM

Cost: \$30 per student

Sign up at:

<https://forms.gle/eDnPtMrAUjaiSDqw8>



#### MORE OPPORTUNITIES

Make sure to follow us on social media and sign up at [4HOnline.com](http://4HOnline.com) to stay up to date on the upcoming programs and classes.

If you have interest in hosting a program at your location or for your group or club contact the Extension office, we would love to meet with you and expand our program area.

## 4-H Youth Garden Workshops

The Noble County Master Gardeners are hosting gardening workshops!

These workshops are for anyone in the community in grade K to 12.

**March 17:** 6-7:30 pm - CLC, 401 E Diamond St Kendallville, IN

Winter sowing, seed selection & garden design, houseplant propagation, broom corn craft

**April 21:** Local Green House Tour TBD @ 6 PM

**May 19:** 6-7:30 pm, Dekko Rm, South Complex, 2090 N St. Rd. 9, Albion

Learn to exhibit produce at the fair, container gardening, & home fertilizers



# Mini 4-H Project Build Day

We will be hosting 2 Mini 4-H Build Days. We will provide all the supplies they need and they will leave with Fair ready 4-H Projects!

## Sewing:

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-6pm

Annex building, Extension Office Albion

Hands on Sewing Open to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders

Will make projects as described in the 4-H handbook.

RSVP by calling 260-636-2111

or email Brandy at [Ande1307@purdue.edu](mailto:Ande1307@purdue.edu)

Cost is \$5 per child, can be paid day of event.



## Poster Build Time

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2pm-6pm (Open house style)

Annex building, Extension Office Albion

Open to Kindergarten to 2<sup>nd</sup> graders

Will make projects as described in the 4-H handbook per grade level.

RSVP by calling 260-636-2111

or email Brandy at [Ande1307@purdue.edu](mailto:Ande1307@purdue.edu)

Cost is \$3 per poster built.

Lots of options, see handbook!



***Watch for additional project build days coming soon!***  
***Woodworking, electric, crafts & more!***



The Noble County Junior leaders are an elite team of 4-H'ers who desire to go above and beyond in their 4-H experiences. They take on more leadership roles at 4-H events and help with fundraising for special project for Noble County 4-H. To learn more or sign up, contact the Extension office or go to our website [Extension.purdue.edu/noble](http://Extension.purdue.edu/noble)

## SAVE THE DATE

**NEXT MEETING:** February 12th @ 6:30 pm

- Meet at Extension office- Albion, Officer Elections & Shirt Voting and service night.

### Other Upcoming Dates & Plans:

March 12<sup>th</sup> 6 pm Careers Night

- Location TBD

April 24<sup>th</sup> 6pm

- Fair Ground Clean Up 6-7pm
- Flower Form Pick up,
- Hide and Seek 7-8pm

May 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Flower Sales 4-H Park

May 21<sup>st</sup> Challenge Event at 4-H Park

June 15<sup>th</sup> Mini Camp at Fair Grounds

July NOBLE COUNTY FAIR

September Achievement Night TBD

August State Fair

October 10<sup>th</sup> Owl-O-ween at G.S Porter

November & December TBD



**\*Dates are tentative and subject to change as needs arise.**

## **VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM THE EXTENSION OFFICE:**

- **All adult volunteers** must re-enroll in 4HOnline and have approved background checks before attending any 4-H meeting, events or working with 4-H'ers. If you need assistance enrolling, please contact the Extension office. Only approved volunteers will be listed in handbooks and publications.
- **2025 tax documents** are due to Noelle by February 9th, 2026.
- **All 4-H Club Banking Monthly Statements** must be mailed to the Extension Office each month. We will have a confidential mailbox for your club treasurers to access but they must come here first. You can have your bank mail them directly if you prefer. Attn: Purdue Extension 4-H 109 N. York St. Albion IN 46701.
- Club Leaders, you must have a **separate president and treasurer** and minimum of 2 unrelated leaders on the committee and financials. Contact Matt Dice for more info.
- Clubs and Townships- Please turn in your **2026 Meeting dates** to the office ASAP so we can share with the public. Email [Mcdon197@purdue.edu](mailto:Mcdon197@purdue.edu)
- **Fair Board has open seats** for 4-H Townships that need to be filled, if you are interested in joining, please contact Noelle in the Extension office [Ngaerte@purdue.edu](mailto:Ngaerte@purdue.edu).
- If you have a fund raiser or event please send the info to Brandy at [Ande1307@purdue.edu](mailto:Ande1307@purdue.edu) so we can help advertise it for you. Contact the Extension office for help with **Marketing Materials**. *Reminder- Use of the 4-H Logo is a federally protected item and we need to make sure we are following branding rules.*
- The Fair board office is separate from the Extension Office. **We do not handle their rentals or camping info.** To rent a space at the Fair Grounds contact 260-347-0666 for all other Fair Board related questions contact 260-318-7301
- Please report all social media accounts and communication accounts your clubs are using to Brandy at [Ande1307@purdue.edu](mailto:Ande1307@purdue.edu).

# Message from 4-H Educator:

4-H Club Leaders,

Thank you for everything you have done to make 2025 a successful year for 4-H. We had over 3500 projects exhibited at fair, 1820 animals exhibited, with 482 youth exhibiting a project. Your clubs, educational programs, and recruitment are truly helping to raise our kids & community in a positive light.

As we look forward towards the future, we encourage you to reach out to the extension office for anything you may need.

I would like to offer some general 4-H fun events during the fair. **Things like Farmer Ninja Warrior Course and Mini Golf Championships.** If you or someone you know would be interested in helping organize one of these events, please let me know, we can talk.

A few reminders, Make sure volunteer enrollment is done before any interactions with youth. New 4-H year started Oct 1.

People that serve on bank accounts or help in other ways should also have the volunteer training in 4honline completed.

We need to make sure that 2 unrelated & approved volunteers are on bank accounts. People that served in the past and unwilling to do the 4h volunteer paperwork need to be taken off the accounts. I highly suggest 3-4 parents of kids be on all bank accounts. I do request that the statements be sent to the 4-H office, it becomes easier to file taxes if we get copies.

Send us your dates, send us your news, we would like to put them in our newsletters.

*4-H Enrollment is open, so get the word out!*

Reach out if you have any questions or feedback.

Matt Dice,  
Purdue Extension – Noble County 4-H Educator  
County Extension Director



# Livestock Judging Team Call Out!



January 13th, 6:30 to 8 PM

Dekko Room, Noble County South Complex  
2090 N St. Rd. 9, Albion, IN 46701.



Don't forget to follow us on Facebook to stay connected with all the news and updates. And be sure to check out our Websites for information and resources to help you with your 4-H projects, scholarships and events.



Go to: [Extension.purdue.edu/noble](http://Extension.purdue.edu/noble) or <https://bit.ly/3Zgbcuc>  
Check [4honline.com](http://4honline.com) and make sure contact info is updated as well!



# 4-H Camp Counselors Needed!!!

Interested in being a counselor at this summer's 4-H camp? This is available to grades 9-12, but 8th graders may be considered if there is a shortage of counselors.

Now is the time to apply!

**Applications are due Feb. 1, 2025.**



This is an excellent opportunity to develop your leadership skills in working with younger youth and planning fun adventures for them, while working along with your peers.



**4-H Summer camp will be June 3rd-5th for grades 3rd-6<sup>th</sup>.**

**Applications on our website at:**  
**<https://bit.ly/4HCampCounselorApplication>**



# Northeast Indiana 4-H Camp @ Epworth Forest



**2026 Camp: June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>  
Sign up at [4honline.com](https://4honline.com)**

4-H Camp takes place during the first weeks of June every year and thanks to generosity from the Noble County Exhibit Corp, a portion of the Camp dues are covered. Ask the Extension Office for more info! Campers are grades 5-6 and camp counselors are chosen out of a pool of 4-H High Schoolers, adult volunteers and County Educators. Campers stay overnight in cabin's at Epworth Forest for 4 days and experience a wide variety of activities, educational events and meeting new friends.



**4-H Round Up & Academy Combined event: June 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>**

4-H Round-Up and Academy are exciting opportunities offered to our 4-H'ers. Youth who have completed grades 7, 8, and 9 have "Round-up" and Highschoolers have Academy. Attendees have an opportunity to explore a variety of careers by attending classes created just for them at Purdue University. Participants will get a taste of college life and will live in a Purdue Residence Hall for two nights. Recreation events are planned in the evenings and blocks of free time allow attendees the opportunity to build friendships on their own. Contact your local Purdue Extension Office to register. Registration and all forms will be completed through 4-H Online. New this year these will run as a combined event on the same dates. Sign up on [4honline.com](https://4honline.com).

# *What's been happening in Noble County 4-H*



## **4-H Photography Basics**

We held our first Photography work day, participants left with completed salon print photos and mini posters ready for fair. We even took photos around town as a little field trip.

## **Cookie Camp**

Mr. Dice and Ms. Michele held cookie camp for area youth at the CLC. Participants took home TONS of cookies they made themselves. Lots of different variety of cookies were made and the kids had lots of hands on learning.



## **Motors works & Engine Builds**



Dr. Dice has been taking his motors and engine programs to various middle schools classrooms around the area doing hands on training. Currently he is at Oakfarm working on a weekly 6 session program.

# Noble County 4-H Fair Awards Night 2026

Now accepting Nominations for:

Volunteer Of The Year and  
Noble County 4-H Legacy

**CHOSEN BY YOU!**



*Nominations submitted to Brandy*

*Ande1307@purdue.edu by June 12th, 2026*

*Forms on our website: <https://bit.ly/nobleco4h>  
or contact the office for form. (We can not fill out for you)*

Noble County 4-H Fair awards night will be Friday July 10th at 6pm.

We will be honoring 10 year & Graduating members, as well as Volunteer of the Year and Legacy Award winners. If you have any other awards, you would like us to announce please contact Brandy.

#### **Noble County 4-H Volunteer of the Year:**

This is your chance to brag about all the great volunteers! Send us your nominations for Volunteer of the year. Award requirements:

- Must be current, approved, active volunteer
- Must be Noble County resident
- Must not be a past winner

#### **Noble County 4-H LEGACY Award:**

Tell us someone you think has left a Legacy in Noble County 4-H. Award requirements:

- Must have minimum of 10 years of Noble County 4-H volunteer work
- Must be resident of Noble County during 2026 Fair
- Has made a positive impact on the youth of Noble County 4-H

Once nominations are collected, voting will be open to the 4-H Community. It will be up to you to decide who is the best of the best! Get your nominations in by filling out the form on <https://bit.ly/nobleco4h> and emailing to Brandy at Ande1307@purdue.edu by June 13th at 4pm.



**Noble County 4-H Livestock Hall of Fame** will be presented during Round Robin at the county fair. We will be honoring a person or couple who has raised top quality livestock in Noble County while participating in Noble County 4-H and enriching the livestock program through their expertise.

Once nominations are collected, decision will be made by the livestock award committee. Get your nominations in by filling out the form on <https://bit.ly/nobleco4h> and emailing to Brandy at Ande1307@purdue.edu by June 12th at 4pm.

## Extension Office

Noble County Extension Educators are available.  
If you can't reach us, feel free to email!

### **Educators:**

Matt Dice (CED & 4-H Youth) [Dice@purdue.edu](mailto:Dice@purdue.edu)

Ann Kline (ANR): [kline60@purdue.edu](mailto:kline60@purdue.edu)

Abigail Creigh (HHS): [creigh@purdue.edu](mailto:creigh@purdue.edu)

### **Program Assistant:**

Michele McDonald [mcdon197@purdue.edu](mailto:mcdon197@purdue.edu)

### **Support Staff:**

Brandy Anderson [ande1307@purdue.edu](mailto:ande1307@purdue.edu)

Noelle Gaerte [ngaerte@purdue.edu](mailto:ngaerte@purdue.edu)

Noble County 4-H / Purdue Extension - Noble Co.  
Noble County Annex  
109 N. York St.  
Albion, IN 46701



Extension - 4-H Youth  
Development



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