

EXTENSION CONNECTION



4-H

ANR

HHS



MAY-JUNE

2025

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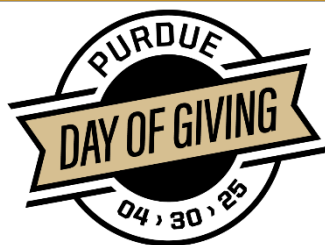
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We need your support!! Wednesday, April 30th is the Purdue Day of Giving. 100% of all gifts given on April 30th through the link below will stay right here in Whitley County and help support the programming put on by our office.

The dollars from these gifts will be used to support the following projects:

- Purchase 5 more laptops to help us expand our youth STEM programming
- Purchase 2 more iPads to help us expand our youth STEM programming
- Help us purchase more small kitchen appliances and supplies to use with youth & adults through our cooking programs and workshops
- Help us put on STEM Fest 2026 and other day camp opportunities for youth in the coming year
- Purchase more STEM equipment so that we can expand our reach and impact with youth in our community

Would you consider supporting us with at least a \$10 gift?

Go here on

Wednesday, April 30th

to support

Whitley County Purdue Extension:

<https://bit.ly/whitleycountyPDOG2025>



Mandatory 4-H Fair Dates:

May 15 ~ Animal Identification Due
May 15 ~ Bred, Born & Raised Forms Due
June 1 – July 1 ~ FairEntry Sign-Up Dates
July 1 ~ Add 4-H Projects Deadline
July 1 ~ 4-H QLC or YQCA Certifications Due



Todd John Brittney Jacki Lisa Candy Stacy

4-H Fair Entertainment – Grandstand

July 11 – 7:00 pm – Tough Truck
July 12 – 7:00 pm – Demolition Derby
July 13 – 3:00 pm – Garden Tractor Pull and
Local Truck Pull to follow
July 14 – 7:00 pm – All Gone Blue Concert
July 15 – 7:00 pm – Farmer Olympics
July 16 – 7:00 pm – Powder Puff/Re-Run Derby
Events/Dates/Times subject to change!

Fish & Tenderloin Fry Silent Auction & Fun Night – May 3

Join us for the 34th Annual 4-H Fun Night at the 4-H Center on May 3rd from 4-7pm, provided by Dan's Fish Fry. Join us for fried fish, breaded tenderloin, grilled loin, baked beans, applesauce, and cookies! \$14 for adults and carry-out, \$8 for kids 5-12 years old, and under 5 free. The Council will be holding their silent auction, and leaders and hosting kids carnival games! Enjoy a fun night with the family!

101th Annual Whitley County 4-H Fair Planned for July 11-17, 2025

Come see us at the 101th Annual Whitley County 4-H Fair. Admission to the fair is FREE and there is no charge for parking.

Local vendors are excited to be back in our commercial building, and don't forget to stop in and check out the Ag Museum and Learning Centers, as well as the antique tractor display. See a portion of the pre-fair and schedule of events below:

June 26

6-8 pm – Bicycle Contest - Commercial Building

June 28

8 am-12 pm – Bicycle Contest – Commercial Bldg.
9 am – 4-H Tractor Driving Contest – Fairgrounds
1 pm – Cat Show – 4-H Center

June 30

6 pm – Little Miss & Miss Whitley County
Scholarship Program – First Church of God

July 5

10 am – Fashion Revue – Peabody Library
11 am – Consumer Clothing – Peabody Library

July 8

7-9 am – Non-Perishable Projects Check-in – 4-H Center

10 am – Non-Perishable Projects Judging – 4-H Center

July 9

7-9 am – Perishable & Mini Projects Check-in – 4-H Center
10 am – Perishable & Mini Projects Judging – 4-H Center

July 11

8 am-5 pm – Poultry Com. Show/Showmanship – Small Arena
8 am-12:30pm – Dairy Show – Large Show Arena
9 am – Horse & Pony English Show – Horse Arena
12-3 pm – Foods Auction – 4-H Center
1-4 pm – Sheep Show – Large Show Arena



5-8:30 pm – Meat Goat Show – Large Show Arena

July 12

8 am-5 pm – Rabbit Show – Small Animal Arena
8 am-4 pm – Swine Show – Large Show Arena
9 am – Horse & Pony Western Show – Horse Arena
5-6 pm – Goat Olympics – Small Show Arena
6 pm – Mini 4-H Extravaganza – Large Show Arena

July 13

9 am – Worship Service – Ag Museum
10 am-3 pm – Beef Show – Large Show Arena
10 am-6 pm – Poultry Exhibition Show – Small Show Arena
4 pm – Horse & Pony Contesting – Horse Arena
5-6:30 pm – Parade of Champions/10-Yr Recognition – Large Show Arena

6:30 pm – Fashion Revue – Large Show Arena

July 14

8 am-3 pm – Dairy Goat Show – Large Show Arena
4-7 pm – Dairy Steer Show – Large Show Arena

July 15

8 am-6 pm – Dairy Steer/Feeder Calf Showmanship and
Feeder Calf Show – Large Show Arena
3 pm – Horse & Pony Fun Show – Horse Arena
5:30-6:30 pm – Parade – 4-H Fairgrounds

July 16

8:30-11:30 am – Mini Mentor Livestock Showcase – Large Show Arena
1-5 pm – Supreme Showman – Large Show Arena
7-10 pm – 4-H/Mini Projects Released – 4-H Center

July 17

10 am- 6 pm – Livestock Auction – Large Show Arena

July 18

9 am – Livestock Barns/Fairgrounds and 4-H Center Cleanup

4-H FAIR DATES AND TIMES
ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

**MASTER GARDENERS
GARDEN WALK
JUNE 28**



The Whitley County Master Gardeners' Garden Walk is an event many local individuals look forward to each year. Event participants will view gardens in the southeast Whitley County area. Pre-sale tickets are \$10. Register through the registration link at: <https://www.mastergardenerswc.com/home>. A mail-in form is also available, or it can be dropped off in person at the Extension office. Tickets must be purchased prior to the event.

The WC Master Gardeners will be available at each garden to answer questions or provide tours.

See QR Code for more details.



The 4-H Center NEEDS a new roof! We have made the down payment and roof replacement will be happening this spring. Would you like to help us fund this project?

Scan here to make an online donation, or mail your donation to Whitley County 4-H Clubs, Inc. at 524 Branch Court Columbia City, IN 46725



2025 Adult Open Show

Plan now to share your talents in the 35th Annual Open Class exhibits during the 2025 Whitley County 4-H Fair sponsored by the Whitley County Extension Homemakers. Entries will be accepted on Wednesday, July 9, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. and Thursday, July 10, 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. (judging starts at 10:15 a.m.) in the west room of the 4-H Center and they will be released on Wednesday, July 16, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Call the Extension Office for a registration form or visit our website: www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley

Adult Open Show divisions include:

Candy: Fudge, Peanut Brittle, Fancy Chocolates and Other Candies

Crafts: Baskets, Caning, Ceramics, Christmas Ornaments, Coloring,

Decorated Clothing, Decorative Painting, Diamond Painting, Dolls, Floral Crafts, Gingerbread Houses, Jewelry, Leather, Macramé, Rugs, Scrapbooking, Soft Sculpture, Stamping, Weaving, Wreaths and Miscellaneous

Fine Arts: Paintings, Drawings and Miscellaneous

Foods: Cakes, Decorated Cakes, Pies, Cookies, Quick Breads, Muffins, Yeast Breads, Snacks and Brownies

Food Preservation: Jams & Jellies, Pickles & Relishes, Fruits, Tomatoes, Vegetables and Dried Foods

Flowers: Container Plants, Dried Arrangements, Single Stem, Fresh Arrangements and Artificial Arrangements

Herbs: Fresh, Herbal Design and Container Herbs

Needlework: Counted Cross Stitch, Crochet, Knitting, Crewel, Embroidery, Needlepoint and Miscellaneous

Photography: Color, Black & White and Miscellaneous

Quilting: Small Patchwork, Baby Quilts and Miscellaneous

Sewing: Children's Item, Dresses, Suits & Jackets and Miscellaneous

Vegetables: (1) Vegetable and (5) Vegetables

Redesigning: Creative ways to Redo, Reuse, Remake or Re-design items you no longer use for their original purpose.

Woodcrafts: Woodcarving and Woodworking

"Apple - A - Licious" – Special Foods Contest

This will be the 11th year that the Whitley County Extension Homemakers are sponsoring their special foods contest in the 4-H Center (west side) at the Whitley County Fairgrounds on Saturday, July 12, 2025. Each year there is a different focus, 2025 being apples. This event is free; open to all ages and open to the public. You must be a Whitley County resident to participate.

Entries accepted: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm; **Judging:** 12:30 pm; **Winners Announced:** When judging is complete

Grand Prize: \$25.00; **Class Winner:** 4-H Fair Food Coupon; **Participants:** Ice Cream Coupon

Guidelines:

- 1) All entries must include APPLE and a RECIPE CARD (include participate name, ingredients and directions for the item you are entering).
- 2) There is no limit on the amount of entries per participant.
- 3) Entries will not be returned to participant. Entries will be used as the cake walk prizes that will begin immediately following judging.
- 4) Classes are: cake, cookies, breads, bars/brownies, jams/jellies/spreads, pies, candies, snacks, and miscellaneous.

For a registration form or more information, contact committee chairwoman, Vickie Fleischauer (260-609-4942) or the Extension Office at 260-244-7615 or you may email bishop87@puurdue.edu or go online at: www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley



Extension Homemaker Happenings



Date	Event	Time	Location
May			
6	President's Council Meeting.....	9:30 a.m.....	Extension Office
26	Office Closed for Memorial Day		
26	Club dues are due to Janet Hindbaugh		
June			
10	President's Council Meeting.....	9:30 a.m.....	Extension Office
2-4	IEHA Home & Family Conference		Noblesville , IN
19	Office Closed for Juneteenth		
26	July-August Newsletter Mailing: Double Dozen and Evening Bells.....	10:00 a.m.....	Extension Office



Thank you to these Extension Homemakers who folded and labeled the March-April Extension Connection: Jefferson Club – Sharon Raypole and Dorothy Eberly and Tawasi – LuAnn Workman.

Club Dues

Whitley County Extension Homemaker Clubs, please have your dues to Janet Hindbaugh by May 26.

Extension Homemakers Cookbook

The Whitley County Extension Homemakers cookbook are available to purchase at the Extension Office for \$10.00. This cookbook has Whitley County Extension Homemaker and other recipes. Please bring correct change if you are purchasing a cookbook or make checks payable to: Whitley County Extension Homemakers. They will be available to purchase at the Whitley County 4-H Fair from July 11 – 16 at the 4-H Center.



THANK YOU to the Extension Homemakers who held leadership positions this year:

2024-2025 County Officers: President – Karen Hall, Vice-President – Donna Batchelder, Secretary – Vickie Fleischauer, Treasurer – Janet Hindbaugh

2024-2025 Club Presidents: Club 21 – Judy Rhoads, Double Dozen – Ada Mae Rebman, Evening Bells – Sally Hull, Jefferson – Dorothy Eberly, Tawasi – Marsha Hoffman and Union Busy Bells – Donna Batchelder.

Continued from page 5...HHS Page

Pasta Primavera Recipe Source: Myplate.gov; Serves 3 people

Ingredients:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1 cup of noodles, <i>uncooked</i> | 1 tablespoon margarine |
| 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil | 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder |
| 2 cups mixed fresh vegetables, <i>chopped</i> (broccoli, carrots, peppers, etc.) | 1/8 teaspoon black pepper |
| | 3 tablespoons Parmesan cheese |
| 1 cup tomatoes, <i>cut in half</i> | Black olives, <i>cut in half</i> |

Instructions:

1. Wash hands with soap and water.
2. Cook noodles according to package directions.
3. While noodles are cooking, heat oil in a skillet.
4. Add vegetables and sauté until tender; stir constantly.
5. Add tomato and sauté 2 more minutes.
6. Toss vegetables with noodles and margarine.
7. Add seasonings; sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.



President's Council Meetings

May 6 AND June 10 - 9:30 a.m. at the Extension Office

IEHA Home & Family Conference

Registration deadline is May 1 for IEHA Home and Family Conference that is June 2-4 at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in Noblesville IN. Register online at: <https://form.jotform.com/iehawebste/hfc25> and print off form or call the Extension Office at 260-244-7615.

What Are Extension Homemakers, You Ask?

Extension Homemakers are an Indiana statewide organization, begun in 1913. Whitley County's group was organized in 1924 as a Women's Auxiliary of the Farm Bureau. A constitution was drawn up and accepted on July 2 of this year and stayed in effect until 1952 at which time anyone could become a member not just those affiliated with the Farm Bureau. Further revisions were made in 1972 in order to comply with the Civil Rights Laws of Membership Affirmative Action and remains in effect today.

Whitley County Extension Homemakers, in 1924, consisted of 9 clubs with 243 members. The objectives of this group back then were educational in nature and served to promote the advancement of home and community life along with encouraging children to achieve the highest ideals in citizenship through the 4-H program.

Along with the educational aspect, fund raising projects were begun in the late 1960's by serving meals to community groups with profits used for a variety of activities. Today, fundraising is predominantly focused on scholarships for high school seniors and an assortment of other community service projects.

Extension Homemakers have always been involved with the 4-H Fair. The early groups began serving food in the shelter house with a menu consisting of hot beef, hot dogs, sloppy joes and have become known for their pies. A fund to build a new building was begun, and in 1953, the 4-H Center, we know today, opened complete with a new kitchen to prepare food for the fair. The favorite hot beef sandwiches and homemade pies continue to be served and a variety of daily dinners were added to the menu. To this day, the Extension Homemakers still volunteer to cook and serve food for the fair.

Today, many annual functions (some begun over 20 years ago), bring in the needed revenue to finance projects such as: 4-H Fair Adult Open Show, Holiday Craft Bazaar and the spring and fall Garage Sale are the biggest.

It is interesting, but concerning, to note that in 1951, the statewide membership in Extension Homemakers was 58,800 individuals consisting of 2,220 clubs; however, in 2020, that number has dwindled to only 6,664 members throughout the state. In order to become a bigger presence in our community and be of service to all, it has become necessary to focus on increasing our membership.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN there are no requirements. Currently, Whitley County has 6 clubs in 6 townships. Please note: This is an equal opportunity organization.

INTERESTED??? Contact the Extension Office at 260-244-7615.



What is HHS?

What is HHS? Health & Human Sciences (HHS) focuses on improving individual and community well-being through areas like foods/nutrition, health/wellness, family dynamics, and financial literacy. The program empowers residents to make informed choices for healthier, more fulfilling lives.

Who oversees the HHS program in Whitley County? In Whitley County, the HHS program is led by Brittney Schori, a Purdue Extension Educator who works closely with local organizations to offer educational programs that meet the needs of the community.

New Website: Easier Access to Resources! The HHS website has been revamped for easier navigation, providing quick access to events, resources, and educational materials. Whether you're looking for nutrition tips, wellness programs, or financial advice, it's all available in one place. To learn more about what this program looks like in the county, visit

<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/whitley/hhs.html>

Upcoming Workshops That Are Open to the Public

May 2, May 12, May 28, June 4, June 23 and June 30 (all at 10 AM) - Chair-Based Exercise & Education Class at Woodlands Senior Activity Center (no need to register)

May 29 - Air Fryer Workshop at Peabody Public Library (register by calling the library)

June 5 at 10 AM - CHAMPS Taskforce meeting

*For more information about classes, contact Brittney at the Purdue Extension Office.

Community Health Members Providing Solutions

(CHAMPS) next meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 5, at 10 AM**. For additional details about the meeting location or to learn more about the task force, please contact Brittney Schori at bpender@purdue.edu.

CHAMPS is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for Whitley County residents by fostering collaboration between local agencies to address health and wellness needs. Our mission is to support agency collaboration to improve the community's overall well-being. With a vision to create opportunities for all residents to thrive, CHAMPS works to ensure access to quality programs and resources that promote health and community engagement. Additionally, Whitley County CHAMPS publishes educational fact sheets every month, providing valuable information on various health-related topics. These fact sheets can be found by visiting the Purdue Extension Whitley County website.

Recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month

Source: Mental Health America

Did you know that May is **Mental Health Awareness Month**? Over the years, mental health has gone from being a subject that many people avoid to one that is receiving more attention and understanding. Recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month helps remind people that they are not alone in their struggles. **1 in 5 adults** experience a diagnosed mental health condition each year, which accounts for **20% of the adult population**. This is a significant issue that many individuals face quietly, but by raising awareness, we can show that help and support are available.

Here are a few key facts to further emphasize the importance of mental health awareness:

- 46% of Americans will meet the criteria for a diagnosable mental health condition at some point in their life, with half of these individuals developing their conditions by the age of 14.
- Anxiety disorders are among the most common mental health conditions in the United States, affecting 42.5 million adults.
- 22.5 million adults in the U.S. have been diagnosed with major depression.



If you or someone you know is seeking mental health support in Whitley County, several local resources are available:

- **Bowen Health** (formerly Bowen Center) offers comprehensive mental health services, including crisis intervention, addiction recovery, and life skills support. They have recently partnered with local law enforcement and courts to provide a mental health response program aimed at connecting individuals to treatment and reducing court involvement. For more information, visit Bowen Health or call their crisis line at (800) 342-5653.

- **Parkview Behavioral Health Institute** provides inpatient and outpatient care for mental health and substance use issues. They offer 24/7 assessments and a range of treatment options. Contact them at (800) 284-8439 or visit Parkview Behavioral Health.

- **Helpline of Whitley County** is a local referral service assisting individuals and families in need of emergency assistance and resources. Reach them at (260) 248-2601.

- **Psychology Today** offers a directory of licensed therapists in Whitley County, allowing individuals to find mental health professionals based on specific needs and preferences. Explore available therapists at Psychology Today - Whitley County.

By increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, we can break the stigma and encourage individuals to seek help when needed. Let's continue to support one another and create an environment where mental health is recognized as an essential part of overall well-being.

Be Water-Wise: Trips for Staying Safe Aroung Water

Source: The American Red Cross



Did you know that drowning is the fourth leading cause of death in children aged 1-4 and the third leading cause in children aged 5-14? Staying safe around water, especially in the summertime, is essential in preventing these tragic accidents. Whether you're at a pool, beach, or lake, it's important to be aware of potential hazards and take precautions to protect yourself and others. Here are some key tips to follow before you jump in:

- **Know the risks** of your environment. Be aware of hazards like rip currents, deep water, water temperature, and underwater dangers such as vegetation or animals.

- **Swim in areas where lifeguards are present.** Having a trained lifeguard on duty can provide an extra layer of safety in case of emergencies.

- **Wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket** when boating or swimming in unfamiliar waters. Children should always wear a lifejacket, regardless of their swimming ability.

- **Never swim alone.** Always swim with someone or ensure that someone is watching you from shore. It's especially important for children to never swim alone.

- **Assess your fitness level** and any medications you may be taking that could impair your ability to swim or respond to emergencies.

- **Be familiar with emergency procedures** and know what to do if someone is in distress. If a child is missing, always check the water first, as drowning can happen quickly and silently.

- **Alert the lifeguard** if one is present, especially if someone seems to be in trouble.

It's also important to recognize the signs of someone in trouble. A swimmer may need immediate help if they:

- Are unable to make forward progress in the water;
- Are vertical but unable to move or tread water;
- Are motionless and face down in the water.

In these situations, rescue the person from the water if it's safe to do so, and immediately call emergency services. Begin CPR if necessary. By following these simple but essential safety tips, you can help ensure a safe and enjoyable time in the water for everyone.

4-H Youth Development

Todd Geiger, Extension Educator



PLEASE CONTACT YOUR TOWNSHIP CLUB AND/OR YOUR PROJECT CLUB LEADER TO KEEP UP TO DATE ON IMPORTANT 4-H INFORMATION AND HOW YOUR LEADER IS KEEPING IN CONTACT WITH CLUB MEMBERS.

Date/Event	(MAY 4-H CALENDAR – ALL DATES/EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)	Time	Location
1	EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS, HESTER ADAMS, JIM TEGHTMEYER, LESTER & JOY WORRICK, HELPING HANDS ENDOWMENT FUND and B.V. WIDNEY AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATIONS DUE.....	4:30 p.m.	EXTENSION OFFICE
1	ADULT AWARDS NOMINATION FORMS DUE.....	4:30 p.m.	EXTENSION OFFICE
1	Shooting Sports - BB & Air Pistol Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Commercial Building
3	Horse & Pony Vaccination.....	9:00 p.m.	4-H Fairgrounds
3	4-H Fish & Tenderloin Fry/Fun Night/Silent Auction.....	4:00-7:00 p.m.	4-H Center
5	Bicycle Club Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.	4-H Middle Room
5	Cat Club Meeting.....	6:45 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
6	Shooting Sports – Archery Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Commercial Building
7	Dairy Club Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
7	Shooting Sports - Shotgun Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Ideal Fish & Game - Churubusco
8	Jr. Leaders Gathering.....	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
8	Shooting Sports - BB & Air Pistol Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Commercial Building
8	Smith Worker Bees Meeting.....	2:00 p.m.	Collins Methodist Church
9	ARBA Rabbit Show Set-Up.....	6:00 p.m.	Comm Bldg – 4-H Fairgrounds
9	Goat Tagging.....	6:00-7:30 p.m.	Dairy Steer Feeder Calf Barn
9	Scrapbooking Club Workshop.....	6:30-8:30 p.m.	The Refuge Church, So. Whitley
9	Sheep Tagging.....	6:00-7:30 p.m.	Dairy Barn
10	ARBA Rabbit Show.....	9:00 a.m.	Comm Bldg – 4-H Fairgrounds
12	Etna Troy Hustlers Meeting.....	6:30 p.m.	Etna Troy Community Building
12	4-H Leaders/4-H Council Meeting.....	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center
13	4-H Clubs, Inc. Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.	Ag Museum
13	QLC Training.....	6:00 p.m.	4-H Center
13	Shooting Sports - Archery Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Commercial Building
14	Dairy Steer Feeder Calf Club Meeting.....	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
14	Poultry Club Blood Testing & Banding.....	5:00 p.m.	Poultry Barn – 4-H Fairgrounds
14	Poultry Club Meeting/Workshop.....	7:00 p.m.	Poultry Barn – 4-H Fairgrounds
14	Shooting Sports – Shotgun Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Ideal Fish & Game - Churubusco
15	ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION (All ANIMALS).....	MIDNIGHT	4-H Online
15	ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION FORM FOR POULTRY ONLY.....	MIDNIGHT	Extension Office
15	DAIRY AND HORSE & PONY LEASE AGREEMENTS DUE.....		Extension Office
15	BEEF, GOAT AND SWINE BRED, BORN & RAISED FORMS DUE.....		Specie Club Leader
15	Columbia Peaches Meeting.....	6:30-7:30 p.m.	4-H Ctr. Middle Rm
15	Richland Ramblers Meeting.....	6:30-7:30 p.m.	Larwill Fire Station
15	Shooting Sports - Rifle Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Ideal Fish & Game-Churubusco
15	Thorncreek Northern Stars Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
17	Mini 4-H Workshop.....	10:00-11:30 p.m.	4-H Center
18	Rabbit Ambassador Contest/Workshop.....	2:00 p.m.	Rabbit Barn – 4-H Fairgrounds
19	Cleveland Showmen Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.	South Whitley Town Hall
19	Jefferson Hustlers Meeting.....	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Jefferson Twp. Fire Station
19	Smith Harvesters Meeting.....	6:30 p.m.	Churubusco Fire Station
19	Union Sodbusters Meeting.....	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
20	Horse & Pony Club Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
20	Rabbit Club Barn Clean-Up.....	6:00 p.m.	Rabbit Barn – 4-H Fairgrounds
20	Shooting Sports – Archery Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Commercial Building
21	Shooting Sprots – Shotgun Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Ideal Fish & Game - Churubusco
22	Shooting Sports – Rifle Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Ideal Fish & Game - Churubusco
22	Swine Club Meeting & Workshop/Show Set-up.....	6:30 p.m.	Swine & Show Barn
22	Thorncreek Sons of the Soil Meeting.....	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
24	Bicycle Club Ride.....	8:00 a.m.	4-H Center Parking Lot
24	Scrapbooking Club Workshop.....	9:00-11:30 a.m.	The Refuge Church, So. Whitley
24-25	Whitley County Memorial Weekend Extravaganza Swine Show.....		4-H Fairgrounds
26	MEMORIAL DAY.....	CLOSED	EXTENSION OFFICE
27	Goat Club Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
27	Shooting Sports – Archery Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Commercial Building



Date/Event (MAY 4-H CALENDAR – CONTINUED)			Time	Location
28	Bicycle Club Time Trial.....	5:30 p.m.....	Indian Springs Middle School	
28	Mini 4-H Bicycle Project Ride.....	6:00 p.m.....	4-H Center Parking Lot	
28	Shooting Sports - Shotgun Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.....	Ideal Fish & Game – Churubusco	
29	Shooting Sports – Rifle Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.....	Ideal Fish & Game - Churubusco	
30	Horse & Pony Clinic.....	3:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena – 4-H Fairgrounds	
31	Bicycle Club Ride.....	8:00 a.m.....	4-H Center Parking Log	
31	Horse & Pony Clinic.....	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena – 4-H Fairgrounds	
Date/Event (JUNE 4-H CALENDAR – ALL DATES/EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)			Time	Location
1	Horse & Pony Clinic.....	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena – 4-H Fairgrounds	
2	Bicycle Club Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.....	4-H Center Middle Room	
2	Cat Club Meeting.....	6:45 p.m.....	4-H Center West Room	
2	Horse & Pony Beginner Workshop.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena – 4-H Fairgrounds	
3	Horse & Pony Safety Ed & Workshop.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena	
3	Shooting Sports - Archery Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.....	Commercial Building	
4	Bicycle Club Time Trial.....	5:30 p.m.....	Indian springs Middle School	
4	Horse & Pony Open Practice.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena	
4	Shooting Sports - Shotgun Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.....	Ideal Fish & Game-Churubusco	
5	Horse & Pony Contesting.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena	
5	Mini 4-H Bicycle Project Ride.....	6:00 p.m.....	4-H Center Parking Lot	
5	Shooting Sports – Rifle Meeting.....	6:30-8:00 p.m.....	Ideal Fish & Game – Churubusco	
7	Bicycle Club Ride.....	8:00 a.m.....	4-H Center Parking Lot	
8	Smith Worker Bees Meeting.....	2:00 p.m.....	Collins Methodist Church	
9	4-H Leadership Meeting.....	6:00 p.m.....	4- H Center	
9	4-H Leaders/4-H Council Meeting.....	6:30 p.m.....	4-H Center	
9	Horse & Pony Beginner Workshop.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena	
10	Columbia Peaches Meeting.....	6:30-7:30 p.m.....	4-H Ctr. West Rm	
10	Horse & Pony Safety Ed & Workshop	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena	
10	Shooting Sports - Archery Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.....	Commercial Bldg.	
11	Bicycle Club Time Trial.....	5:30 p.m.....	Indian Springs Middle School	
11	Horse & Pony Open Practice.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena	
11	Mini 4-H Bicycle Project Ride.....	6:00 p.m.....	4-H Center Parking Lot	
11	Shooting Sports – Shotgun Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.....	Ideal Fish & Game - Churubusco	
12	Dairy Club Workshop.....	TBD.....	IN Holstein Show at Fairgrounds	
12	Horse & Pony Contesting.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena	
12	Jr. Leaders Gathering.....	6:30 a.m.....	4-H Center West Room	
12	Shooting Sports – Rifle Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.....	Ideal Fish & Game – Churubusco	
13	Scrapbooking Club Workshop.....	6:30-8:30 p.m.....	The Refuge Church, So. Whitley	
14	Dairy Club Workshop.....	TBD.....	IN Holstein Show at Fairgrounds	
14	Bicycle Club Ride.....	8:00 a.m.....	4-H Center Parking Lot	
16	JULY & AUGUST NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE.....	4:30 p.m.....	Extension Office	
16	Horse & Pony Beginner Workshop.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena – 4-H Fairgrounds	
16	Smith Harvesters Meeting/Pizza Party.....	6:30 p.m.....	Churubusco Fire Station	
16	Union Sodbusters Meeting.....	6:30 p.m.....	Kuehnert Milk House-Ft. Wayne	
17	Horse & Pony Meeting/Safety Ed & Workshop.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena – 4-H Fairgrounds	
17	Rabbit Club Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.....	4-H Center West Room	
17	Shooting Sports – Archery Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.....	Commercial Building	
18	Bicycle Club Time Trial.....	5:30 p.m.....	Indian Springs Mid. School	
18	Dairy Steer Feeder Calf Club Meeting/Workshop.....	6:30 p.m.....	Show Barn – 4-H Fairgrounds	
18	Horse & Pony Open Practice.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena	
18	Mini 4-H Bicycle Project Ride.....	6:00 p.m.....	4-H Center Parking Log	
18	Poultry Club Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.....	4-H Center Middle Room	
19	JUNETEENTH.....	CLOSED.....	EXTENSION OFFICE	
19	Beef Club Meeting/Barn Beautification.....	5:00 p.m.....	Beef Barn – 4-H Fairgrounds	
19	Horse & Pony Contesting.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena	
19	Shooting Sports – Rifle Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.....	Ideal Fish & Game – Churubusco	
19	Swine Club Meeting/Workshop.....	6:30 p.m.....	Show Barn – 4-H Fairgrounds	
21	Bicycle Club Ride.....	8:00 a.m.....	4-H Center Parking Lot	
21	Mini 4-H Day Camp.....	10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.....	4-H Center	
21	Etna Troy Hustlers Meeting/Community Service.....	9:00 a.m.....	Etna Troy Community Building	
21	Poultry Club Blood Testing & Banding/Barn Beautification.....	9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.....	Poultry Barn – 4-H Fairgrounds	
21	Sheep Club Meeting/Workshop & Barn Beautification.....	9:00 a.m.....	Show Barn – 4-H Fairgrounds	



Date/Event (JUNE 4-H CALENDAR..... CONTINUED)

	Time	Location
23 Horse & Pony Beginner Workshop.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena – 4-H Fairgrounds
24 Goat Club Meeting Meeting/Workshop.....	7:00 p.m.....	Show Barn
24 Horse & Pony Open Practice/Safety Ed & Workshop	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena
24 Shooting Sports - Archery Meeting.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.....	Commercial Bldg.
25 Horse & Pony Contesting.....	5:00-8:00 p.m.....	Horse Arena
26 Bicycle Contest.....	6:00-8:00 p.m.....	Commercial Bldg.
26 Thorncreek Sons of the Soil Meeting.....	6:30 p.m.....	4-H Ctr. West Room
27 Cat Club Set-Up.....	6:45 p.m.....	4-H Center
27 Tractor Driving Contest Practice.....	7:00 p.m.....	4-H Fairgrounds
28 Tractor Driving Contest.....	9:00 a.m.-Noon.....	4-H Fairgrounds
28 Bicycle Contest.....	8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.....	Commercial Bldg.
28 4-H Cat Show.....	1:00 p.m.....	4-H Center
30 Bicycle Club Meeting.....	7:00 p.m.....	4-H Center
30 COUNTY-WIDE TOWNSHIP CLUB MEETING.....	6:30 p.m.....	4-H Center

FAIR
COMING SOON!

Updates & Reminders

Welcome New Members

Welcome to 4-H! You are now a member of the world's largest youth organization. You are part of the 850+ Whitley County Youth that belong to 4-H. The Extension Connection is one effort to give you information about projects and meetings/activities. Be sure to read it through carefully so you do not miss out!

If you have questions about the 4-H program in general, projects, or activities, make sure to:

- Attend Meetings
- Ask your 4-H Township Club Leader/4-H Project Leader
- Check in the 2025 Rule Book and/or Project Manuals
- Check the Whitley County 4-H Hub at <https://bit.ly/whitleycounty4-Hhub> or call the Extension Office at (260) 244- 7615 or (260) 625-3313

4-H Leadership Team Meeting

All 4-H Leaders, 4-H Council members, 4-H Clubs, Inc. members, project leaders, advisory committee members, 4-H parents and youth, Ag Museum supporters, Extension Homemakers and 4-H supporters are invited to our 12th annual 4-H Leadership Team meeting on Monday, June 9th, 6:00 p.m. This meeting will be held at the 4-H Center on the Whitley County 4-H fairgrounds.

The focus of this meeting will be the Whitley County 4-H Fair. We will discuss rules, schedules, events, volunteers, expectations, challenges, what has been done, what needs to be done and looking forward. The goal of this meeting is to offer the best Whitley County 4-H Fair ever!!! If you would

like to attend or have an item you would like to share or have discussed, please communicate with one of the Extension Educators at (260) 244-7615 or (260) 625-3313.

Attention to all 4-H

Families...2025 4-H Animal

Identification Deadline!!



May 15th:
Online 4-H animal
identification for
ALL animals:

Go to <https://v2.4honline.com> to enroll these animals by May 15th. Please see instructions on the Whitley County 4-H Hub at <https://bit.ly/whitleycounty4-Hhub> or contact the Extension Office at (260) 244-7615. **Please follow all steps of the instructions and do not wait until the last minute!**

For Poultry: An Animal Identification paper form must be completed and returned to the Extension Office by May 15th. Forms are available at the Extension Office or can be printed from Whitley County 4-H Hub at <https://bit.ly/whitleycounty4-Hhub>.

Do not confuse the Animal Identification Form with the Animal Record Sheet – the Record Sheet is due at Record Book deadline on July 1st and turned in to the Extension Office by 7:00 p.m.

Stop at the Extension Office or go to the Whitley County 4-H Hub at <https://bit.ly/whitleycounty4-Hhub> for the necessary forms that you will need to take your livestock project to the 4-H Fair. Please make sure you have the following:

2025 FAIR DATES

Whitley County 4-H Fair:
July 11-17

Indiana State Fair:
August 1 - 17



- Bred, Born and Raised Form (if applicable) due to Livestock Leader by May 15th.

Websites to Know

Whitley County 4-H Hub:

<https://bit.ly/whitleycounty4-Hhub>

Purdue Extension – Whitley County:

www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley

State 4-H Department: www.four-h.purdue.edu

Indiana State Fair:

www.state.in.us/statefair

Whitley County Facebook: Purdue Extension – Whitley County & Whitley County, IN 4-H

Whitley County 4-H Clubs, Inc.:

www.whitleycounty4-h.com

Whitley County Ag Museum:

www.whitleycountymuseum.com



2025 4-H Fair & Parade Theme

Congratulations to the Thorncreek Sons of the Soil 4-H Club for submitting the winning theme for our 2025 Whitley County 4-H Fair!!

**“4-H Hatches
New Opportunities”**

Attention: All 4-H Members.....
Important Information for
Whitley County 4-H Fair
Exhibits: Fair Entry

The 2025 Whitley County 4-H Fair is just around the corner!! For 2025, Whitley County and the state of Indiana will be utilizing computer online enrollment for all 4-H members to enter exhibits that will be shown at the Whitley County 4-H Fair. This program, called FairEntry, is an internet-based program that is integrated with the 4-H Online program. **THIS IS A**

MANDATORY REQUIREMENT!! ALL EXHIBITS – LIVESTOCK AND NON-LIVESTOCK – MUST BE ENTERED INTO FAIR ENTRY!!

The FairEntry program will be open beginning June 1, 2025 to July 1, 2025 for entering all livestock **AND** non-livestock exhibits. FairEntry will be the place that you will select your livestock classes and will choose the specific animal to be shown in that class based on the animals that were identified in 4-H Online. For non-livestock exhibits, this will be where you will enter the information on exactly what will be exhibited at the Whitley County 4-H Fair; for example, Black & White Salon Print, Sewing Wearable or Non-wearable, etc.

This will also be how we can enter those non-livestock exhibits that are selected to go to the Indiana State Fair. We will also be able to use this system to give reports to the local media and keep records of placings and awards.

To access the FairEntry program you will need to go the following website: <https://whitleycounty-in.fairentry.com>

Detailed instructions will be made available to all 4-H families on how to complete the entry of fair exhibits. You can go to the Extension Office to pick up a copy or you can view the instructions at the Whitley County 4-H Hub at <https://bit.ly/whitleycounty4-Hhub>. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office at (260) 244-7615 or (260) 625-3313.

“Thank You” Posters for 2024
Auction Buyers

Now is a good time to start thinking about acknowledging the 2024 Auction Buyers for the Livestock Auction. A

popular way to thank the buyer is by displaying a “thank you” poster above your livestock pen. If you cannot remember the name of the buyer, please contact either Jacki or Lisa at the Extension Office at 244-7616 or 625-3313. Remember...without these generous buyers we would not be able to have such a successful Livestock Auction - not just for 4-H but for the kids as well. Everyone appreciates a “Thank You”!

Important 4-H Fair Items

To ensure a successful 2025 4-H Fair, be sure to do the following:

- Read the 2025 Whitley County 4-H Rules Book available online at the Whitley County 4-H Hub at <https://bit.ly/whitleycounty4-Hhub>
 - Any 4-H Forms and manuals need to be picked up from the Extension Office ASAP!
 - Turn in your animal record sheet and any animal worksheets to the Extension Office by 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 1st.
 - Make sure you have a vaccination form for the Cat, Dog and Horse & Pony 4-H projects – refer to the 4-H Rules online.
 - Check the 4-H Fair Schedule located at the Whitley County 4-H Hub at <https://bit.ly/whitleycounty4-Hhub>
- Reminder to check the 4-H Rule Book Online – It Contains Valuable Information You Need To Know!**

4-H Donations

If you are looking for a place to donate to the 4-H Program to help youth and have a lasting impact on the community, you may want to consider the 4-H Helping Hands Endowment Fund. This fund is used to sponsor scholarships to 4-H'ers for post-secondary education. It can also be used to help youth try a new 4-H program. Send your donation directly to the Whitley County Community Foundation, 1171 E Woods Way., Columbia City, IN 46725. Be sure the donation is marked “4-H Helping Hands Endowment Fund.”

Helpful Hints on 4-H Posters & Notebooks

All 4-H posters (regardless of project) must be displayed horizontal.

Think of a 4-H exhibit poster like a dollar bill. You read the dollar bill horizontally and a poster is the same way.

- POSTERS MUST HAVE A HARD BACKING to make them stand when placed on the display easel. Use cardboard, foam board or lightweight wood.
- BE AWARE OF THE SIZE OF FOAM BOARD. A lot of foam board poster board for sale is 20”X30” – this is the wrong size – do not use! **Your poster must be 22”X28”**. Foam poster board can be used if it correctly measures the 22”X28” size. The 22”X28” foam poster board is available at the Extension Office. Price is \$4.00 per poster board.
- REMEMBER TO COVER YOUR POSTER with clear plastic for protection. Heavy duty acetate is available at hardware stores. Poster sleeves (\$1.00) and Salon print sleeves(\$.50) are available at the Extension Office
- Please accommodate layout of poster to support 4-H Fair Entry tag 2-7/8” wide x 5-1/2” length in the lower right-hand corner.

Attention 10-Year Members



- 10-Year Member photos **need to be submitted this year electronically**. We will need all 10-year member photos & profiles by May 31st for the digital display!! We would also ask that you complete the 10 year member profile & upload your photos here: <https://bit.ly/2025tenyearmember> or by scanning the QR code above.
- 10-Year Project: Reminder that 10-year Members that are enrolled in the 10-Year project, you have options this year. You can complete the regular project/display AND/OR complete the digital project. The digital project consists of the photos and answer to the question from the

10-Year member photo along with a video interview of you answering the questions found in the project rules under the 10- Year Project. Please make sure that you mark your selection regarding the 10-Year Project on your 10-Year member profile that you complete online via the link or QR code that is provided above.

Junior Leader News

May 8: Our monthly “Gathering” at 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H Center. If you are in grades 7-12 and would like to see what Jr. Leaders is all about, contact Todd for more details.

June 12: Monthly “Gathering” at 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H Center. Our final meeting to decide menu for concessions booth, schedule, etc.

June (TBD): This month we will have a fun outing! Stay tuned as more details will be announced as we get closer.

June 21: Helping with the Mini 4-H Day Camp at the fairgrounds! We will need lots of hands for this fun and awesome experience for our minis!

July 3: Jr. Leader pre-fair meeting & concession stand set-up at the fairgrounds from 6-9 p.m.

Mini 4-H News

May 17th will be our next Mini 4-H Workshop. Be watching for an email and our Facebook page Whitley County Mini 4-H Club “The Mighty Minis” for details on this day. There is a potential of a special activity. We will let you all know.

Mini 4-H Day Camp will be on June 21st from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at the 4-H Center!! Bring your Mini 4-H’ers out for this awesome, fun experience with hands-on activities and games: kids will participate lots of fun activities and games throughout the 4-H Fairgrounds and much more!! Lunch will be served. Any additional volunteers this day will be greatly appreciated.

July 5th from 10 – 11 a.m.: Mini 4-H Leaders will be at the Extension Office for anyone who needs project poster board, poster sleeves and to answer any questions you or your kids have about our mini projects. If you know of any families with kids in grades K-2 who might enjoy being a part of our Mini 4-H program please invite them to join! It’s NOT TOO LATE for them to join!! The cost is only \$5 for the WHOLE

YEAR!! We have lots of great hands-on curriculum that provides activities for kids to explore, create, and learn about lots of different topics in our Mini 4-H Program.

Mini 4-H Mentor Program: Please be watching your email and your regular mail as letters will be going out soon matching up our minis with their mentors for this program this year. Please make sure that you are connecting with each other and setting up at least 3 meetings for your mini and their mentor prior to fair.

Submitted By: The Mini 4-H Leaders

State Fair Entry Book



INDIANA
STATE FAIR

Copies of the State Fair Entry Books are available online at: <https://www.indianastatefair.com/p/state-fair>. Anyone may visit this site to view the handbook and print the section(s) of their choice. If you do not have internet access, the Extension Office will be glad to make copies of the project sections you need.

4-H Projects >>>>>>>

Add Project Deadline

4-H projects may be added until July 1st. Please contact Lisa at the Extension Office at (260) 244-7615 soon, especially to get project materials to you in a timely manner!



QLC/YQCA Options in 2025

The last in-person opportunity in Whitley County to complete the 4-H Quality Livestock Care program (QLC) requirement for any youth planning on exhibiting market animal projects in 2025 is:

➤ Tuesday, May 13th @ 6 p.m. at the Whitley County 4-H Center (Please register online via 4-H Online under the events tab for this training)

Youth can still complete their YQCA training in May online by visiting yqcaprogram.org, create a new account logging into the website, selecting online training for their correct age and then completing the course and taking the tests. Don’t forget to print out your completion certificate and email a copy to geigert@purdue.edu or schradel@purdue.edu

4-H Project Supplies

The following supplies/kits are available or can be ordered through the Extension Office:

*Foam Poster Board - \$4.00

*Poster Sleeve - \$1.00

*Salon Print Sleeve - \$0.50

*Mini 4-H Poster Sleeve - \$0.50

NEW FOR 2025

Photography Salon Print Kits - \$3.00
(Includes photo mat for 11”x14” photo, backing and plastic sleeve)

***Electric**

Extension Cord Kit - \$20.00

Limited Supply (Includes wire, male/female ends)

*Entomology

Insect Boxes - \$16.00

Insect Kit (Pins & Vials) - \$6.00

**Items are available
while quantities last!**

Youth who are planning on exhibiting at the Whitley County 4-H Fair and the Indiana State Fair MUST complete QLC or YQCA this year. If you have any questions, please contact the Extension Office and talk with Todd or Lisa.

***DEADLINE TO COMPLETE
QLC or YQCA is July 1st!!**

4-H Project Label Requirement for 2025!!

Each 4-H exhibit tag will have the 4-Her exhibit information that was entered by the 4-Her in the FairEntry system prior to the Whitley County 4-H Fair. This information will be linked to a bar code that will be scanned at check-in and will be utilized in other areas, such as judging, placings and results.

Tags are 2 7/8” wide x 5 1/2” tall and the 4-H’er will need to leave this amount of space in the lower right corner of posters blank to accommodate their entry tag.



Project labels will be given to the 4-Hers at project check-in on July 8th and July 9th. They WILL NOT be made available ahead of time.

Sheep Tagging

The Sheep tagging date is Friday, May 9th, 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 p.m. at the Whitley County 4-H Fairgrounds. All sheep must come to the tagging.



Goat Tagging

Dairy and meat wethers and meat goat market does that will be showing at the Indiana State Fair and any goat without



identification must attend the Goat tagging day on Friday, May 9th 6:00-7:30 p.m. on

the east side of the Dairy Steer Feeder Calf Barn at the Whitley County 4-H Fairgrounds.

4-H Clubs >>>>>>>>>>

Rabbit Club News

The Rabbit Club will be hosting the ARBA Rabbit Show on Saturday, May 10 at the Whitley County 4-H Fairgrounds. Donations are needed for the concession stand and raffle. We will also need volunteers for set-up on Friday night, helpers during the show, and clean-up after the show! Please volunteer for the event and donate if you are able.



Animal ID is due on May 15. This needs to be filled out by the end of the day of the 15th and you must put any rabbit you think you may show at the fair. If the rabbit is not on the animal ID or the information is not correct on the animal ID you may not show the rabbit at the fair.

We will have the Rabbit Ambassador Competition on Sunday, May 18 at 2:00 p.m. at the Rabbit Barn. During this competition, the contestants will take a test, complete breed id, and showmanship. There is not a meeting at this competition, but it is considered a workshop if the member

participates. Our May meeting will be held on May 20 at the Rabbit Barn at 6:00 p.m. Please bring items to help clean the flower beds around the barn. Snacks will be provided at this meeting.

We will have a meeting on June 17. At this meeting we will discuss show day etiquette and barn expectations for the week of the fair. We will also discuss online Fair Entry that must be completed by July 1. We hope to see you at these events and meetings!

Submitted By: Cal Myers

Attention All 4-H Clubs

Just a friendly reminder to all 4-H clubs that use the 4-H Center for their meetings.

The building is unlocked 30 minutes prior to your scheduled start time. If you need the building opened sooner, please contact Eric at (260) 248-6390. 4-H Clubs, Inc. is asking that the club or the last club in the 4-H Center locks up. Please make sure tables and chairs are up and all the lights are turned off (bathrooms, too). If there are any questions, please contact Eric at (260) 248-6390.

This same policy is also in effect for opening buildings below the hill that are used by 4-H clubs. If there are any questions regarding buildings below the hill, contact Eric Blank (260) 248-6390.





Date	Event	Time	Location
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MAY:

1	Whitley Co. Master Gardeners (MG) Meeting.....	6:30 p.m.....	Woodlands Sr Activity Center
5,12,19	Stewarding Healthy Landscapes....(pre-registration required)	6:00-8:30 p.m.	Whitley Co. Ag Museum
20, 22	Field Scout Intern Training.....		Beck Center, West Lafayette

26 OFFICE CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

JUNE:

5	Whitley Co. Master Gardeners (MG) Meeting.....	6:30 p.m.....	Woodlands Sr Activity Center
16	Mental Health First Aid Program	8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	4-H Center, West Room
19	OFFICE CLOSED FOR JUNETEENTH		
21	Get a pork burger from Pork Producers at Old Settlers' Festival	4:00 p.m.....	Downtown Columbia City
24	Commercial Ag Training (Focus – Cat. 1, Agriculture).....		Northeast Purdue Ag Center
26	Nuisance Animal Control	6:30-8:30 p.m.	TBA
28	Master Gardeners' Annual Garden Walk...(see details on Page 3)	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

July 11-17	2025 Whitley County 4-H Fair
July 14	(Monday) Master Gardeners' Seminars in the Ag Museum (1 pm, 2 pm, 3 pm) during the fair
August 1 – 17	2025 Indiana State Fair (Closed on Mondays)
September 10	NEPAC Field Day



Cattle Producer Survey

The Purdue Beef Team, in partnership with the Indiana Beef Cattle Association, seeks to understand the distribution of cattle producers across the state and gain insight into the types of operations currently in place. This survey will help identify essential information, programs, and areas for improvement within the industry. Please consider completing the voluntary survey. Survey Link: <https://purdue.link/INBeefNeeds2025>

Road and Farm Safety this Spring

Be patient and safe on roads during the spring planting season.



Slow-moving vehicle (SMV) emblems should be displayed on farm equipment and other slow-moving vehicles. An SMV emblem is a triangle shape, with an orange fluorescent center and red reflective borders. Equipment and other vehicles displaying this emblem are capable of speeds no faster than 25 miles per hour. Driving at road speed, the gap between you and the equipment will close quickly, so immediate caution and slower speeds are prudent.

Most farmers have had some significant days in the farm shop to get equipment ready. However, I'd urge farmers to recheck the condition of SMV emblems to make sure they are still fluorescent. Over time, these emblems can fade, become less noticeable, and need replacing.

Other road-related safety equipment, such as headlights, taillights, flashing lights, hitch pins, tires, and wheel bearings also should be checked.

Large equipment should be fully folded to transport position for the safety of the farmer and other drivers when moving from field to field over the road.

Coupling road hazards with general farming risks, farming is a dangerous operation.

Field Scout Intern Training May 20 and 22

This year's Intern Training program is being offered on two dates, May 20th and May 22nd, 2025. Each day offers the same great training on two separate dates. Be sure to register for the date that works best for your team! Join us! The information presented at this training will provide participants with basic terminology and general knowledge of corn and soybean growth and development, along with pest identification. This one-day workshop is geared towards individuals beginning summer agronomic internships.

Find info at: <https://ag.purdue.edu/departments/agry/agry-extension/dtc/>.

Spotted Lanternfly in Indiana

Spotted lanternfly could be anywhere in Indiana, and we'd like to ask you to help us scout for spotted lanternfly now. The most at-risk sites

appear to be railroad corridors bordered by tree-of-heaven trees. Especially at-risk among those sites would be places where the railcars sit idle for extended periods. New nymphs will be hatching out soon to crawl around on tree-of-heaven and other plants. If you see this little black insect with white polka-dots, please let us know, or report your finds at <https://www.eddmaps.org/>.



Although their preferred host is tree-of-heaven, this is a devastating insect of grape, and can also affect fruit trees, hardwood trees, and other plants. Although SLF feeds on over 100 host plants, not all of these incur economic damage. Grapes are the primary crop of concern according to our current understanding.

Indiana Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing

Find information from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources on hunting, fishing, trapping, licenses, and other resources at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/>.

Mental Health First Aid Program

Are you concerned about a family member's mental health? Is farm stress beginning to take its toll? These are concerning topics, and Purdue Extension would like to help. The Mental Health First Aid program is an

evidence-based mental health education program developed by a nationwide organization called the National Council for Mental Wellbeing (<https://www.thenationalcouncil.org>)

The program will focus on recognizing signs in others that professional help may be needed, and what you can do in the meantime. This program will have a registration fee and require some pre-workshop assignments. It will be taught by trained facilitators from Purdue Extension. It will be June 16, in the West Room, 4-H Center, from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Details are not yet finalized, but please contact the Purdue Extension office if you are interested in attending.

2025 NEPAC Field Days

Whitley County is home to Purdue's Northeast Purdue



Agricultural Center (NEPAC) southeast of Columbia City on county road 400 South (4821 East 400 South, Columbia City, IN 46725). Please mark the following dates on your calendars for 2025 events. Check our website and subsequent newsletters for further details and registration information closer to event dates.

June 24: Commercial Ag Training & Field Day (Category 1 – Agriculture focus)

Sept. 10: Field Day (local/area farmers), 8:00 a.m. – early afternoon.

Nuisance Animal Control Program

Join us June 26 for a nuisance animal control program that will feature Jeff Burbrink, Extension Educator in LaGrange County, and Jessica Merklings, DNR Urban Wildlife Biologist. This is a free workshop, but pre-registration is requested. Location to be announced. This program will focus primarily on managing nuisance animals in ag and wetlands, specifically deer, groundhogs, Canada geese, and wild turkeys. Discover what is and is not legal, when you need a special permit from DNR, etc. Please contact the Extension office if you are interested in attending. Register by June 19 at: <https://purdue.link/Wildlife25>

Do You Need to Obtain a Pesticide Applicator License?

If you need to obtain a private applicator license (to apply pesticides

to your own crops, *not* for hire), go to this website for your options:

<https://ppp.purdue.edu/private-applicators/certification/>

If you need to obtain a commercial applicator license (to apply pesticides for hire), go to: <https://ag.purdue.edu/departments/extension/ppp/commercial-applicators/index.html>

Additional information can be found at the Office of Indiana State Chemist website: <https://oisc.purdue.edu/>

If you wish to attend a Purdue training event to better prepare you for Core and/or Commercial Category exams, go to: <https://ag.purdue.edu/departments/extension/ppp/commercial-applicators/certification/training-programs.html>.

If you have further questions, feel free to call the Purdue Extension office at 260-244-7615.

Stay on Top of Current Crop and Livestock News

First, local producers should feel free to call Purdue Extension in Whitley County first with specific questions at 260-244-7615. I can consult with Purdue specialists or print off Purdue Extension publications that may address your issues. I can also make a farm visit.

Secondly, I'd like to recommend a few websites for crop and livestock farmers. Try these websites:

1) The Kernel, by Dan Quinn, Purdue Extension corn specialist: <https://thekernel.info/>

This website provides the latest corn research and management information for farmers and agricultural professionals.

2) Soybean Station: <https://ag.purdue.edu/departments/agry/faculty-pages/soybean-station/> This page, maintained by Purdue soybean and small grains specialist, Shaun Casteel, offers current information on soybean production.

3) Indiana Forage Council: <https://indianaforage.wordpress.com/>

4) Purdue Agronomy Extension: <https://ag.purdue.edu/departments/agry/agry-extension/index.html>. For many other cropping issues, you may wish to start here.

5) Purdue Pest & Crop Newsletter: <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/pest-crop/index.html> Pest & Crop Newsletter provides timely information about pests

and crops throughout Indiana, with the most effective, economic, and environmentally sound pest management strategies.

6) Purdue Animal Sciences Extension: <https://ag.purdue.edu/departments/ansc/extension.html>. Start here to be directed to various species-specific information and other news affecting livestock production.

7) Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture:

<https://ag.purdue.edu/commercialag/home/>. There are many resources at this site, including recorded Ag Outlook webinars, the *Purdue Agricultural Economics Report*, custom rates, and other resources for crop and livestock farmers.

8) Purdue on the Farm: purdue.ag/onthefarm. Learn of Purdue Extension's efforts to help farmers through crop scouting, demonstrations, and on-farm research.

Current Info for Fruit and Vegetable Growers, Landscape Managers



Purdue Extension has two excellent newsletters for fruit and vegetable growers – both commercial and “backyard” growers – to stay on top of current news. See the following newsletters online:

Facts for Fancy Fruit: <https://fff.hort.purdue.edu/>

Vegetable Crops Hotline: <https://vegcropshotline.org/>

Landscape managers (and homeowners) will find excellent and up-to-date information in the Purdue Landscape Report: <https://www.purduelandscape.org/>. *Turf Tips:* <https://turf.purdue.edu/turf-tips/>

Cattle Producer Insights

This voluntary survey will help assess the needs of the cattle industry in Indiana. The Purdue Beef Team, in partnership with the Indiana Beef Cattle Association, seeks to understand the distribution of cattle producers across the state and gain insight into the types of operations currently in place. Additionally, the survey will help identify essential information, programs, and areas for improvement within the industry. Access the survey at:

<https://purdue.link/INBeefNeeds2025>.



Whitley County Office Phone:

260.244.7615 or 260.625.3313

www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Purdue Extension Whitley County](https://www.facebook.com/PurdueExtensionWhitleyCounty)

Purdue Extension – Whitley County Office Staff

Todd Geiger, (geigert@purdue.edu) County Extension Director (CED)
4-H Youth Development

John Woodmansee, (jwoodman@purdue.edu) Agriculture & Natural Resources (ANR)

Brittney Schori, (bpender@purdue.edu) Health & Human Sciences (HHS)

Jacki Bishop, (bishop87@purdue.edu) Office Manager (ANR & HHS)

Lisa Schrader, (schrader@purdue.edu) Office Coordinator (4-H Youth)

Candy Sroufe, (sroufec@purdue.edu) Program Assistant

Stacy Geiger, (sngeiger@purdue.edu) Program Assistant

Office Email: whitleyces@purdue.edu

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday

Extension Educator available online at www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley

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