

January 2026 Newsletter

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Hours:
 Monday - Friday
 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Find us Online:

Website:
www.extension.Purdue.edu/Jennings



Purdue Extension-Jennings County



@purdueextensionjenningcounty



@JenningsCoExt

MONEY AS YOU GROW BOOK CLUB



PURDUE
 UNIVERSITY

Extension - Jennings County

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Money as You Grow
Help for parents and caregivers
No need to be a money expert—the tips and activities here can help your children's money skills, habits, and attitudes grow.

Starting in 2026, Purdue Extension-Jennings County will provide a Facebook event page where parents can access the Money As You Grow resources and virtual stories to share with their children.

Interested in joining the online book club? Scan the QR Code to register your family or visit: <https://bit.ly/3Y4JN04>

Parent Guides will need picked up at the Extension Office.



January4-H Newsletter

Jennings County 4-H

January
2026

Dear 4-H Families & Volunteers,

I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and is ready to take on the new year! I look forward to all of the fun and excitement the new year brings to the Jennings County 4-H Program!

There are only a few days left to meet our 4-H Enrollment Goal! Be sure to do so as soon as possible! Volunteers that are currently serving as a volunteer this year **must be enrolled to continue your volunteer roles and responsibilities.** If you need help with enrollment or have any questions, please contact the office by calling 812-352-3033

Happy New Year,
Rebekah Cartwright
4-H Youth Development Educator



2026 Handbooks

Beginning February 1st, new 4-H Members and volunteers may pick up a complete handbook. Returning 4-H Volunteers may pick up handbook revisions from the Extension Office. Handbooks and Revisions will be available **one** per family.

Southeastern Indiana 4-H Camp Dates

Camp Dates:

- Junior Directors, Group Leaders, and Counselors will report to camp from June 1-5.
- Counselors in Training and Campers will report to camp from June 2-5.

Junior Staff Upcoming Dates:

- Junior Directors Only
 - January 20th from 6-8 pm at the Ripley County Extension Office
- All Junior Staff
 - April 11th from 9 am - 3 pm at new Decatur County Extension Building.
 - May 6th from 6-8 pm at SEPAC

Payment is due May 1st of 2026.

2026 4-H Scholarships



In partnership with the Indiana 4-H Foundation, the Indiana 4-H Youth Development Program annually awards more than \$150,000.00 in scholarships to 4-H members to pursue post-secondary education. Scholarships are awarded to recognize youth participating in Indiana's 4-H Youth Development Program on their achievements and life skill development resulting from their participation in a variety of 4-H experiences. On the next page, the different scholarships are listed with brief descriptions. To access the application, visit 4-H Online through the events tab! Youth who are still members of 4-H must be in approved enrollment status to register for scholarships. If you are registering for the scholarships as a graduated senior, you can use your existing profile without re-enrollment.

Scholarship Help - Need help with scholarships? Whether you need help submitting, need scholarship writing advice, or just don't know where to begin, I am always here to help! Your green record folder would be helpful when applying for these scholarships. The Extension Office also has laptops available for you to utilize to help submit scholarships. Call the Extension Office and set up an appointment with Rebekah for help or schedule a time to use a laptop to submit your application! Additional Scholarship information is on the next page!

**FOLLOW OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE FOR
MORE UPCOMING
IMPORTANT DATES!**

Important Dates

January

5 Muscatatuck Mudpuppies Meeting

6 Junior Livestock Committee Meeting

6 Junior Leaders Meeting

15 Tractor Club Meeting

15 Beef Club Meeting

25 4-H Scholarships Due

Jennings County 4-H

Club Meetings & Events

- Junior Leaders
 - January 6th at the Extension Office at 6 pm
- Junior Livestock Committee
 - January 6th at the Extension Office at 5pm
- Muscatatuck Mudpuppies
 - January 5th at New Bethel at 6 pm
- Tractor Club
 - January 15th at the Library at 7 pm
- Beef Club
 - January 15th at the Library at 6 pm



Additional 4-H Scholarship Information

INDIANA 4-H FOUNDATION 2026 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Senior Year Scholarship

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

Club Scholarship

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

Purdue Horticulture & Landscape Architecture Scholarship

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

Accomplishment Scholarship

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

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

Eligibility: Applicants must be in grade 10, 11, 12, or their first year immediately following 4-H enrollment eligibility at the time applications are due. While an applicant does not have to be a current 4-H member, they must demonstrate multiple years of involvement in Indiana's 4-H Youth Development Program.

Youth who have previously been awarded a \$1,000 accomplishment scholarship are only eligible to compete in the Premier Achievement, Premier Citizenship, and Premier Leadership categories. Youth who have previously been awarded a \$2,000 scholarship are no longer eligible to compete in any category.

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

A minimum of one \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded in each of these categories: Premier Achievement; Premier Citizenship; and Premier Leadership.

Visit bit.ly/4hscholarship to download applications.

Applications due to County 4-H Educator January 25.
Contact your county's Purdue Extension Office to learn more.
\$174,250 AWARDED IN 2025

Ag & Natural Resources

Jan
2026

Final Call!!!Master Gardener Basic Training

Last day to sign up is January 15th!

Ready to deepen your gardening knowledge? The 2026 Master Gardener Program runs from February to May. Register now to reserve your spot! Don't forget to sign up by reaching out to epeterson@purdue.edu for more information and registration details.



PURDUE EXTENSION

MASTER GARDENER BASIC TRAINING

THURSDAYS NOON- 3 PM FEBRUARY-MAY

JOIN OUR 2026 COHORT OF LOCAL HORTICULTURE ENTHUSIASTS



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

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

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

Winter Reminder

- Cold temperatures affect people, pets, livestock, and equipment differently. Plan ahead and check often.

CLASSES HELD IN MADISON & SURROUNDING HORTICULTURE VENUES

3767 W SR 265 MADISON, IN 47250

ARE YOU READY TO **APPLY TO JOIN THE 2026 COHORT?**
EMAIL [COPELANB@PURDUE.EDU](mailto:copelanb@purdue.edu) OR CALL (812) 265-8919



Extension

PURDUE EXTENSION
MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

Ag & Natural Resources

Jan
2026

UAV Technology Program and Services

The UAV Technology Program that took place in Jennings County was a huge success! We had a great range of participants, including farmers, firefighters, journalists, and more.

ANR Educator Emily Stockdale took the exam and passed, and is now UAV licensed!

This program showed just how diverse and open these opportunities are. When we host programs in the future, anyone is welcome to sign up. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions about getting your license or if you need drone services.



Materials Available

Stop by our office or check the display in the hall outside to see the materials available. If you are interested, feel free to come in and pick some up, or call ahead to ask about what we have on hand.



Ag & Natural Resources

Upcoming PARPs and Events

- January 12th, Decatur County PARP 8:30-11:40 am
- January 16th, Orange County Southern IN Melon and Vegetable Growers Meeting 9 am-3:30 pm
- March 10th Jefferson County Tobacco PARP 6-8:30 pm



Check out the Purdue On The Farm YouTube for a bi-weekly crop and weather update:
<https://www.youtube.com/@PurdueOnTheFarm>

Visit -

<https://ag.purdue.edu/department/hla/extension/publications-and-newsletters.html> or search HORTICULTURE EXTENSION NEWSLETTERS to get signed up for topics such as gardening, fruit, lawncare, flowers, weeds, and insects, and much more. Most newsletters are a simple weekly or bi-weekly email that discusses what growers are seeing across Indiana at the current time. This helps growers of all sorts know and identify any issues they are having in their own landscape. If you are having trouble getting signed up, reach out to our ANR Educator for help.



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Health & Human Sciences

JAN
2026

Happy New Year

Wishing you all a
HAPPY & HEALTHY 2026!

ServSafe Food Manager

Monday, Jan. 26, 2026

Purdue Extension Office
Registration 8:15 AM
Training begins at 8:30 AM
Exam immediately following

Register by Jan 16th at:
<https://cvent.me/14mPQb>



2026 Training & Exam Dates

Monday, March 16, 2026

Monday, May 4, 2026

Monday, July 13, 2026

Monday, September 14, 2026

Monday, November 30, 2026

12 Nights of Bedtime Stories & Donuts with Santa



We had over 25 families with about 40 youth participate in our virtual bedtime stories! Thank you to our amazing community members that volunteered to read the bedtime stories each night and to all our participants! Extra thanks to North Vernon Main Street and the JC Public Library for helping us for hosting Donuts with Santa on Dec 20th and to our guests of honor, Santa & Mrs. Claus!



CHECK OUT THE MONEY AS YOU GROW BOOK CLUB
INFO ON OUR NEWSLETTER COVER PAGE!

