

Extension Edge

An educational publication of Purdue Extension — DeKalb County



Extension - DeKalb County

September/October 2026



"4-H opened up so many opportunities for me. How it helps you find out who you want to be, and has helped me realize what I want to be and do. This trip has made me want to explore. It gave me the chance for my first plane flight, seeing the ocean, meeting the 4-H members there, and seeing the marine life. I also learned a lot about the scientific components of the area with the volcano and the acidic soil that helps the berries grow.",

said by Tristin Fralick, one of our brave travelers to Sitka, Alaska this year for the 2026 4-H Alaska Trip. We traveled from August 2-9. This year 5 Indiana 4-H members traveled over 3,000 miles away from home to teach 4-H youth in Sitka, Alaska. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for these 4-H members, to be able to travel to a culture within the United States that is so different from our own and also grow their teaching/

communication skills while providing over 20 hours of hands on learning in art and science to Sitka 4-H members. Tristin Fralick, Owyn Brown, and Leah Kreischer were the representatives from DeKalb County. They taught a variety of topics from Color Theory to Archeology to Forestry to Scientific Sketching. Each of the Indiana 4-H members grew in confidence throughout the trip, and I am so proud of them for participating in the trip. At the end of the Trip, Owyn Brown remarked that he has learned that, "4-H is more than the fair. It allows 4-H members to have new opportunities and cultures to experience. This trip made me more mature". Leah learned that in 4-H, "You can do programs with kids. Even though it is hard for the workers teaching, it opens more doors and opportunities for the youth learning."

Effie Campbell



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2026 4-H ENROLLMENT

October 1, 2026 thru January 15, 2027

Re-enroll at v2.4honline.com

**COST: \$25 4-H Fee* (Grades 3-12) paid at time of enrollment.
\$25 each for up to three children, \$10 for each additional child.
\$5 for Mini 4-H (Grades K-2) paid at first meeting in May**

4-H Fees are non-refundable and paid at the time of registration.

The fee can be paid online with credit or debit card

OR at the Extension Office with cash or check.

(*Extension Office cannot take credit cards).

HANDBOOK INFORMATION

The 2026

DeKalb Co. 4-H

Handbook is finished!

Every family will receive a printed copy of the Handbook this year. Handbooks can be picked up the Extension Office or at your next club meeting. Please use the QR code for the online Handbook.



Club Leaders!

If you would like a table and space in the Exhibit Hall for Fall Fair to display Club information, please contact the office to reserve your space by September 11th.

Want a chance to win Free Enrollment for 2027?

30 Clovers will be hidden across the Fairgrounds during Fall Fair. If you find one and bring it to the 4-H Fair office, you will win free enrollment for the next year! Check out the Facebook page each day of the Fair for hints!

DeKalb 4-H Hub

Your go-to resource for everything Dekalb 4-H!



WHAT IS ON THE HUB?

- FALL FAIR CHECKLIST- SEE WHAT YOU STILL NEED TO COMPLETE TO BE ELIGIBLE TO EXHIBIT
- SUMMER JUDGING CHECKLIST - SEE WHAT YOU STILL NEED TO COMPLETE TO BE ELIGIBLE TO EXHIBIT
- 10 YEAR MEMBER TO-DO LIST!
- LIST OF IMPORTANT DATES/WORKSHOPS
- MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
- GENERAL RECORD SHEET
- 4-H HANDBOOK
- APPLICATIONS FOR EVENTS/TRIPS
- 4-H FAMILY GUIDE, 4-H PROJECT MAGAZINE
- INSTRUCTIONS FOR 4-H ONLINE AND FAIR ENTRY
- LIST OF IMPORTANT WEBSITES
- ALL LIVESTOCK WORKSHEETS!



USE THE LINK OR SCAN THE QR
CODE WITH YOUR PHONE CAMERA
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/DEKALB4HHUB](https://bit.ly/DeKalb4HHub)

10-YEAR Member Spotlight

Over the next several months, we will take the opportunity to highlight our 10-year 4-H members. These youth have completed ten consecutive years in the 4-H program. Thank you for your leadership, service and qualities that each of you have added to our 4-H program.

Hayden LaRowe

High school: DeKalb High School

Future plans: Attend College and pursue degree in large animal veterinary science.

Favorite memory: Winning my first Grand Champ and showing with my sister and brother.

Advice for future 4-H members: Fair week is very busy and can be stressful, stay focused on why you're there and have fun!



Reagan Nott

High School: Lakewood Park Christian school

Future plans: Attend Purdue Fort Wayne and major in biochemistry

Favorite memory: Learning about animals with my dad and sisters and also spending quality time with my family

Advice for 4-H member: Focus on learning more and growing overall rather than the ribbons and trophies. Winning is exciting but friendships and life skills is what really matters.



Natale Jackson

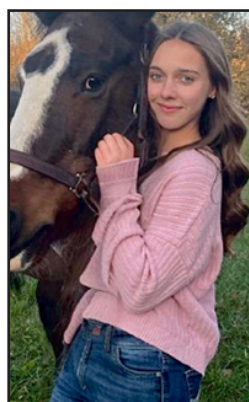
High School: I was homeschooled

Future Plans: I plan to attend Purdue University online to achieve my Veterinary Technician degree while working full-time at my local vet clinic.

Favorite 4-H memory: Nothing specific, but probably hanging out with friends during summer judging and fair week and showing my horses growing up

Advice for current 4-H members: Don't be afraid to try new projects or show new animals.

4-H is about learning leadership, hard-work and resilience. Step into new opportunities and just have fun!



Lana Perkins

High School: Garrett High School

Future Plans: I plan to attend Purdue-Fort Wayne

Favorite 4-H memory: My favorite 4-H memory is having my scrapbook go to state.

Advice for current 4-H members: Work hard and enjoy every moment of 4-H; it goes fast.



**HELP
WANTED**

DEKALB 4-H

2026 FALL FAIR 4-H FOOD STAND WORKERS

Help is needed for the fall Fair Food stands (North and South) there are many shifts to fill so sign up now to help.

Please do not sign up kids under 13 on the sign-up! They can help work, but do not count on the sign-up. Please note that if you are unable to attend your shift after signing up, it is your responsibility to find a replacement.

SIGN UP TODAY!

Scan the QR code or
go to the link below

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45A8AF2BA1FBCE9-62186148-2026#/>



Congratulations!

In 2026 DeKalb County had 132 non-livestock exhibits at the State Fair!

Here are the results:

27 Orange (Merit)

79 Blue

22 Red

2 White

2 Sweepstakes exhibited by Grissom Harding and Molly Martin

To view all of the results from State Fair, visit:

<https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/fair/fair-results.html>

State Fair Projects can be picked up in the

Extension Office after August 25th.

Please try to get your project picked up before Fall Fair.

Important Livestock Date Reminders

These are just reminders to our Livestock Exhibitors about Due Dates in the next couple of months. You will have until September 8th to meet the Deadline. Remember to check the DeKalb 4-H Hub in the Fall Fair checklist to make sure you are complete. <https://bit.ly/DeKalb4HHub>

BEEF

SEPTEMBER 8 - 4H Online Entry Due for BEEF FEEDER CALF

SEPTEMBER 8 - ALL Class selections MUST be made in Fair Entry for Fall Fair Entries

DAIRY

SEPTEMBER 8 - ALL Class selections MUST be made in Fair Entry for Fall Fair Entries

DAIRY FEEDERS AND STEERS

SEPTEMBER 8 - ALL Class selections MUST be made in Fair Entry for Fall Fair Entries

GOAT

SEPTEMBER 8 - ALL Class selections MUST be made in Fair Entry for FALL FAIR WETHERS

POULTRY

SEPTEMBER 8 - ALL Class selections MUST be made in Fair Entry for Fall Fair Entries

RABBIT

SEPTEMBER 8 - ALL Class selections MUST be made in Fair Entry for Fall Fair Entries

SHEEP

SEPTEMBER 8 - ALL Class selections MUST be made in Fair Entry for Fall Fair Entries

SWINE

SEPTEMBER 8 - ALL Class selections MUST be made in Fair Entry for Fall Fair Entries

Exhibition ≠ Completion

To **COMPLETE** an animal project, you need to attend a workshop or complete a worksheet!

Livestock Worksheets

Worksheets are due on **Sept. 8** to the Extension Office!

If you are unable to attend a specie workshop, you need to complete a worksheet.

You can find them at

DeKalb 4-H Hub: <https://bit.ly/DeKalb4HHub> or visit the Extension Office.



September 8 Deadline Breakdown

If you are planning to exhibit Beef Feeders at Fall Fair:

1. Make entries into 4-H Online by September 8th for those animals using the “DeKalb Co ONLY: Beef Feeder Calves” animal types.
Link: <https://v2.4honline.com/>
 - Instructions are available on the Hub in your species folder:
<https://bit.ly/DeKalb4HHub>
2. Go to FairEntry and make class selections in the system. Link: <http://dekalbcountyindiana.fairentry.com/> (Log on with 4-H Online information)
 - Animals will carry over from 4-H Online
 - Instructions are available on the Hub: <https://bit.ly/DeKalb4HHub>

If you are planning to exhibit livestock at the Fall Fair:

1. Go to FairEntry and make class selections in the system. This can be done as soon as you know what you will be exhibiting. Changes can be made to entries at check-in using the animals you have nominated in 4-H Online. However, please make your best guess on what you are bringing, so fewer changes need to be made later. Any animal nominated in 4-H Online can be brought to the fair as long as it meets qualifications. Link: <http://dekalbcountyindiana.fairentry.com/> (Log on with 4-H Online information)
 - a. Instructions are available on the Hub: <https://bit.ly/DeKalb4HHub>

If you are planning to exhibit Crops Exhibits at Fall Fair:

1. Go to FairEntry and make class selections in the system. Link: <http://dekalbcountyindiana.fairentry.com/> (Log on with 4-H Online information)
 - Instructions are available on the Hub: <https://bit.ly/DeKalb4HHub>

If you are exhibiting Poultry at the Fall Fair:

1. Go to FairEntry and make class selections in the system. Link: <http://dekalbcountyindiana.fairentry.com/> (Log on with 4-H Online information)
 - Instructions are available on the Hub: <https://bit.ly/DeKalb4HHub>

QLC/YQCA and Workshop/Worksheets are also due on September 8!

- Check the Fall Checklist on the Hub to see if you have completed the requirements. Link: <https://bit.ly/DeKalb4HHub>
- Need a worksheet? Go to your species folder on the Hub to find the worksheet for your grade level
- To complete the online YQCA training, go to <https://yqcaprogram.org/>, and email me (campb314@purdue.edu) a copy of your completion certificate.

If you have any questions, need help making entries, need access to a computer, or want me to check your entries, please contact the Extension Office at (260)-925-2562 or by emailing me at campb314@purdue.edu.

2026 4-H IMPORTANT DATES

August 20	Swine Workshop, 6:00 pm - Exhibit Hall
August 22	Poultry ID/Banding, 8:00-10:00 am - Petting Zoo Overhang Only the poultry committee will be doing blood testing this year, so all poultry (except broilers and roasters) must come to ID Day.
August 22	Beef Feeder ID, 8:00-10:00 am - Beef Barn
August 30	Rabbit & Poultry Barn Set-up/Clean-up, Fryer, Meat pen, and Litter ID, and Show Remark Card, 12:00 pm (noon) for Clean Up and 3:00 pm for Show Remark Cards/Pen Reservations
August 30	Sheep Workshop, 2:00 pm - Kreischer Farm, 4937 CR 60, St. Joe, IN
September 2	Nevershirk 4-H Club Meeting, 6:30 pm - Butler Elementary
September 8 Deadline	4HOnline Entry for Beef Feeders FairEntry Class Selections for Fall Fair Animals and Crop Exhibits, Battle of the Barns entries Worksheets due to the Extension Office, QLC/YQCA Due
September 9	4-H Council Meeting, 7:00 pm - Exhibit Hall Junior Auction Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm - Exhibit Hall
September 14	Junior Leader Meeting, 6:15 pm - Exhibit Hall
September 16	Richland Cornhuskers Meeting, 6:00 PM - Exhibit Hall 4-H Power, 7:00 PM Sugar Ridge Farms, 4937 CR 60, St. Joe
September 19	Mini 4-H Project Judging, 10AM - Exhibit Hall
September 28 -October 3	DeKalb County Free Fall Fair
October 1	4-H Online Enrollment opens for 2027!
October 7	Livestock Review, 7:00 pm - Exhibit Hall



MINI 4-H NEWS



Sat., Sept. 19 – Mini 4-H Project Judging, 10 am

It will be held in the Exhibit Hall (Fairgrounds)

**TIME TO SHOW US
YOUR STUFF!**

After judging, projects will be held for exhibit at the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair Sept 28-Oct 3

Battle of the Barns - Sunday Sept 27 (6:30 pm) Horse Arena

Future 4-Her Show - Saturday Oct 3 (1 pm) Show Barn

Project pick up - Sunday Oct 4 (8-10 am) Exhibit Hall



BATTLE OF THE BARNS

DON'T MISS OUT ON YOUR CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE!

REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 8TH!

4-H MEMBERS - REGISTER IN FAIRENTRY

MINI 4-H - CONTACT THE EXTENSION OFFICE TO REGISTER (UNLESS ALREADY
SIGNED UP AT A MEETING))





(Replacement for in-person YQCA Classes)

Missed out on your chance to take QLC in-person? Your only option to meet the requirement to show is to complete YQCA online!

All 4-H youth enrolled in a LIVESTOCK PROJECT (Beef, Dairy Beef, Dairy, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep and Swine) must be QLC/YQCA certified.

BY SEPTEMBER 8

Failure to complete the training could result in the loss of the ability to show.

<https://yqcaprogram.org/>

You must create or login to a YQCA account, complete the course, and email Effie your completion certificate to gain credit for attending.

4-H livestock members may take the ONLINE training at any time, at **the cost of \$12 per 4-H member.**

**FALL FAIR
PROJECT DROP-OFF**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 – 1:00–4:00 PM
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 – 6:00–8:00 PM
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 – 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Ribbons are not Necessary! Please make sure your name is on the project when dropped off

 **PURDUE UNIVERSITY** | Extension - 4-H Youth Development 

We're Looking for **NEW** Award Sponsors for 4-H Fall Livestock Projects!



If you've never been a 4-H Award Sponsor, please say **"YES"** to an opportunity to join others who are supporting the 4-H youth in our county. Simply complete this form and return it along with your donation to the address below by **Friday, August 28, 2026**

If you were a sponsor in 2025, you should have already received a letter asking your intentions for this year.

Donor's Name _____

Contact Person (If different than Donor) _____

Address _____

Phone # (____) _____

I/We would like to sponsor the following: (If Available)

____ \$25 Champion / Reserve Champion Awards

____ \$40 Grand or Reserve Grand Banners (large)

____ Use Where Needed

Donation Amount \$ _____ *(Include Payment with Form)*

Make checks payable to: **DEKALB COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL**

Return form and donation by **Friday, August 28, 2026** to:

DeKalb County 4-H Council
215 E 9th Street, Suite 300
Auburn IN 46706

Donor will receive a statement indicating amount of contribution.

FORT WAYNE 2026 FALL DISTRICT MEETING



A PLACE To call Home

THURSDAY OCTOBER 8
COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER,
KENDALLVILLE

Location: 401 E Diamond Street Kendallville, Indiana 46755
Registration 9:00 am – Light Breakfast
County Presidents meet 9:30 am
Meeting 10:00 am

Guest Presentation-

Indiana Foster Program & Faith Foster Closet

If able please bring items to donate to the Foster Closet.

All clothing sizes welcome, current needs are sizes 3T, 4T, 5T & 6T
Gently used washed items are acceptable.



Please bring silent auction items
Half of the funds go into the district
funds. Half goes to the sponsoring
county to pay expenses.

PLUS - it is FUN!



DEKALB COUNTY
EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS

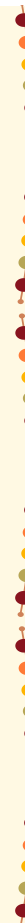
Beef & Noodle Dinner

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
FREEWILL DONATION

Wednesday, October 14th
4:30-7:00pm

DEKALB CO. HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
| 5823 CR 427 | AUBURN, IN |

museum and chapel will be open for tours!



FUNDS WILL GO TO THE HOMEMAKERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND & OTHER COMMUNITY PROJECTS

DEKALB COUNTY EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS

Day at the Fair

Thursday, October 1st

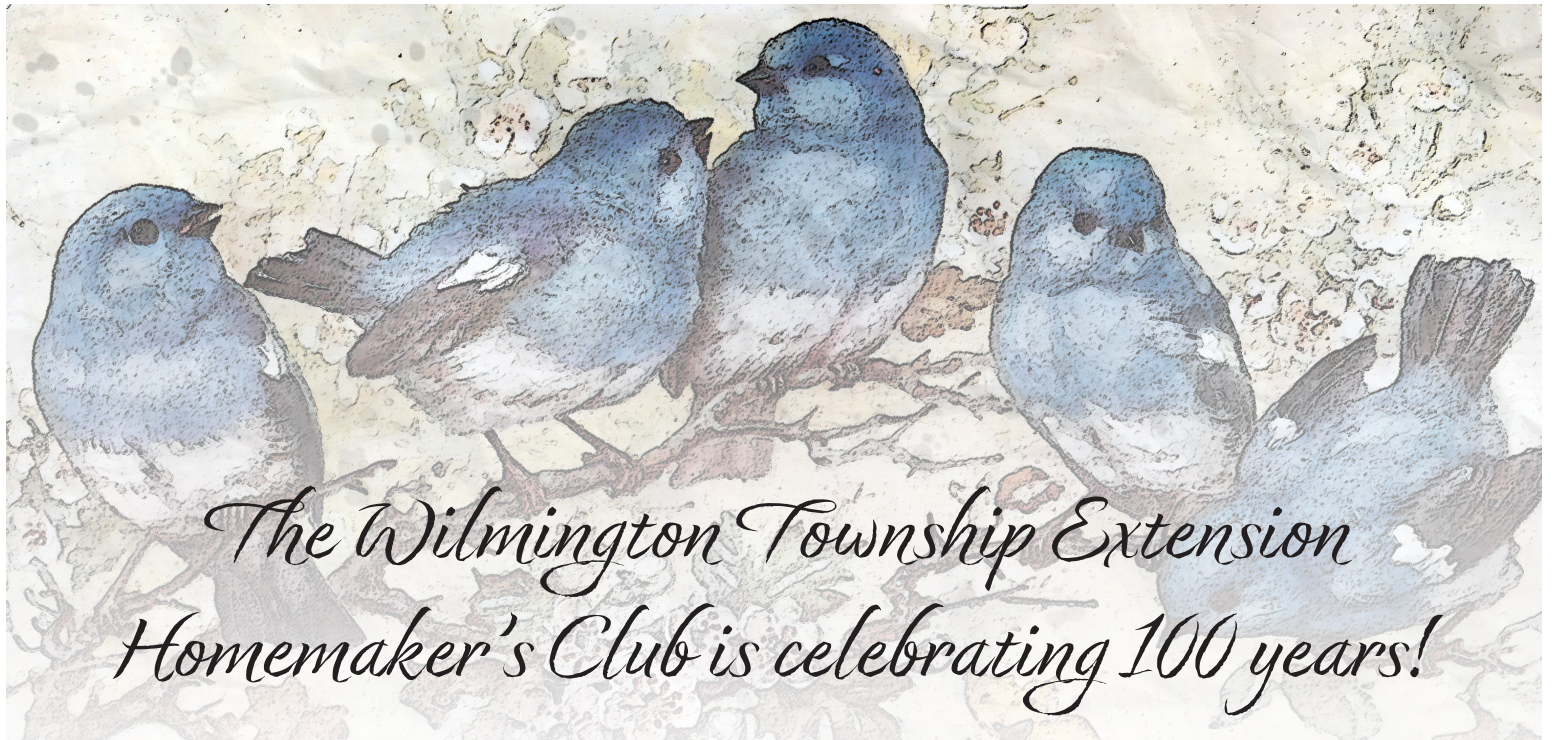
CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

8:00-9:00am	Registration for Baking Contest: Scones
9:00-9:45am	Reflexology with Dawn Drudge
9:45-10:00am	Break
10:00-10:45am	This Day Forward: Heather Krempel
10:45-11:00am	Break
11:00-11:45am	Indiana Butterfly License Plate: Lisa Conrad
12:00pm	Announce Winners of Quick Breads Contest

"SCONES" Contest Guidelines

1. Any resident of DeKalb County is eligible. One entry per category/per person.
2. Recipe to accompany the homemade entry (legibly handwritten or typed).
3. Two divisions: Adults - 19 years & older; Youth - 10-18 years
4. Entry must be made from scratch, no box mixes allowed. No alcohol.
5. Scones are to be baked in a round or square pan, with 3 triangles for display on a display board.
6. All entries will be judged on taste, appearance, and display.
7. Entries must be entered between 8-9:00 am on Thursday of the fair at the Exhibit Hall.
8. Winners will be announced at 12pm, with pictures to immediately follow.
9. Cash prizes for Adult division: 1st Place-\$30; 2nd Place-\$20; 3rd Place-\$10.
10. Cash prizes for Youth division: 1st Place-\$25; 2nd Place-\$15; 3rd Place-\$10.

all events held at the Exhibit Hall



The club was established in February 1926, with the first meeting held at the home of Mary Imhoff with county agent, EE Stimson.

The thirty-one original members were rural ladies meeting monthly at the I & M building in Butler. Dues were \$1.00 initially and dropped to \$.50 during the depression.

Most meetings included their children, playing in the middle of a circle of chairs, while the women conducted the meeting, lasting half of the day.

Meetings had several parts including Lesson of the Day, Literary Lesson and a craft. Examples of the lesson of the day included civil defense, national security, and copper and glass etching. Garden and egg shows would last all day.

Looking through the program books from those years past, an interesting quote was discovered: "And suddenly, I realized I wasn't born in the wrong generation. I was born to keep the old ways alive".

From 1936-37, Fanny Boger served as state president of the Indiana Extension Homemakers. Many other members have actively participated in the offices of the DeKalb County Extension Homemakers. Four members have served as county president, two as vice-president, two as secretary and one as treasurer.



Members Marcella Fuller, Evelyn Ridge and Joan Hursh were awarded Homemakers of the Year by the DeKalb County Extension Homemakers in 2002, 2005, and 2010, respectively.

Throughout the years, the club has supported community as well as extension homemaker programs: local food pantries, 4-H, state projects, Beef & Noodle dinner, Cookie & Candy Walk, club trips, personal care boxes, and many more.

Our current members are proud to carry on the traditions established in 1926 and are grateful these 31 women recognized the need for women to gather, to learn from each other, and influence the future.

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone is having a great summer. It goes way too fast for most of us. Before we know it Christmas is just around the corner!

I am sure many of you have done lots of your gardening and canning for this year. There are still many vegetables and fruits just starting to ripen. Then the fall gardening will be starting soon, maybe it will not be as hot as the last few months have been this summer.

We are just beginning our busy time of the year. The Homemaker Ladies have been working hard on the different lessons that are scheduled for this fall. Homemaker's Day at the Fair is October 1st. There are many great programs scheduled for the day. Everyone's favorite is the baking contest. This time it will be scones, get out your best recipe and enter

the contest. We hope to see lots of scones entered for the baking contest this year. The contest is open to boys and girls 10 to 18 years of age and all adults.

Then on October 14th we will have the annual Beef and Noodle Dinner. We have changed the location. It will be held at the DeKalb Horseman's Association building. This year you can tour the museum the barn and the chapel we are also having hay rides. All this is for a free will donation which benefits our scholarship program. We are hoping for a great turnout so add it to your calendar come take a tour and bring your appetite.

Have a great Day,

Michelle VanWye,

DeKalb County Extension Homemaker
President

Save the Date!!

Upcoming Events:

November 21st - Cookie & Candy Stroll

December 2nd - County Christmas Party

details to follow at a later time

Fall Gardening: There's Still Plenty to Do

As summer begins to wind down, it can be tempting to think the gardening season is coming to an end. However, fall offers plenty of opportunities to harvest, plant and prepare the garden for another successful growing season.

According to Purdue Extension's Autumn Garden Calendar, September is a busy month in the garden. Fall crops such as radishes, lettuce, spinach and green onions can still be planted for harvest. It is also time to harvest onions, garlic, potatoes and many summer vegetables. Tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, melons and sweet potatoes should be harvested before frost, or protected from a light frost when appropriate.

Don't forget about winter squash and pumpkins. Harvest them before a hard frost once their skins are firm and fully colored. Mature green tomatoes can also be harvested before frost and allowed to ripen indoors.

Fall is also an excellent time to plant spring-flowering bulbs. Purdue recommends planting bulbs in late September, allowing four to six weeks for root development before the ground freezes. Perennials such as peonies, daylilies, iris and phlox can also be planted, transplanted or divided in the fall.

The work continues after the harvest. Removing diseased plant material and fallen fruits and leaves can help reduce insect and disease problems for next year. Healthy plant debris can be added to the compost pile.

Fall is also a good time to think about the landscape. September and October can be excellent months for planting trees and shrubs. Newly planted trees and shrubs should be kept watered until the ground freezes. As temperatures drop, watch for frost and rodent damage and protect young trees when needed.

And don't forget the lawn! Early fall is a good time to reseed bare spots and address broadleaf weeds. Keep mowing at the proper height and remove heavy layers of fallen leaves before they mat down and smother the grass.

So, before you put away the gardening gloves for the year, take another look around. Fall isn't the end of gardening—it is an important season for preparing what comes next.

For more seasonal gardening information, see Purdue Extension's Autumn Garden Calendar, HO-93-W.



YOU'RE INVITED!

SOIL JUDGING PRACTICE DAY

Get ready to dig in! Middle and high school students, FFA members, and 4-H youth are invited to join us for a hands-on Soil Judging Practice Day, a great opportunity to build skills, prepare for competitions, and explore the science beneath your feet.

 **Date:** September 11, 2026

 **Time:** 9am – 11am

 **Location:** DeKalb County Farm (across the street from)
2315 County Road 40, Auburn, IN 46706

 **Open to:** Middle & high school students, FFA members, and 4-H youth

What to expect:

- Hands-on soil pit evaluations
- Practice identifying soil horizons, textures, and structure
- Learn how to determine land capability classes and management practices
- Tips and coaching from experienced instructors

Bring your boots, a water bottle, and your curiosity! All materials will be provided, and snacks will be available.

 **RSVP by August 28, 2026 to:**

DeKalb County Soil & Water
260-925-5620 x 3
jknudson@co.dekalb.in.us

COUNTY FARM

DEMONSTRATION FIELD DAY

SEPTEMBER 15, 2026 | 4 - 8 PM

Join Us for an Evening of Learning, Food, & Community!

AGENDA

4:00 - 4:15 PM | **REGISTRATION & WELCOME**

4:15 - 5:15 PM | **DEMONSTRATION PLOT TOURS**

Guided Wagon Ride Tours Through the Demonstration Plots

Special Thanks to the DeKalb County Horseman's Association for providing wagons & Cedar Creek Tractor Club for hauling!



5:30 - 6:45 PM | **FREE DINNER & NETWORKING**

Dinner Catered by: *Dutch Heritage*

6:45 - 7:30 PM | **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Featuring: *Bret Margraf* CCA, 4th Generation Farmer, & Seneca Conservation District (Tiffin, OH) Nutrient Management Technician

Topic: *Integrating Cover Crops & Grazing for Improved Soil Health & Nutrient Management*

7:30 - 8:00 PM | **PARP CREDITS SESSION**

Presenter: Elysia Rodgers, Purdue Extension DeKalb County Director

Topic: *Endangered Species Act and Pesticide Labels*



Location:

Across the road from:
2315 CR 40
Auburn, IN 46706



RSVP

BY SEPTEMBER 4

to DeKalb County Soil & Water Conservation District:

jknudson@co.dekalb.in.us

(260) 925-5620 ext.3



DeKalb County
SOIL & WATER
Conservation District



Extension



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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Extension



MANURE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP



SEPTEMBER
16TH

Educational Program
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Public Open House
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM



LOCATION

Stoy Farms

6517 S 400 W
Ashley, IN 46705



WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Livestock Producers

Private Applicators

Landowners

*Anyone interested in responsible
manure management.*

Scan QR
Code to
Register



AGENDA

2:00 PM Welcome

2:10 PM Understanding Ground & Surface Water Movement
and Movement of Nutrients in the Soil

2:30 PM Manure Management Planning

- Nutrient Management
- Application Timing
- Storage Systems
- Record Keeping
- Emergency Response Planning (*Mock Manure Spill*)

3:30 PM Regulations & Updates

4:00 PM Endangered Species Act for Private Applicators
(*PARP Credit*)

4:30 PM Building Positive Relationships with Neighboring
Landowners & the Public

- Panel Discussion

5:00 PM Public Open House (Dinner)

6:00 PM Public Panel Discussion

- Review Laws & Regulations
- Panel Discussion with Local Producers

7:00 PM Program Ends



Meal generously provided by:
Miller Poultry



QUESTIONS: Contact the Steuben County Soil & Water Conservation District at (260) 665-3211, ext. 3

Which Farmland Lease Is Best?

Michael Langemeier-Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture

As another crop year moves along, farmland leases may not be at the top of everyone's list. However, whether you are a landowner or farm operator, it is never too early to consider whether your current lease arrangement still makes sense.

A recent video from Purdue University's Center for Commercial Agriculture examines three common farmland lease arrangements: fixed cash rent, crop share and flexible cash rent. The important takeaway is that there isn't necessarily one "best" lease. The right choice depends on the goals, risk tolerance and financial situation of both parties.

Fixed cash rent provides the landowner with a set payment, while the farm operator assumes the risk associated with production and commodity prices. Landowners appreciate the predictability, while operators benefit from knowing their rent obligation in advance. However, if yields or commodity prices fall, the rent payment remains the same.

Crop-share arrangements divide some combination of production, income and expenses between the landowner and operator. The landowner participates in the success of the crop, but also shares in the risk when yields or prices are lower. These arrangements generally require more communication about expenses, production practices and marketing.

Flexible cash rent attempts to combine some of the predictability of cash rent with the opportunity

to share in better-than-expected farm returns. A base rent is established, with an additional payment potentially triggered by crop prices, yields or revenue. These agreements can be attractive, but the terms need to clearly explain how the variable payment will be calculated.

So, which lease is best? Perhaps the better question is, "Which lease best fits our goals?"

Landowners should consider their desired income, willingness to accept risk and involvement in farm management. Operators need to consider production costs, cash flow and their ability to handle fluctuations in income.

Regardless of the arrangement, a farmland lease should address more than just the rental rate. Expectations for conservation practices, fertility, soil health, maintenance and other management decisions can have a significant impact on the long-term productivity of the land.

Purdue's Center for Commercial Agriculture offers additional resources on farmland leasing, including fixed cash rent, crop-share and flexible lease arrangements. For more information, visit the Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture or watch "Which Farmland Lease Is Best? Fixed Cash Rent, Crop Share, or Flexible Cash Rent?"

A good lease isn't simply about determining what the rent will be. It should also establish how risks and responsibilities will be shared and help create an arrangement that works for both parties and the farm's future.



Rooted & Resilient Homesteading Conference Save the Date

November 6 & 7, 2026
Kendallville, Indiana

UPCOMING EVENTS ANR IMPORTANT DATES 2026

September 9	Northeast Purdue Ag Center Field Day -Northeast Purdue Ag Center, Columbia City, IN
September 11	DeKalb Soil & Water Conservation District Youth Soil Judging Practice Day -DeKalb County Farm, Auburn, IN
September 15	DeKalb Soil & Water Conservation District Soil Demonstration Workshop -DeKalb County Farm, Auburn, IN
September 17	Steuben Soil & Water Conservation District Manure Management Workshop -Stoy Farms, Ashley, IN
November 6 & 7	3rd Annual Rooted & Resilient Homesteading Conference -Community Learning Center, Kendallville, IN

For More Information, Visit: <https://tinyurl.com/ykfhbrfv>



NEPAC FIELD DAY

SEPT. 9

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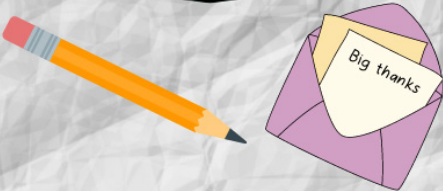


Extension - DeKalb County

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- 2 Specific reason you are thanking them
- 3 The reason you appreciate them
- 4 How you plan to use the gift or why the gift was important to you
- 5 A comment or detail about yourself
- 6 A repeat of your thank you
- 7 A closing and signature of your name



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September 8
Fair Entry
DEADLINE

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