



Extension - Knox County

Happy New Year! This time of year, is always busy with travel, family, and friends. Many are also setting New Year’s resolutions to accomplish something over the next year. My resolution is to travel more and stress less.

This time of year, is also busy for our office. 4-H enrollment is in full swing and scholarship deadlines are looming. Farm and agriculture programs are in full swing and HHS is gearing up for spring programming including Adult and Youth Mental Health First Aid.

Make sure to check inside for all of our upcoming programs. If you have 4-H, health, human science, agriculture, natural resource, or gardening questions feel free to call us at 812-882-3509.

Valerie Clingerman Extension Educator
Agriculture and Natural Resources/County Extension Director

Mission: Drone Possible Teaches Youth New Skills

Drone programming teaches important STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) skills by encouraging teamwork, problem-solving, creativity and introducing them to real jobs and applications.

In 2025, we offered a new program in Knox County that fourteen youth grades 3-12 attended. They learned how drones fly, rules and regulations, why drones are dangerous, how to program drones to fly a planned flight using block coding, and got to see two demonstrations.

The Fire Department demonstrated how they use drones in water rescue and there was a demonstration showing how seeder drones are used to plant cover crops. Youth also got opportunities to fly drones manually through obstacle courses and used block coding to program drones to fly a pattern to scout a crop field.

At the end of the program youth stated they liked seeing different types of drones, flying, flying the obstacle course, coding, and the Vincennes Fire Department session. Youth learned different types of drones, different uses of drones, rules and regulations, and different licenses required to fly.

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4-H & Youth Development

Mitch Wagoner
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4-H Enrollment for 2025-2026

Parents can go into 4Honline (<https://v2.4honline.com>) to enroll/re-enroll their children in 4-H for 2026

Starts: October 1, 2025

Ends: January 15, 2026

Certificated adult volunteers need to go into 4hOnline (<https://v2.4honline.com>) to re-enroll as an adult volunteer and to sign your 2026 Adult Behavior Expectations by **JAN 1st!**

If you do not have internet access, please contact the Extension Office (812-882-3509) so we can help!

2026 4-H Scholarships

4-H Accomplishment Scholarship – Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors, & College Freshman are eligible to apply for this scholarship!

4-H Senior Year Scholarship – All Seniors are eligible to apply. This one application will cover both County & State Scholarship.

4-H Club Scholarship - Senior in high school or currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution and will be transferring to Purdue University in the fall semester.

2025 4-H scholarship applications must be **uploaded & submitted through 4-HOnline by January 25, 2026!**

Scholarship Workshop: January 12, 2026 at 6:00 pm at the Extension Office in the 1st classroom.

For scholarship forms please visit this website:

<https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/get-involved/scholarships.html>

Changes to 4-H Projects:

All Project:

- The poster must be mounted on a firm backing to add stiffness to the exhibit, for example: a foam core board.

Computer:

- All Divisions: A notebook detailing your steps/process is highly recommended!!
- 3-D Printing: All new guidelines
- Videography: All new guidelines

Farm Scene:

- Size change for Level C & D: Displays have a maximum of 30" x 36".

Goat:

- Goat wethers will now be shown by weight with no age restrictions. There is a maximum weight of 170 pounds for all goat wethers.
- Meat goat wethers & wether does still have a 50 lbs. minimum.

Upcoming Dates

- 4-H Scholarship workshop: January 12, 2026
- **4-H Enrollment push ENDS:** January 15, 2026
- 4-H Scholarships "Senior Year & Accomplishment" **DUE: 1/25/2026**
- 4-H Day at the Indiana Statehouse: Feb 10 **OR** 17, 2026. Grade: 7-12
- State 4-H Junior Leader Weekend: March 27 - 29, 2026. Grade: 7-12.
- 4-H Camp Counselors: May 31 – June 3, 2026. Plus, in-person camp counselor trainings date TBA. Open to grades 9-12.
- **4-H Camp: June 1 – 3, 2026. Open to grades 3-6.**
- 4-H Academy @ Purdue: June TBA, 2026. Open to grades 9-12.
- 4-H Band Workshop: June TBA, 2026 Open to grades 9-12.
- 4-H Round Up: June TBA, 2026. Open to grades 7-9.
- FYI, IN FFA State Convention: June 15 – 18, 2026.
- Knox County Fair: July 27 – August 1, 2026
- Indiana State Fair: August 7 – 23, 2026

Social Media

Facebook: "KnoxCountyIN4H"

Instagram: "@knoxcountyin4h"



Extension - Knox County

Purdue Extension-Knox County
4259 N Purdue Rd
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2026 Knox County 4-H Fair Schedule:

Friday, July 4

- Office Closed for Independence Day

Wednesday, July 15

- 11:59 pm: Fair Entry will close.

TBA

- 6:00 pm: Livestock Clean-up & Building Set-up

Tuesday, July 21

- 6:00 pm: Consumer Clothing Judging
- 7:00 pm: Fashion Revue

Wednesday, July 22

- 5:00 to 8:00 pm: Non-perishable Project Judging

Saturday, July 25

- 8:00 – 11:00 am: Perishable Project Judging

Sunday, July 26

- 8:00 am to 4:00 pm: Animals may arrive on the grounds.
- 4:00 to 9:00 pm: Official Check-in for All Animals. Animals must be in the barn by 9:00 pm.
- 6:30 pm: Dog Agility show location TBA.

Monday, July 27

- 8:00 am: Poultry Show in the Poultry Barn
- 9:00 am: Rabbit show in Livestock Arena.
- 4:00 pm: Horse & Pony Contesting at H&P Arena.
- 5:00 pm: Livestock Costume contest
- 7:00 pm: Fair Queen Contest

Tuesday, July 28

- 8:00 am: Swine Show in Livestock Arena
- 8:30 am: Dog Obedience location is Old Industrial Building
- 4:30 pm: Sheep show in Livestock Arena.

Wednesday, July 29

- 9:00 am: Beef & Dairy Show in the Livestock Arena.
- 3:00 pm: Cat Show in A/C building
- 4:30 pm: Goat Show in Livestock Arena

Thursday, July 30

- 9:00 am: Horse & Pony Show at H&P Arena.
- 9:00 am: Llama & Alpaca show in Livestock Arena.
- TBA pm: Premium handed out
- 7:00 pm: 4-H Round Robin in the Livestock Arena.

Friday, July 31

- 9:00 am: Horse & Pony Show at H&P Arena.
- 11:00 am: Ag Olympics then Color Me Green 4-H Dash then Water Slide.
- 3:00 pm: Building Project Celebration at VU Pavilion
- 5:00 pm: 10-Year Member recognition at Livestock Arena.
- 5:30 pm: 4-H Livestock Auction in the Livestock Arena.
- 10:30 pm: Livestock are released

Saturday, August 1

- 9:00 to 11:00 pm: Building projects released

Sunday, August 2

- 5:00 – 6:00 pm: Building Projects released
- 6:00 pm: Building Hall tear down

4-H Building Hours

- Monday, July 27 - Saturday, August 1:
11:00 am – 1:00 pm then 4:00 – 10:00 pm

Subject to Change!!



Purdue Extension-Knox County
4259 N Purdue Rd
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Attention: Knox County 4-H Supporters:

The Knox County 4-H Council is collecting sponsorships for the Knox County 4-H shirt & for General Donations. The Council has identified 3 levels of sponsors. Business who sponsor will be listed on the back of the 4-H shirt. Please see list below on how your business will be displayed.

- Gold: \$ 750 and up (Larger Logo. Size of logo will depend on number of sponsors.)
• Silver: \$ 500 to \$ 749 (Normal size Logo. Size of logo will depend on number of sponsors.)
• Bronze: \$ 250 to \$ 499 (Business name will be listed. No logo.)

Forms must be turned into the Extension Office before February 1, 2026 to be on the 2025-2026 4-H shirt. Please email your company's Logo to mwagone@purdue.edu.

If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at 812-882-3509.

Sincerely,
Knox County 4-H Council

Knox County 4-H Sponsorship Form



I/we would like to donate: \$ _____

Checks payable: Knox County 4-H Council

Donor Name (s) : _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Health & Human Sciences

Tonya Short, Extension Educator – Health & Human Sciences
Short43@purdue.edu www.facebook.com/KnoxCoHHS

Extension Homemakers—Updates

Next **County Council** meetings are January 5 & March 2. This meeting is for county officers, club presidents, and anyone else who cares about Knox County Extension Homemakers.



Spring District Meeting – TBA Warrick County

February, March and April have multiple activities and due dates. Please refer to your program book or contact your club president.

Club Presidents: If you have activities or announcements to include in the newsletter, get that information to Tonya by the 15th of even numbered months. E.g. Information to Tonya by June 15 for printing in the July-August newsletter.

Leftovers – Keep or Toss

If you still have leftovers from the holidays, it's time to throw them out. As a general rule, leftovers can be kept in the refrigerator for 3-4 days and in the freezer for a few months. Refrigerators should be kept at 41°F or lower. Freezers should be kept at 0°F or lower. Not keeping your fridge or freezer at the proper temperatures will result in food spoiling or otherwise going bad more quickly. Theoretically, if a food is properly frozen at 0°F it will stay safe forever; however, anyone who has been on the wrong side of freezer burn knows that keeping food frozen forever will suffer greatly in quality.

If you had a holiday meal later in the week and it's been just a day or two, leftovers can still be safely frozen. Just seal in an airtight container or freezer bag. Make sure to remove or squeeze out as much air as possible. Label with date and contents and you are good to go to the freezer. If it has already been that three- or four-day mark, I would advise against freezing the leftovers at this point.

For more information on this topic, contact the Extension office or visit the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service at www.fsis.usda.gov/food-safety/safe-food-handling-and-preparation/food-safety-basics/leftovers-and-food-safety.

Bite by Bite: Nutrition for Life Podcast

In this podcast we explore and dissect different fads and trends to discover the real science behind food and nutrition. Listen in and find out what you have been missing!

Find us on Apple podcasts, Spotify, or anywhere you listen.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @BiteByBiteNutritionForLife

Adult Mental Health First Aid

Adult Mental Health First Aid is an evidence-based course that teaches participants:

- How to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis.
- Signs and symptoms for a variety of mental health disorders such as anxiety, depression, substance use, trauma, and deliberate self-injury.
- Awareness and understanding of the impact mental health and substance use stigma can have.
- How to assist those in need to get help from a health professional.

Adult Mental Health First Aid (in-person blended course) includes:

Registration includes 2 hours online self-paced training, one full day of in-person training, a Mental Health First Aid participant manual, a Mental Health First Aid participant processing guide, refreshments and lunch.

Similar to becoming certified in CPR, there is a requirement that to be certified in Adult Mental Health First Aid, participants must attend and participate in the entire course.

COURSE DETAILS

When: March 4, 2026

Where: Welborn Community Room, 20 NW 3rd St
Evansville, IN 47708

Cost: \$130, includes above listed materials

Register by: February 18, 2026

Register or find more details at: <https://cvent.me/3xZQvZ>

Course instructors: Meagan Salomon (brotherm@purdue.edu) and Tonya Short (short43@purdue.edu)



Youth Mental Health First Aid

Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) is a skills-based training that teaches adults who work with youth how to identify, understand, and respond to signs and symptoms of mental health or substance use challenges. This program builds health literacy and offers participants a practical action plan for how to identify and address youth with a mental health or substance use challenge safely and responsibly.

Youth Mental Health First Aid (in-person blended course) includes:

Registration includes 2 hours online self-paced training, one full day of in-person training, a Mental Health First Aid participant manual, refreshments and lunch.

Similar to becoming certified in CPR, there is a requirement that to be certified in Mental Health First Aid, participants must attend and participate in the entire course.

COURSE DETAILS

When: March 3, 2026 **Register by:** February 13, 2026

Where: VU Agricultural Center, 4207 N. Purdue Rd., Vincennes, IN 47591

Cost: \$50, includes above listed materials. The registration fee for this course is offered at a discounted rate as a service to our community by Purdue Extension and funded by Glick Philanthropies.

Register or find more details at: <https://YMHFA.4honline.com>

Course instructors: Megan Hoffherr - mkron@purdue.edu; (812) 867-4935

Carla Kidwell - kidwellc@purdue.edu; (812) 897-6100

ServSafe Manager courses

ServSafe Manager Certification is an approved training in the state of Indiana to become a certified food protection manager.

ServSafe Food Handler is for anyone else who needs basic food safety and food handling training, including home-based vendors, food service workers, volunteers, or others who work with food and only need the basic training. This course is NOT intended for food service managers.

Here is information on upcoming ServSafe Manager Courses. If you have any questions, please contact Tonya at short43@purdue.edu or 812-882-3509.

When	Where	Learn more or register at
April 21, 2026	Washington	Registration to come
July 23, 2026	Vincennes	Registration to come
October 27, 2026	Washington	Registration to come

Agriculture & Natural Resources

Valerie Clingerman-Extension Educator
Agriculture & Natural Resources
clingerman@purdue.edu

****Like Purdue Extension Knox County Ag and Natural Resources on Facebook.**

****To receive monthly e-newsletters call 812-882-3509 or e-mail me to be added.**

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time (Eastern)	Location	Contact info.
Jan. 12	Commercial pesticide applicator training (pg. 10)	8:30am-3:30pm	Montgomery	Register at: https://bit.ly/cpaw2526
Jan. 30	Southwest Indiana Sprayer School (pg. 11)	8:30am-4:00pm	Vincennes	812-882-3509
Feb. 3- May 5	Statewide Virtual Master Gardener Training (pg. 11)	6:30-8:30pm	Virtual	812-882-3509
Feb. 4- May 6	Master Gardener Daviess/Knox County Connection (pg. 11)	6:00-7:00pm	Most virtual	812-882-3509
Feb. 5-6	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (Drone) Technology Program (pg. 10)	8:30am-4:00pm	Vincennes	812-882-3509
Feb. 17, 24, Mar. 3, 10	Grain Market Navigator (pg. 10)	6:30-8:30pm	Vincennes	812-882-3509
Mar. 11	CORE/Category 14 training and exam	9:30am	Evansville	Register by calling: 812-385-3491 x105

Grain Market Navigator Series

Take the guesswork out of grain marketing with this hands-on program designed to help farmers sharpen their marketing knowledge and confidence. Participants will explore the fundamentals of grain marketing and gain practical tools to use on their farms.

This program can be attended virtually or in person at the Purdue Extension-Knox County Office (4259 N Purdue Rd. Vincennes, 47591) from 6:30-8:30pm EST. We will meet Feb. 17, 24, Mar. 3, and 10. Topics will include grain marketing lingo, basis, cash vs. future, contracts, market outlook, and grain buyer panel.

Register by Feb. 12th at <https://bit.ly/GrainMarkets>. Fees for this program are \$40 per person to attend the in person program and \$55 for the virtual option.

Commercial Applicator Pesticide Applicator Workshops

Purdue Extension is hosting a series of Commercial Pesticide Applicator Workshops across the state. This is a great opportunity to gain continuing education credits for multiple commercial pesticide applicator categories. The program will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The closest site will be in Montgomery on January 12th at the Daviess Co. Produce Auction. Registration is \$80 and includes lunch.

Credits available are:

Six (6) credits each: 2, 3A, 7A, 7B, & 11

Five (5) credits each: 1, 3B, 4, 5, 6, 7D, & 8

Four (4) credits: RT

One (1) credit: 12, 14

Agenda topics:

Pesticide Controversy, Emergency Prep, Plant and Pest Diagnostic Lab, Office of the Indiana State Chemist Updates, and Weather for Decision Making

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/AllCategoriesMontgomery>.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (Drone) Technology Program



Purdue Extension-Knox County will be hosting a drone technology program that prepares participants to take the FAA Part 107 remote pilot exam. Participants also learn camera settings, flight plans, recordkeeping, image troubleshooting, emergency preparation and more. They will also get a hands-on opportunity to fly different drones (weather permitting).

This class will be offered Feb. 5-6, 2026 from 8:30am to 4:00pm eastern at the Southwest Purdue Agriculture Center (4669 N Purdue Rd. Vincennes, 47591). Registration is due by Jan. 26 by calling the Extension Office (812-882-3509) and payment (\$200) is due by Jan. 28th.

Southwest Indiana Sprayer School

This program is designed for any farmer or custom applicator applying pesticides. Participants will learn about sprayer safety, weed identification, Office of the Indiana State Chemist updates, troubleshooting sprayer issues, sprayer drone application, and tank compatibility and mixing. This program will meet at the VU Agriculture Center (4207 Purdue Rd. Vincennes 47591) on Jan. 30 from 8:30am-3:30pm and doors will open at 8:00am.

Registration and the \$50 fee are due by Jan. 21, register at tinyurl.com/26SprayerSchool. Please make checks payable to Purdue University and mail to Purdue Extension-Knox County (4259 N Purdue Rd. Vincennes, IN 47591).

PARP, CCH, and CEU credits have been applied for.

Statewide Virtual Master Gardener Training



There will be a Statewide Virtual Purdue EMG Basic Training from February 3 – May 5, 2026. Many counties have come together to offer this program which includes a local county connection hour. The statewide live webinars will be held Tuesdays, from 6:30 – 8:30 pm (ET)/5:30 – 7:30 pm (CT).

In Knox and Daviess Counties, the local county connection hour will be virtual on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm eastern each week, except Feb. 25th will be in-person and there will be an in-person graduation celebration on May 13th.

Topics will include plant science, soils, invasive species, plant disease, insects, weeds, animal pests, pesticide safety, fruit and vegetable gardening, herbaceous and woody ornamentals, and lawn care. To learn more about the Purdue Master Gardener Program visit <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/>.

Application and Registration Information (Two-Step Process to participate)

Please read the Purdue Extension Master Gardener Program Policy Guide and complete, sign, and return the Purdue Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Application and Agreement (Form EMG-1) to Purdue Extension-Knox County. You may download the policy guide here: <https://extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/mg/mg-5-w.pdf> or contact the Extension Office to receive a copy. The Purdue EMG Application and Approval Form (Form EMG-1) can be found here: <https://extension.purdue.edu/county/knox/knox-anr-educator.html> All applicants are also required to show evidence of a government issued photo ID to your local EMG County Coordinator or designated Purdue Extension staff prior to approval of their application. Virtual options or an in-person appointment can be utilized to complete this requirement.

The application deadline is **January 14, 2026, 11:59 pm (ET)**.

Step 2: Registration and payment of fees through online registration portal

Upon approval of your application and providing evidence of government issued photo ID, an online registration link will be sent to you.

- \$185.00 for an individual registration which includes a print version of the Purdue EMG Manual.
- \$290.00 for two people sharing the Purdue EMG Manual. (*Sharing option works best for two people living in the same household.*)

Contact Valerie Clingerman, clingerman@purdue.edu or 812-882-3509 with questions.



Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service
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4259 North Purdue Rd.
Vincennes, IN 47591

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4-H INSPIRES KIDS TO DO



4-H'ers participate in

4-H programs are grounded in the belief that kids learn best by doing.

Kids complete hands-on projects in areas like science, health, agriculture, civic engagement, and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles.



5M
ANNUALLY
SCIENCE
PROJECTS



2.5M
ANNUALLY
HEALTHY LIVING
PROJECTS



2.5M
ANNUALLY
CITIZENSHIP
PROJECTS

See page 2 for information on how to enroll your youth in 4-H!

This Purdue Extension-Knox County newsletter is sponsored by Knox County 4-H Council.

Look inside for Agriculture & Natural Resource, Health and Human Science, and 4-H updates.

