WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH PURDUE EXTENSION - HENRY COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES?

A NOTE FROM ANR EDUCATOR

Welcome to 2024! I hope you all had a great holiday season and are enjoying the new year. Personally, I am excited for a fresh start that the new year brings both personally and professionally. 2023 was a great year programmatically as we achieved record numbers at most of our ANR programs throughout the year! This year I would like to challenge all of my readers to encourage a friend to subscribe to this newsletter. The subscriber can expect 3 newsletters in 2024. I would also like to draw your attention to our webpage which is updated more frequently with programs and events. Go ahead and bookmark our website to stay up to date on the Purdue Extension - Henry County happenings! I look forward to connecting with as many of you as possible in the new year. Please never hesitate to reach out to me with any questions you may have!

Newsletter: **https://forms.gle/NdLB4bz2gkHSjBbR9**
Website:
https://extension.purdue.edu/county/henry/anr.html
Follow us on Facebook: **Purdue Extension Henry County**

Danielle Nylund
Purdue Extension-Henry County
ANR/4-H Educator

HENRY COUNTY ANR EVENTS

- February 21, 2024 - **Young Ladies in AG Forum**
- February 22, 2024 - **AG Women Engage Conference**
- February or March 2024 - **Henry County PARP (Details at a later date)**

UPCOMING PARPS NEARBY

- **2/13/2024 - Jay County 9 am - 1 pm**
- **2/28/2024 - Jay County 3 pm - 5 pm**
- **2/29/2024 - Franklin County 9am-12pm**
- **TBD - Statewide Virtual PARP at various locations**

BROADBAND INTERNET CAMPAIGN

One final big push this spring could get you access to better internet! Complete the steps to verify your address and test your speeds! Purdue University has created a broadband team to assist the FCC in getting updated information through mapping. In mid to late 2024 Indiana will receive close to 870 million dollars to start compiling bids from companies to get broadband access to rural communities. Make sure to check out the attached flyer for more information. Check out the map and verify your access then enroll in the connectivity program! For more information visit: https://www.purdue.edu/engagement/pbt/

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANYTHING IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

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765-529-5002 ext.1

AG WOMEN 2024 ENGAGE CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 22, 2024
GRAND WAYNE CONVENTION CENTER
FORT WAYNE, IN
9:30-3:30 PM EST

Join us in Fort Wayne, IN on February 22nd as we learn how to better manage risk, enhance our farms and agribusiness operations, and network with other Ag women throughout Indiana.

This conference is designed to educate and uplift women involved in any aspect of the agricultural industry.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: AMANDA RADKE

Amanda Radke, a fifth-generation rancher from South Dakota who will be sharing "Plant & Prune the Family Ag Business to Reap a Bountiful Harvest." Together we will navigate dynamics of multi-generational family agriculture businesses.

COME JOIN US!

NETWORKING

Share stories and chat with other women involved throughout the agriculture industry in Indiana and connecting states!

16 EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

Experts will share information throughout the day in 4 breakout session tracks. Livestock, Agribusiness, Finances, Mental Health, and other great topics are featured.

2 GREAT PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Learn how to Transfer Your Farm's Legacy or Farm Accounting with Quicken in one of our Pre-Conference Sessions on February 21.

TO REGISTER OR FIND MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

https://ag.purdue.edu/department/extension/wia/conference.html

f you are in need of accommodations to attend this program, please contact Jenna Nees at (765) 653-8411 or smith535@purdue.edu by February 13, 2024.

REGISTRATION FEE: $100
REGISTER BY: FEBRUARY 13, 2024

PURDUE UNIVERSITY Extension

Women in Agriculture
https://ag.purdue.edu/department/extension/wia

AA/EEO

AG WOMEN ENGAGE
CONFERENCE

YOUNG LADIES IN AG FORUM

PURDUE UNIVERSITY | Extension

Register Now!

February 21, 2024

12:30– 8:00 PM EST

2024 Young Ladies in Ag Forum

Grand Wayne Convention Center

Fort Wayne, Indiana

Open to all Young Ladies

Grades 8-12 & College!

Register* Now:

purdue.link/YLAF2024REG

Cost : $25 per person

Dinner Included

Please Register By 2/13/2024

*Please note that all registered participants are required to pay the registration fee, regardless of attendance. Once registered, the fee is non-refundable.

Sessions Include

Interviewing Skills

Jobs in Agriculture

Business Professional Dress/ Meeting Etiquette and Attire

Exploring Your Next Steps: University Panel

Exploring Your Non-Traditional Next Steps : Trade Schools/ Apprenticeships Panel

Indiana State FFA Officer

Entrepreneurship Keynote: Dirt Darlin' Emily Stewart

WHAT IS BROADBAND?

Broadband is defined by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), a government entity that regulates telecommunications, as an internet connection that is always on and faster than dial-up.

DO I HAVE BROADBAND?

SCAN

While the definition is a bit vague, it really means that if internet service available at your address (home business, organization, etc.) is slower than 25 megabits per second or Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload (Mbps refers to the amount of data that can be handled by your internet connection), 25/3 for short, then you are considered unserved. If you do have 25/3 Mbps service but not 100/20 Mbps available, then you are considered underserved. If either of these is the case, your address could be eligible for funds to provide service of at least 100/20 Mbps. In case you were wondering, "gig" service refers to speeds of 1,000 Mbps.

The FCC unveiled a new map and needs your help to make sure your address and internet service offered are accurate. Read more on how to review your address by reading this blog post: 3 Steps to Bring Better Broadband to Indiana – Purdue Center for Regional Development

WHAT TYPES OF BROADBAND TECHNOLOGIES ARE THERE?

Broadband technologies vary resulting in different internet speeds and reliability measured in Mbps per technology, but the most common ones include:

DIGITAL SUBSCRIBER LINE (DSL)

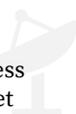This one uses your copper phone line to provide an internet connection.

CABLE

This one is usually offered by cable companies and rely on a combination of fiber-optic and coaxial cable.

SATELLITE

This technology also requires an antenna at your address and line of sight with the satellite providing the internet connection. However, please note that this technology is not considered broadband by the upcoming federal funds. In other words, if your address has access to satellite service, you can still be considered unserved or underserved.

FIXED WIRELESS

This technology requires an antenna and line of sight between your address and the tower providing the service.

FIBER-OPTIC

This technology relies on very thin glass fibers, usually as thick as a human hair, to provide internet service.

FIXED VS. MOBILE BROADBAND

Upcoming broadband funds can only be used for what is called fixed broadband. This refers to the fact that the end-user (a home, business, etc.) is fixed or does not move. Mobile broadband refers to cellular data plans. All technologies described here are considered fixed broadband.

Cellular data provides internet service in a different way. These technologies include 3G, 4G, and/or 5G (do not confuse with 1 G(ig) service, see above). However, these are not considered fixed broadband and if available at your address, you are still eligible for broadband funds.

One last thing, your Wi-Fi relies on these broadband technologies. Consider your broadband connection to be your main water line while Wi-Fi is the shower.

WHAT IS BROADBAND?

WHY IS BROADBAND ACCESS DATA IMPORTANT?

The federal government, in partnership with states, is deploying broadband funds through the Broadband Equity, Adoption, and Deployment program also known as BEAD. Indiana is receiving close to $870 million. A map compiled by the FCC will dictate where these funds go. So, we need to make sure Indiana's map is as accurate as possible. Continue reading below for more information.

CONFLICTING BROADBAND INFORMATION

Part of the reason this map is being updated is because broadband data is very muddy. In the past, the FCC compiled data from providers that report where they offer service, with what technology, and their maximum advertised download and upload speeds. However, because this data is provider self-reported and not validated by consumers it can overestimate broadband availability. This time around, they are asking for your help to make sure the data reported by providers is accurate at the address level.

SPEED TESTS

Another wrinkle to consider is that beyond internet service being available, is the issue of reliability and quality of service. One way to measure this is through speed tests. A speed test calculates your download and upload speeds (again, measured in Mbps). If your internet connection consistently delivers speed tests below what the provider says it is providing, there may be some quality issues. This in turn may make your address eligible for funds to build more high-quality internet service. You can see what service you subscribed to by checking out your internet bill.

To conduct a speed test on your existing service or to report an address with no service, please visit: pcrd.purdue.edu/speedtest

And remember, speed tests are free so please complete as many as possible, as frequently as possible! The more data there is on your internet service, the better!

ADOPTION AND AFFORDABILITY

In addition to having access to adequate internet, another issue is adoption. Many times, internet is available, but folks do not subscribe because they may not be able to afford it. Fortunately, there is a program in place called the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) that provides $30 per month to eligible homes ($75 in qualifying tribal lands and high-cost areas). Please visit www.fcc.gov/acp for more information and for instructions on how to enroll.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY | Office of Engagement