UPCOMING EVENTS

2/14: Noble Co. Fair Board Meeting, Fairgrounds 7pm
2/26: Michiana Irrigated Corn & Soybean Conference (p. 4)
3/5: Emergency Preparedness for Rural Families (p. 4)
3/9: NoblePalooza & MG Symposium, CLC in Kendallville
3/19: Youth Air Fryer Program, CLC in Kendallville
4/19: ServSafe Food Handler Training & Assessment (p. 9)
4/19 - 4/20: Rainscaping Education Program (p. 2)
4/24: Purdue Day of Giving
5/19: ServSafe Food Handler Training & Assessment (p. 9)
6/21: ServSafe Food Handler Training & Assessment (p. 9)
7/13 - 7/20: Noble Co. Community Fair (schedule to come)

The 2023 Purdue Impact Report is now available!
Go to: https://issuu.com/.../3-213_ext2023annualimpactreport...

Check out page 11 to find our very own Abigail Creigh! They recapped her work in the West Indies teaching food preservation and processing! Watch for more classes and programs from Purdue Extension - Noble County HHS on food preservation and processing.
Rainscaping is an educational program to teach the public about rain gardens. It includes the use of sustainable landscape design and management practices at both the household and community scales. The goal is to prevent polluted runoff from reaching water bodies by directing stormwater to areas where plants and soils can absorb the moisture. Community water quality can be affected by homeowner landscape management practices and could be improved through increased community education and implementation assistance of rain garden best management practices.

Rain garden practices may include:

- Installing rain barrels to collect rainwater, which can irrigate landscapes
- Constructing bioretention areas such as bioswales and rain gardens
- Redirecting downspouts from storm sewers to lawns or gardens
- Maintaining and protecting existing trees and shrubs and other natural features
- Selecting appropriate plants – the right plant for the right place
- Reducing impervious surfaces: pavers, pervious concrete, or gravel in place of concrete or asphalt
- Planting buffer strips around water bodies

**WHAT IS RAINSCAPING?**

*From Purdue Extension: extension.purdue.edu/rainscaping/what-is-rainscaping.html*

An example of a sign at a rain garden

Rainscaping Education Program

2-day program: Fri. April 19 - Sat. April 20

9am - 5pm both days

Noble County Public Library, Albion

Email Michele McDonald at mcdon197@purdue.edu to be notified when registration opens.
The Noble County Master Gardeners had their Annual Awards Banquet in January. They welcomed new Master Gardener interns who passed their fall class to join our group. Included in the newest group of Master Gardeners interns were 6 residents from the Chain O'Lakes Community Re-Entry Center!

These Extension Master Gardeners (EMG) advanced their certifications (picture to left):
- Angel Dean: Certified EMG
- Aurora Galligher: Advanced EMG
- Peggy Alfano: Adv. EMG Bronze
- Kim Poffenberger: Adv. EMG Silver

If you are interested in becoming a Noble County Master Gardener, contact the office at nobleces@purdue.edu or 260-636-2111.

The Noble County Master Gardeners Symposium is coming up as part of NoblePalooza, an Expo to Thrive at the Community Learning Center (CLC) in Kendallville on Saturday, March 9, 10-3. Follow our Facebook page for information!

Where Do You Get Weather Data?

The Indiana State Climate Office and the Midwestern Regional Climate Center invite you to participate in a brief survey, funded by the United Soybean Board, to gather information on how and where farmers obtain weather data used to make farm management decisions.

To complete our survey, go to: https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e35wq5pCvbVbCtw
Questions? Contact Austin Pearson at pearsona@purdue.edu.
MICHIANA IRRIGATED CORN & SOYBEAN CONFERENCE 2024

Monday, Feb 26
9 AM - 4 PM

Register at
https://events.anr.msu.edu/mics2024/
$20 registration fee
($30 after Feb.16)
- fee includes lunch -

Blue Gate Theatre
175 N Van Buren St
Shipshewana, IN

Irrigation-related Topics
- Nutrients and Irrigated Soils
- Irrigation Scheduling
- Evaluating Water Supply
- Insects and Irrigation
- Crop Disease Management
- Johnsongrass Control
- Worker Protection Standards
- Disease Management
- Soybean BMPs

Credits
- Indiana PARP (fee sponsored by Indiana Corn Marketing Council and Indiana Soybean Alliance)
- Indiana CCH: Category 1, 14, RT
- Michigan RUP (4 Core or 1A)
- CCA CEUs: 2 IPM, 1 SW, 1 NM, 1 CM

Event Sponsors

For more information go to
extension.purdue.edu/lagrange
or if reasonable accommodations are needed to participate, please call 260-499-6334

Purdue University and Michigan State University are equal opportunity/equal access affirmative action institutions.

Credits
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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR RURAL FAMILIES
March 5 | March 7 | March 12 | March 14

Emergency Preparedness for Rural Families is an upcoming four-part Extension workshop. The program will be held at numerous locations across Nebraska and Indiana (including Columbia City and Angola), in addition to a virtual option. The series focuses on farm and rural emergency management, first aid, fire protection, and hazardous materials.

Dates: March 5, 7, 12, & 14
Time: 5:30-8:30 pm
In-person: $50/person by Feb. 20 ($60 after)
Virtual: $75/person by Feb. 20 ($80 after)

For more information or to register go to:
https://ag.purdue.edu/department/extension/wia/emergency-preparedness-for-rural-families.html
When Indiana’s Board of Animal Health (BOAH) sends a message at 6 pm on a Tuesday evening that they are calling a meeting at 8 pm that same evening, you know something big is up. That’s when they announced that Highly Parthenogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) is once again in Indiana. This outbreak is in turkeys in Daviess County.

It was just 18 months ago we experienced an outbreak of avian flu in poultry flocks here in northern Indiana. It has not been in the news much lately, but avian flu is still lurking about, and with our large numbers of poultry here in northern Indiana, our growers, both commercial and backyard, need to remain vigilant. As spring approaches, wild birds will be migrating from south and central America, and they can easily bring it to us.

The situation in South America is unnerving. HPAI has been found consistently in seabirds, and the virus has jumped to seals and sea lions, killing over 1000 of those large animals. Birds are dying by the thousands, particularly pelicans and other seabirds along the coast. The scary part is the annual migration of birds from South America will be happening soon. As those birds arrive here, they will be crossing paths with local wild birds and backyard flocks, stealing feed from feeders and drinking from waterers. That is how the disease cycle move into domesticated flocks.

In fact, there is currently 1 farm in Ohio dealing with Avian flu, a total of 1.3 million birds to be euthanized. In Michigan, there is another commercial flock with 31,000 birds dealing with avian flu. Ohio and Illinois have documented 27 cases in the wild bird population since mid-December. All the states around us have documented cases in backyard flocks.

The USDA and BOAH take HPAI very seriously, for several reasons. First, it can move rapidly through a flock and a neighborhood, devastating the economy. And second, strains of the avian flu have been known to jump into the human population and make people sick. You do not get sick from properly prepared poultry meat or eggs.

If there is an outbreak, those agencies will create a 10-kilometer (6.2 miles) perimeter circle around the affected flocks, and then go door to door searching for additional sick animals within that circle. If more are discovered, new circles are drawn and the process starts again until no new sickly animals are found. I live in the area where the flu struck some duck barns in 2022, and witnessed that the veterinarians were very thorough in their search. Sick birds are euthanized and disposed of in humane and sanitary methods.

There are a few things that may help reduce the chance your birds are not affected. Most important, if you notice sickly birds, do not hesitate to call your veterinarian. The quicker the response, the better the chance more flocks are not affected.

Second: keep your birds in an escape proof enclosure, such as a backyard run, preferably covered with wire or netting. Our local commercial growers pulled their birds indoors to reduce the risk during the last outbreak.

Another wise step is to have dedicated shoes and outerwear when caring for the flock. Leave boots and coveralls in an adjacent container between visits. Be sure to wash your hands going in and out of the flock. Tools can also carry virus, so dedicating tools to stay with a particular coupe or barn can minimize the risk between buildings.

Keeping control of predators, such as dogs, mice, rats and other animals is important too. Those animals can help spread disease by moving carcasses.

Do not be misled by some of the poor information online. While writing this article, I saw one person claiming her organically fed birds are not susceptible to HPAI. Tell that to our local organic growers who buried thousands of birds in 2022. Information posted at Extension sites like Purdue, Penn State, Iowa and Minnesota is much more reliable than “Mary down the street on Facebook.”

BOAH is the lead agency when avian flu is found in Indiana. They are very good about communicating with people near the affected area, if they know you are there. I would suggest you register your flock (both commercial and hobby flocks) at https://www.in.gov/boah/traceability-and-premise-id/ or by calling (317) 544-2400. Those who sign up will receive an early heads up when situations arise, like I received Tuesday evening. It is a very impressive system.
Free Purdue Safety Training Available

The Purdue University Police and Fire departments are offering free, in-person “Prepared at Purdue” training on Feb. 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The training consists of sessions for verbally de-escalating tense situations, responding to potential active threat and shooter events, and rendering aid to control the bleeding of injured persons. The training will be held at Winifred Parker Residence Hall.

The training may be attended in whole, or attendees may register for just one or two of the training sessions. To register, contact Lt. Sarah Clark at sclark32@purdue.edu and indicate which session(s) you wish to attend. Purdue affiliation is not required to register, but priority will be given to Purdue faculty, staff, students and, alumni.

Equine Disease Update

(Edited from Jeff Burbrink, LaGrange County Extension Educator)

Equine Herpes (type 1) has been detected in animals in western LaGrange county.

The following link summarizes the issue:

Clinical signs may be non-specific and some horses may be non-clinical; others may show:

- Fever
- Difficulty urinating
- Nasal discharge and cough
- Depression
- Head tilt Loss of tail tone
- Stumbling or weakness in the hind limbs, may progress to all limbs
- Down and unable to rise

Equine herpes virus (EHV-1 and EHV-4) is spread via nose to nose contact, contaminated equipment (water and feed buckets, tack and grooming supplies, and shoes) and respiratory secretions within stalls/stables. Aborted fetuses and after-birth can also contain the virus. EHV-3 is spread through venereal transmission or contaminated breeding equipment. Humans can spread the virus from animal to animal. The virus is thought to live outside the body as many as 7 days.

The incubation period is up to 14 days.

If you suspect an issue, isolate the animals, contact your veterinarian, and disinfect water/feed buckets, mucking equipment, tack and other equipment used with the affected horse. It is strongly recommended that new horses on the property undergo a minimum 30 day isolation period when the horse is monitored for infectious disease signs and housed away from resident horses.

Additional Resources:
https://aaep.org/horsehealth/faq-regarding-equine-herpesvirus-ehv
Upcoming Workshops and Events:

February 1 - Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care - South Complex Dekko Rm Albion 6:30-7:30pm
February 3 - Junior Leaders - Leadership Summit at Augusta Hills 5pm
February 6 - Meat Sciences Workshop
February 14 - Fair Board meeting - Log Cabin - 7 PM
February 14 - Youth Maker Workshop - Art Canvas Painting - Augusta Hills
February 15 - Livestock Meeting - South Complex Dekko Room- Albion 7 PM
February 16 - Junior Leader Community Service Night- Albion Food Pantry 6pm
February 17 - Noble County Horse and Pony Tact Auction Fair Grounds Log Cabin 4pm
March 4 - Workshop Night: Pies, Cake decorating or Robotics & Electric at the CLC Kendallville 6pm
March 15 - Junior Leader Civic Leader Night- Ligonier 6pm (details to come)
March 19 - Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care, Central Noble High School 3:30-4:30pm
March 25 - Robotics Workshop Cromwell
March-April: Junior Leader Flower sales (details to come)
April 13 - Beef Steer Tag In - Fairgrounds 8am-10am
April 13 - Dairy Steer & Dairy Feeder Steer Tag In - Fairgrounds 10am-noon
April 16 - Sewing and Woodworking (Details to come)
April 26 - Fair grounds clean up and QLC at the Log Cabin (Details to come)
May 3 - Sheep & Goat Tag In - Fairgrounds
May 14 - Indiana 4-H QLC & 4-H Online Help - South Complex Dekko Room- Albion 6-7:30pm
June 5-7 - Area XI 4-H Camp
June 12-14 - 4-H Academy @ Purdue University
June 24-26 - 4-H Round Up @ Purdue University

Make sure you are following the correct Noble County Community Fairgrounds Facebook page! There are 2 Facebook pages online but only 1 has the most recent news, info and events. Due to an error, the original page had to be abandoned. Make sure to cancel the old one and like and follow the correct one!

For Facebook go to: https://www.facebook.com/NobleCountyCommunityFairgrounds

For the website go to: https://noblecountycommunityfair.weebly.com/

**Check out the Website for Fair info such as Camp site sign up and vender registration.

Any questions contact Fair Board Secretary Robin at nccfc.secretary@gmail.com

www.extension.purdue.edu/noble
2024 Enrollment Now Open!

Go to: www.4honline.com

Re-enrollment is required yearly. Adult volunteers must enroll annually as well. Contact the Extension office for help with enrollment.

Want to donate more to your community but don’t have the extra time or cash? Don’t worry you don’t have to break the bank! Did you know you can donate to 4-H by simply doing your regular shopping? 2 local businesses are making it easy to donate to Noble County 4-H!

Your local Kroger store lets you pick where your charitable donations go from every transaction that comes down their check-out lane! Simply go online to your Kroger Card account and select Noble County 4-H as your donation recipient and every time you shop with your Kroger card, a portion of the transaction will come directly to the Noble County 4-H. Midwest America Federal Credit Union, offers a Noble County 4-H debit card, free of charge! Any purchases made with your debit card will send a portion of those transactions to your Noble County 4-H program at no charge to you. Stop by their new location at 648 E. North St. in Kendallville for more details.

4-H Families, grades 3-12, who are Noble REMC Customers are eligible to have the $15 State Fair 4-H Fee reimbursed through Noble REMC! Obtain a voucher from the Extension Office after the 4-H fee has been paid and send the voucher in with your next REMC payment for a $15 credit. Stop by the Extension office and pick up your voucher today!

HELP WANTED

SUMMER INTERN

For more information, please go to http://nobleco.squarespace.com/public-info/

REQUIREMENTS
· High School diploma or GED
· 18 years of age or older
· Proficient with computer software
· Ability to communicate orally and in writing with co-workers
· Ability to work with minimal supervision
· Ability to safely lift 50 pounds

Drop off your application packet at the Extension Office or email nobleces@purdue.edu by Monday, March 4, 2024.

Additional questions, call 260-636-2111.
Purdue Extension - Noble County is hosting ServSafe Food Handler trainings & assessments.

Community Learning Center
401 E Diamond Street, Kendallville, IN 46755.
Offered on these Fridays: April 19, May 17, June 21

Tentative Schedule:
- Check-In: 8:30 AM
- Training: 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
- Health Dept. Info: 12:30 - 1:00 PM
- Assessment: 1:00 PM

Contact Abigail Creigh for questions at creigh@purdue.edu or 260-636-2111.
For more info: https://extension.purdue.edu/county/noble/hhs-noble-county/sub-page-open.html

Register online:
https://cvent.me/LNOzR2
County Location: Noble County
Training & Assessment Cost: $40.00
Do you have type 2 Diabetes? Are you interested in learning healthy habits to help with managing diabetes? This spring, a NEW interactive program is coming for Noble County residents! This 8-week course will teach a hands-on approach of lifestyle tools to help manage diabetes. Led by Registered Dietitians, together we will learn how to apply nutrition recommendations, participate in low-impact physical activity and cooking classes to create fun and delicious meals, and learn from a variety of guest speakers specializing in diabetes care.

Who: Individuals diagnosed with type 2 diabetes and live in Noble County
Where: Learning Kitchen at the Community Learning Center, 401 E. Diamond St. Kendallville
When: Noon – 2pm; every Thursday, Feb 29 – April 18 & 3-month follow-up on July 18
Cost: $10 for singles or $15 for couples. Scholarships available upon request.

Sign up by Feb 21, 2024, to reserve your spot! Call the Center for Healthy Living to register or for any questions: (260) 347-8125.
February is Heart Health Month!

Check out the American Heart Association and the CDC websites for great resources on heart health. And remember.... *Screenings save lives!*

Go to: [https://www.heart.org/](https://www.heart.org/) AND [https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/](https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/)

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**CHECK FOR THE HEART-CHECK MARK**

The Heart-Check mark is a simple tool to help you Eat Smart. When you see it, you can be confident that a product aligns with the American Heart Association’s recommendations for an overall healthy eating pattern.

This is what it takes to be Heart-Check certified:

**SOURCE OF NUTRIENTS**

*Beneficial Nutrients (naturally occurring): 10% or more of the Daily Value of 1 of 6 nutrients (vitamin A, vitamin C, iron, calcium, protein or dietary fiber)*

**LIMITED IN BAD FATS**

*Saturated Fat: 1 g or less per standard serving size and 15% or less calories from saturated fat*

*Trans Fat: Less than 0.5 g per label serving size and per standard serving size. Products containing partially hydrogenated oils are not eligible for certification.*

**LIMITED IN SODIUM**

*Sodium: One of four sodium limits applies depending on the particular food category: up to 140 mg, 240 mg or 360 mg per label serving, or 460 mg per label serving and per standard serving size.*

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**NoblePalooza: The 3rd Annual**

NoblePalooza, an Expo to Thrive, will return to the Community Learning Center!

**Saturday, March 9, 2024**

10 AM - 3 PM

@ THE CLC KENDALLVILLE

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NoblePalooza is a free community event showcasing individuals and organizations from across Noble County that make our community thrive! Purdue Extension Noble County will be on hand to talk with you about Ag and Natural Resources, Health and Human Science Programs, and 4-H Youth Development as well as Extension Homemakers and Master Gardeners!
Noble County Extension Educators:
Ann Kline (CED, ANR): kline60@purdue.edu
Abigail Creigh (HHS): creigh@purdue.edu
Matt Dice (4-H Youth): dice@purdue.edu

Extension Office Support Staff:
Brandy Anderson: ande1307@purdue.edu
Noelle Gaerte: ngaerte@purdue.edu
Michele McDonald: mcdon197@purdue.edu

Purdue Extension - Noble County is located in the Noble County Annex Building west of the Noble County Courthouse on 109 N York St., Albion.

Find us & get connected:
Websites: www.extension.purdue.edu/noble
4-H Sign Up: V2.4honline.com
Facebook:
- Purdue Extension Noble County
- Noble County, Indiana 4-H
- Master Gardeners of Noble County, IN
YouTube:
- Purdue Noble County Extension
- Purdue Extension Area 11 HHS
Instagram: purdueextensionnobleco

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