

DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Address:

525 W Beech Street
Osgood, IN 47037

Phone:

812-689-6511

Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00am-4:00pm

Website:

extension.purdue.edu/ripley

Facebook:

Purdue Extension - Ripley County
&
Ripley County 4H Fair

Instagram:

@ripleycountypurdueextension



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Calendar of Events



DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
-	1 7:00 Country Bees Meeting	2	3	4	5	6
7 4:00 Pierceville Haypals Mtg 5:00 4-H Pioneers Mtg 6:30 Ripley Wranglers Mtg	8 7:00 Faithful Workers Meeting 7:00 Morris Shamrocks Mtg	9	10 8:00-4:00 UAV Program (Pg 10)	11	12	13 3:00 Jr. Leader Meeting
14 5:00 Napoleon Country Club Mtg	15 7:30 4-H Board Meeting	16 8:00-12:00 Commercial Applicator program (Pg 9) 1:00-3:00 PARP (Pg 9)	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27
28	29	30	31	1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 JANUARY	3 JANUARY

Can you find the four H's hidden in the newsletter?



HEAD



HEART



HANDS



HEALTH

Ripley County 4-H Newsletter



Club Meeting Resources:

Song: Jingle Bells

Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells
Jingle all the way
Oh what fun it is to ride in a
One horse open sleigh
Jingle bells, Jingle Bells
Jingle all the way
Oh what fun it is to ride in a one
Horse open sleigh



Dashing through the snow
In a one horse open sleigh
Over the hills we go
Laughing all the way
Bells on Bobtails ring
Making spirits bright
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight

Health & Safety

Staying safe in the kitchen: The kitchen is a fun place to make delicious meals and snacks, but it's also where accidents can happen if we're not careful. Here are some easy kitchen safety tips to keep you safe while cooking:

1. **Always Ask an Adult for Help:** Some kitchen tasks can be dangerous, like using sharp knives or handling hot appliances. Always ask an adult to supervise you when you're cooking or baking to stay safe!
2. **Wash Your Hands:** Before cooking and after handling raw ingredients, wash your hands with soap and water to avoid spreading germs. This helps keep you and everyone else safe from foodborne illnesses.
3. **Handle Knives Carefully:** Always cut away from your body, use a cutting board, and make sure knives are sharp (blunt knives are more likely to slip). Never leave knives in the sink where someone might reach in and get cut.
4. **Be Careful with Hot Surfaces:** Ovens, stoves, and even microwaves can burn you! Always use oven mitts to handle hot pans, and never leave hot pots unattended.
5. **Keep the Floor Clean:** Spills happen, but they can lead to slips! Clean up any spills right away and keep your workspace tidy.



Inspiration:

"To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake it is necessary to stand out in the cold."

—Aristotle



Ripley County 4-H Newsletter





TRACTOR KICK OFF MEETING
FEBRUARY 24TH @ 6:30PM
RIPLEY COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
525 W BEECH ST, OSGOOD

Other Tractor Dates

March 10 th @7PM Napoleon Fire Dept	June 20 th @9AM Ripley Co fairgrounds Fun Day & Driving Practice	June 27 th @7:30AM Ripley Co fairgrounds County Tractor Contest	July 25 th @TBD Decatur Co fairgrounds Area Tractor Contest
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Contact a leader with questions:

Harry Weber 812-216-6021	Steve Meyer 812-662-4303
Josh Weber 812-525-0676	Tanner Volz 812-212-6225



4-H Enrollment
is Open!

**4-H Enrollment
Open Now!**

Join us for another fun-filled year of 4-H!

**Enrollment Opens on 4-H Online
October 1st!**

4-H Online Web address: v2.4honline.com

For more information or the enrollment help guide contact

Purdue Extension Ripley County:

812-689-6511

525 W Beech St. Osgood, IN 47037

website: www.extension.purdue.edu/county/ripley/4h-ripley-county.html



Ripley County 4-H Newsletter



4-H Enrollment is Open!

It's that time of the year again! 4-H Enrollment for the 2025-2026 year is now open. Please enroll as soon as possible - you must be enrolled to sign up for events, camps, etc. Once January 15 arrives we will begin only sending information to those of you who have enrolled for the new program year. Below you can find links that lead to the step by step 4-H Online help guides to assist you with enrollment.

Once again we will be utilizing 4-H Online as our enrollment platform. You can access your account by visiting v2.4honline.com If you need further assistance please give us a call or stop by the office, we are happy to help. 812-689-6511 or 525 W Beech St Osgood, IN 47037.

4-H Online Help Guides:



Enrolling in 4-H Online as a NEW 4-H member or mini 4-H member:

https://extension.purdue.edu/county/ripley/_media/enrolling-in-4-h-online-as-a-returning-youth-member.pdf

Enrolling in 4-H Online as a RETURNING 4-H member or mini 4-H member:

https://extension.purdue.edu/county/ripley/_media/enrolling-in-4-h-online-as-a-returning-youth-member.pdf

Donate to
4-H!



It's Paper Clover Time!

Nov. 28 - Dec. 14, 2025

Funds support scholarships to 4-H camp and leadership activities.



Ripley County 4-H Newsletter



4-H Project Books



For any 4-Her that would like their project books for the 2025-2026 4-H year, please let the office know by January 15th. Please be aware, we may not have certain books available in the office if not requested by that time.

4-H Scholarships

All 4-H members who are currently in grades 10-12 are eligible to apply for Indiana 4-H Scholarships sponsored by the Indiana 4-H Foundation. Ripley County 4-H members who apply for the state Senior Year Scholarship or Accomplishment Scholarship will automatically be submitted for the six county scholarships also. Information about Scholarships can be found on the [State 4-H Scholarship Web Page](#) or by contacting the Extension Office.

Scholarships are due January 25, 2026!

INDIANA 4-H FOUNDATION 2026 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Senior Year Scholarship

Available to 4-H members in their senior year of high school

Club Scholarship

Available to 4-H members entering Purdue University majoring in the College of Agriculture or select majors in the College of Health and Human Sciences

Purdue Horticulture & Landscape Architecture Scholarship

Available to a 4-H member majoring in horticulture or landscape architecture at Purdue University and studied plant science in 4-H.

Accomplishment Scholarship

Available to 4-H members in grades 10-12 of high school and the year immediately following high school graduation. The purpose of the 4-H Accomplishment Scholarship is to recognize youth who have excelled in life skills development through their 4-H activities and involvement.

Categories: Animal Science—Meat and Milk Production; Animal Science—Companion and Small Animal Production; Citizenship; Communications; Engineering and Technological Science; Healthy Living, Food and Nutrition Science; Leadership Development; and Plant and Environmental Science. Three additional categories are reserved for applicants demonstrating life skills development in more than one of the previously listed categories. Those are Premier Achievement, Premier Citizenship, and Premier Leadership.

Eligibility: Applicants must be in grade 10, 11, 12, or their first year immediately following 4-H enrollment eligibility at the time applications are due. While an applicant does not have to be a current 4-H member, they must demonstrate multiple years of involvement in Indiana's 4-H Youth Development Program. Youth who have previously been awarded a \$1,000 accomplishment scholarship are only eligible to compete in the Premier Achievement, Premier Citizenship, and Premier Leadership categories. Youth who have previously been awarded a \$2,000 scholarship are no longer eligible to compete in any category.

Awards: A minimum of thirty \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to youth based on their demonstration of life skills development in these eight categories: Animal Science—Meat and Milk Production; Animal Science—Companion and Small Animal Production; Citizenship; Communications; Engineering and Technological Science; Healthy Living, Food, and Nutrition Science; Leadership Development; and Plant and Environmental Science. A minimum of one \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded in each of these categories: Premier Achievement; Premier Citizenship; and Premier Leadership.

Visit bit.ly/4hscholarship to download applications.



Applications due to County 4-H Educator January 25.

Contact your county's Purdue Extension Office to learn more.

\$174,250 AWARDED IN 2025



Ripley County 4-H Newsletter



Looking for Empty Bottles!



Educator Dave Osborne is looking for empty 2 liters bottles to be used for his science of flight programs. Empty Pepsi or Mountain Dew bottles are the best, so please consider donating any if you may have. Call the office or Email Dave at osbornda@purdue.edu if you can help!

Shooting Sports 2025-2026



Ripley County Shooting Sports



Shooting Sports Leaders

Gun & Archery 2025-2026

Date	Location	Time	
December	No Meeting	NA	
January 11, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns
February 15, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns
March 8, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns
April 12, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns
May 17, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns
June 14, 2026	Sunman Fish & Game	2:00-4:00 PM	Archery & Guns

Contest and Family Fun Day: July 11th, 2026
Time: Noon-4pm @ Coon Hunters Lodge

Michael Luers
Pistol
812-756-2999
Luers48@gmail.com

Mike Weiler
Archery
812-569-0533
mikeweiler@etczone.com

Bill Jordan
Marksmanship
317-525-1102
whjordan333@gmail.com

Jim Luers
Rifle
812-852-2178
Luers48@gmail.com

Daren Sarringhaus
Shotgun
812-212-1060
dsarringhaus1975@gmail.com

Ripley County 4-H Newsletter



RIPLEY WRANGLERS 2025-2026 CLUB CALENDAR

Watch Facebook, Remind and come to meetings to get the latest info!

Dates and activities are subject to change.

December 7, 2025- CLUB MEETING AND CHRISTMAS PARTY!

AT THE YOUNGS: 1312 E. Cty. Rd. 1300 N., Batesville, IN 47006.

Meeting Starts at 2pm with the party after! Approve Fair Show Bill, Vote on ribbons/medallions and Officer Elections. **Bring a \$15 wrapped gift for a gift exchange and an appetizer to share.** **Demonstrations:** Macy Young, Addison Young, Tinley Enneking and Teagan Enneking

January 1, 2026- 4-H ONLINE ENROLLMENT ENDS: Please make sure you ENROLL on <http://v2.4honline.com> for this year before the New Year! You can add projects through the end of May.

January 6, 2026- CLUB MEETING- Extension Office- Explanation of Folders and Club

Paperwork **Demonstrations:** Kearney and Henley Simon

January 2026- Ripley Wranglers Philanthropy Fundraiser: Details to Come!

February 3, 2026- **CLUB MEETING-** Extension Office- **Demonstrations:** Maddy Menchhofer, Kinley Menchhofer, Adalyn Placke and Chesney Placke

March 3, 2026- **CLUB MEETING-** Extension Office- Spring Flower Fundraiser **Demonstrations:**

April 7, 2026- **CLUB MEETING AND VACCINE CLINIC-** Horse Barn- Vaccine Clinic before the Meeting: Watch for Details! Spring Flower Fundraiser **Demonstrations:**

April 18, 2026- **CLINIC-** Horse Barn & Arena- Open Ride and Clinic (TBD)

May 5, 2026- **CLUB MEETING-** Horse Barn- **Work Detail**, Barn/Stall Clean Up, 1st of 3

Safety Meetings **Demonstrations:**

May 10, 2026- **POSSIBLE CLINIC (MOTHERS DAY)-** Horse Barn & Arena- Open Ride and Clinic (TBD if enough interest)

May 28, 2026- **CLINIC-** Horse Barn & Arena- Open Ride and Clinic (TBD)

June 2, 2026- **CLUB MEETING-** Horse Barn 2nd of 3 Safety Meetings, Area 1 4-H Prep, STALL RESERVATION, STALL FEES AND FAIR SHOWBILL DUE! **Demonstrations:**

June 13-14, 2026- **SRING SHOW CLINIC AND SLEEPOVER-** Horse Barn & Arena- Judge Alex Dewitt will be here to put on the Clinic and Practice Show BOTH Days! Watch for more information to come out in the Spring!

June 23, 2026- **CLINIC-** Horse Barn & Arena- Open Ride and Clinic (TBD)

July 7, 2026 **CLUB MEETING-** Horse Barn- Pre-Fair Meeting: ENCOURAGED to ATTEND!! Last of 3 Safety Meetings, Fair Week Prep and Job Duty Sign Up. **Demonstrations:**

July 11, 2026- **CLINIC-** Horse Barn & Arena- Open Ride and Clinic (TBD)

July 2026- **FAIR ENTRY ENROLLMENT:** (Watch for dates to be posted) Please make sure you ENROLL ALL OF THE PROJECTS AND CLASSES YOU WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN AT FAIR on www.fairentry.com.

July 18-25, 2026- **RIPLEY COUNTY 4-H FAIR** Horses are at the Fairgrounds starting Friday July 18th evening through Friday July 25th.



Pesticide Recertification Program At Southeast Purdue Ag Center

4425 East 350 North
Butlerville, IN 47223

Tuesday
December 16, 2025
1-3 PM

Topics

1-3 PM – John Bonkowski – Purdue Plant and Disease Diagnostic Lab

What Can PPDL do for your Farms

2-3 PM – David Osborne – Purdue Extension –
Managing your Chemical Inventory
2025 PESTICIDE REGULATORY UPDATE

Private Applicators wishing to receive recertification credit must bring their PA number to the meeting.

Fee is sponsored by Indiana Corn and Soybean Checkoff.

Questions to:

David Osborne –
812-689-6511 or

osbornd@purdue.edu.

All Category Commercial Applicator CCH Program

December 16, 2025
8 AM – 12 PM

Southeast Purdue Ag Center

4425 East 350 North
Butlerville, IN 47223

Topics

8:00 – 9:00 AM – Dave Osborne - Purdue Extension

Managing your Chemical Inventory

2025 PESTICIDE REGULATORY UPDATE

9:00 – 10:00 AM – Jared Sawin – IDEM SERO

Emergency Response to Chemical Spills and Situations

10:00 – 11:00 AM – Aaron Kreider – Indiana State Chemist
State Chemist Update and Report

11:00 – 12:00 PM – John Bonkowski – Purdue Plant and Disease Diagnostic Lab
What can PPDL do for your Businesses

4 CCH's applied for ALL Commercial Categories (TBD)

Applicators wishing to receive recertification credits must RSVP by emailing names to osbornda@purdue.edu or calling 812-689-6511 space limited to first 60 reservations.

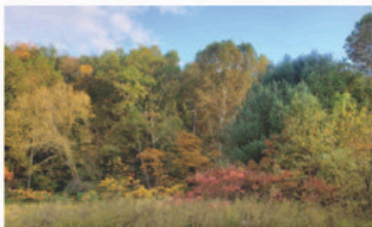
Cost for Program is \$40 (checks payable to Purdue University).
Pay at the door.



FOREST MANAGEMENT FOR THE PRIVATE WOODLAND OWNER

Workshop Information

Forests cover nearly 20% of Indiana, and approximately 85% is in private ownerships like farms and families. Less than 20% of those owners have a forest management plan to guide them in the sustainable management of their property. Forests provide multiple ecologic, economic, and societal benefits, but may not be realizing their potential due to poor or no management activity, and threats like invasive plant species and pests. Indiana forests also support an important forest products industry, employing thousands of people and supporting many rural communities. Private forestland owners are often unaware of the resources and assistance available to them for realizing their property management goals. Forest Management for the Private Woodland Owner provides 8 evening indoor sessions and 1 field tour providing information on the biology and management of Indiana woodlands. Instruction is provided by Purdue Extension specialists and natural resource professionals. Sponsored by Purdue Forestry and Natural Resources Extension and Indiana DNR Division of Forestry.



The workshop will be held Tuesdays, from 5:30-8:30 PM Eastern, from February 10 to March 31, 2026 at the Franklin Co. Public Library - Brookville, 919 Main Street, Brookville, IN 47012

Field Tour at Southeast Purdue Agriculture Center - 4425 County Road 350 North, Butlerville, IN 47223
Saturday, March 21, 2026 from 8:00AM-12:00PM



FOREST MANAGEMENT FOR THE PRIVATE WOODLAND OWNER

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Course Schedule

Franklin Co. Public Library - Brookville,
919 Main Street, Brookville, IN 47012 from
5:30-8:30 PM Eastern

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

- Forest Resource & Tree Identification

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

- Forest Biology & Ecology

Tuesday, February 24, 2026

- Forest Management Planning

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

- Forest Management Practices

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

- Marketing Timber

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

- Wildlife Management

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

- Managing the Woodland Investment

Saturday, March 21, 2026

- **Field Tour Southeast Purdue Agriculture Center** - 4425 County Road 350 North, Butlerville, IN 47223 from 8:00 AM –12:00 PM

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

- Management Resources & Assistance Available to Forest Landowners
- Course Wrap-up



Continued

Registration Information

Advanced registration is required by February 3, 2026. Regular registration includes all learning sessions, a flash drive containing information supporting the sessions, handouts, and a tree measuring stick.

\$50 each

Guest registration includes all learning sessions and handouts at the sessions.

\$30 each

To register visit the link below or the QR code above:

<https://tinyurl.com/ForestMPWO2026>

Once registered, please follow the instructions to pay by check at the end of the registration survey.

Please contact the Purdue Extension Franklin County Office with any questions at 765-647-3511 or email Veronica at bullockv@purdue.edu.



Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Technology Program

December 10, 2025

8AM-4PM

**Southeast Purdue Ag
Center (SEPAC)**

4425 East 350 North
Butlerville, IN 47223

COST: \$200

RSVP by Dec. 5th

Dave Osborne
osbornda@purdue.edu
(812-689-6511)



- FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Test Preparation
- Flight Instructions / Practice Flights

NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!

PURDUE EXTENSION

MASTER GARDENER BASIC TRAINING

THURSDAYS NOON- 3 PM FEBRUARY-MAY

JOIN OUR 2026 COHORT OF LOCAL HORTICULTURE ENTHUSIASTS



Our local Purdue Extension Master Gardener Program will be returning this spring on February 5th and will run weekly through May 7th.

The course includes an in-depth text book and a chance to network with local and state horticultural presenters on topics ranging from soil health and vegetable gardening to invasive species control and fruit tree management. This course is designed to accommodate all gardeners no matter the shade of green on their thumb. The 40 hour course & textbook costs \$175. There is a discount for anyone wishing to share a textbook.

If you are in need of accommodations, an interpreter or a translator to attend this program please reach out to copelanb@purdue.edu by January 15, 2026. Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity institution.

CLASSES HELD IN MADISON & SURROUNDING HORTICULTURE VENUES

3767 W SR 265 MADISON, IN 47250

ARE YOU READY TO **APPLY TO JOIN THE 2026 COHORT?**
EMAIL COPELANB@PURDUE.EDU OR CALL (812) 265-8919