4-H Enrollment

4HOnline (v2.4HOnline.com) is open to enroll/re-enroll youth for the 2021-2022 program year!

Please contact the Extension Office if we can help in any way!

All 4-Her’s MUST BE ENROLLED
in all projects before May 15.

4-H Project Update:
Any 4-Her (except Mini 4-H) who exhibits a project at Fair, please make sure to check out the 2022 4-H Scoop. All county and state projects were updated this year. As you start working on your projects, make sure you check the guidelines. If you have any questions, call the office at 812-354-6838.

Pike County 4-H Spring Break Day Camp

Looking for a great way to spend a couple days of Spring Break? Join in on our Spring Break Day Camp on March 22–23, open to all 4-H members grades 3-12! We have two fun-filled days jam-packed with interactive games, 4-H projects, outdoor activities, science experiments, and so much more!

Want to come with friends who aren’t 4-H Members? $20/youth gets them in on the Spring Break Camp and other activities all year round!

Call the Extension Office before March 11 to get registered!
Fair Season

Spencer County: June 25 - 28
Perry County: July 9 - July 12
Gibson County Fair: July 10 - 16
Daviess County Fair: July 12 - 23
Dubois County Fair: July 12 - 17
Martin County: July 15 - 19
Knox County Fair: July 18 - 23
Posey County: July 18 - 23
Warrick County: July 19 - 24
Vanderburgh County Fair: July 26 - 31
Pike County Fair: July 24 - 30

County & State 4-H Trips

4-H Camp with Pike, Daviess, Dubois, Martin, Perry, & Spencer Counties: June 13 - 15, 2022
4-H Academy: June 8 – 10, 2022
State Jr. Leader Conference: June 14-17, 2022
4-H Round-Up: June 20 – 22, 2022

More information to come!
Clover Gaming Connection

The Clover Gaming Connection SPARK Club finished their meetings last month and had a spectacular time learning what all goes into the making and production of a game and using those skills to create their own board games! We look forward to hosting this program again next fall and seeing more new faces as the club grows. This SPARK Club was made possible in part by a grant from the Pike County Community Foundation.

Vanderburgh County 4-H Poultry Workshop

Any 4-H member interested or enrolled Poultry should make plans to join this workshop being held at the Vanderburgh County 4-H Center. 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator, Alex Mahrenholz, has room for six passengers to attend this event! Call the Extension Office or email Alex before March 9 to reserve your spot. (see flyer)

4-H Grants

4-H provides opportunities for youth to take the lead in making their own communities a better place for all. The YES Grant is intended to give youth-led projects the financial boost they need to get off the ground and start making a difference.

Funds for this initiative were made available from the Nola Gentry Charitable Trust and Corteva Agriscience.
CAKE DECORATING

FOR BEGINNERS!

REGISTER TODAY

WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 16; 1:00 - 3:00 PM
Pike County 4-H Exhibit Building

This SWEET workshop will help youth gain basic cake decorating skills and ideas that will make your next dessert (or 4-H Fair project!) be delicious inside & out!

Space is limited to first 15, so be sure to register ASAP by calling (812) 354-6838 or emailing Alex at amahrenh@purdue.edu
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time EST</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>Vanderburgh Poultry Workshop</td>
<td>10:00 AM – 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Vanderburgh 4-H Center</td>
<td>Alex Mahrenholz</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>YQCA Training #2</td>
<td>6:00 – 7:15 PM</td>
<td>4-H Exhibit Bldg.</td>
<td>Alex Mahrenholz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 22 – 23</td>
<td>4-H Spring Break Day Camp</td>
<td>9:00 AM – 4:00 PM</td>
<td>4-H Fairgrounds</td>
<td>Brooke or Alex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>YQCA Training #3</td>
<td>9:00 – 10:15 AM</td>
<td>4-H Exhibit Bldg.</td>
<td>Alex Mahrenholz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Cake Decorating Workshop</td>
<td>1:00 – 3:00 PM</td>
<td>4-H Exhibit Bldg.</td>
<td>Alex Mahrenholz</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Performing Arts &amp; Verbal Communications Contest</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>4-H Exhibit Bldg.</td>
<td>Alex Mahrenholz</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>YQCA Training #4</td>
<td>6:00 – 7:15 PM</td>
<td>4-H Exhibit Bldg.</td>
<td>Alex Mahrenholz</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>4-H ENROLLMENT, LIVESTOCK ID, YQCA DEADLINE to participate in 2022 4-H Fair!!!</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 8-10</td>
<td>4-H Academy</td>
<td></td>
<td>Purdue University Main Campus</td>
<td>Angie Frost @ <a href="mailto:alfrost@purdue.edu">alfrost@purdue.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 13 – 15</td>
<td>4-H Camp with Pike, Daviess, Dubois, Martin, Perry, &amp; Spencer Counties</td>
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YQCA

The Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is an exhibit requirement for any 4-H member in the following projects: Cattle, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, and Swine. Members may attend any YQCA Training or complete the training online.

In-person YQCA Trainings for Pike County 4-H are generously sponsored by the Pike County 4-H Livestock Committee. Online trainings are available at a cost of $12/exhibitor.

Pike County 4-H Youth should register for the training of their choice via Events in 4-H Online at least one week prior to the date of the training.

Call the Extension Office or e-mail Alex with any questions you might have!

ALL PIKE COUNTY 4-H YOUTH MUST HAVE COMPELTED THEIR YQCA TRAINING BEFORE MAY 15.

PIKE COUNTY
YQCA TRAININGS

February 9, 2022: 6 PM
March 21, 2022: 6 PM
April 16, 2022: 9 AM
May 9, 2022: 6 PM

The Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is an exhibit requirement for any 4-H member in the following projects: Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, and Swine. Members may attend any of the above meetings OR a YQCA training in another county OR complete the training online.

In-person or Online YQCA Training is REQUIRED for 4-H livestock exhibitors each year! In-person trainings are sponsored by your Pike County 4-H Livestock Committee (Online trainings are $12)
Junior Leaders

The next Jr. Leader meetings will be on March 15th and April 19th at 6pm at the Pike County 4-H Exhibit Building.

This is open to all 7th-12th graders interested in being a leader, getting involved in the community, and helping grow our 4-H program! Contact Brooke Goble at 812-354-6838 or bgoble5@purdue.edu with any questions.

Volunteers

All new first year 4-H Volunteers, please make sure to return your personal reference form to our office and remind your references to return their reference forms as soon as possible. You should have received a packet with this information. If you did not receive this packet, please let our office know so we can mail you a new one. You will not be considered an approve volunteer until we have received this information.

Any volunteers who have not completed the required training, needs to go back into 4-H Online and complete the trainings as soon as possible. We will have one last in-person training for those who were unable to attend the in-person trainings we had in the fall. **This training will be held on March 31st at 6pm in the 4-H exhibit building.** If you are unable to attend this training, you will need to complete the trainings online. If you need any assistance, please call the office and we will assist you in any way we can.

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**Webinar Wednesdays**

2/16- Dr. Keith Johnson
Preparing Pastures for Spring

3/9- Dr. Amanda Farr
Health and Vaccinations

4/20- Dr. Robin Ridgway
Trailer Safety

All sessions at 7:00 pm EST

Register: Zoom https://tinyurl.com/3vtxn88

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**Purdue Extension Pike County**

Pike County Indiana 4-H

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**Find us on Facebook**

For the most up-to-date information and some fun surprises in between, please like our pages on Facebook!
Keeping Your Grain Safe in Fluctuating Temperatures

If you don’t like the weather, stick around, it’ll change. Many residents of southern Indiana have muttered these words at one point or another. Inconsistent temperatures seem to be a staple of this region, including those temperatures bouncing above and below the 32-degree freezing mark. The fruits of last year’s crop may not be actively growing, but they are still retaining and even gaining value, being stored in grain bins across the area. Checking the status of stored grain is vital to maintaining that value.

Crusting, wet or sticky kernels can be telltale signs of trouble that require a swift reaction. Grain temperature should remain below 40 degrees for optimal long-term storage. Solar radiation can cause issues in the winter when it comes to grain temperature as the daily total of solar energy on the south side of a grain bin is double on Feb. 21 than it is on June 21. Grain against the nearest two feet of bin walls may be warmer than the average air temperature and can help provide input on when to utilize fans. Fans should not be operated during rain or snow to minimize introducing additional moisture into the grain stored and bin vents should be monitored for ice and frost as damage can occur to the bin roof.

As the last few weeks of a difficult winter pass, continuing to check stored grain will ensure the viability of last year’s work as we move into a planting season that is certain to require more of your immediate attention.
What Hobby Poultry Owners Should Know About Preventing Avian Influenza

INDIANAPOLIS — Avian influenza can be devastating to all poultry—even small, hobby flocks. The virus can cause reduced egg production, general illness or even sudden death to chickens, turkeys and other poultry species. With cases cropping up in three states in the last week, hobby flock owners should take steps to keep their flocks safe.

Poultry owners should practice good biosecurity by blocking possible sources of the virus. This includes minimizing foot traffic from visitors into the chicken coops and pasture areas. The avian influenza (AI) virus (and other disease-causing agents) can be carried in on clothing and shoes. Avoid visiting other flocks and handling other people’s birds.

Anyone entering a chicken coop or pasture area should wear boot covers or shoes dedicated to that space only. Change shoes, boots or clothing after wearing them in public.

Equipment, such as feed buckets, hoses and waterers, can be contaminated. Therefore, equipment should be cleaned and disinfected before use—especially if it has contact with birds from outside the home flock. Vehicles can transport germs on tires, too.

Prevent contact with wild birds. Migratory waterfowl (ducks, geese, etc.) are known to carry AI without becoming ill or dying. Because they shed the virus in their droppings, bodies of water and other spaces where they congregate can pose a higher risk. Keeping poultry confined to a coop or a fenced space can help to reduce possible exposure.

Watch for signs of illness in your flock. Birds affected with HPAI may show one or more of the following signs:

- Sudden death without clinical signs
- Nasal discharge
- Lack of energy and appetite
- Coughing, sneezing
- Decreased egg production
- Incoordination
- Soft-shelled or misshapen eggs
- Diarrhea
- Swelling of the head, eyelids, comb, wattles, and hocks
- Purple discoloration of the wattles, combs, and legs
- Nasal discharge
- Coughing, sneezing

At the first signs of any of these, call the USDA Healthy Birds Hotline: 866-536-7593. Callers will be routed to a federal or state veterinarian in Indiana for case assessment. Dead birds should be double-bagged and refrigerated for possible testing.

Essential points to note about the current ongoing avian influenza situation:

1. The food supply is safe. All shipments of poultry and eggs are tested to ensure the absence of avian influenza (AI) before moving into the food supply.
2. No cases of human illness have been reported for the strains of HPAI that are currently circulating in the United States; however, poultry owners should practice good hygiene/handwashing after handling birds.

Learn more about biosecurity practices and keeping poultry safe online at: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth/animal-disease-information/avian/defend-the-flock-program/defend-the-flock-program

Need to check your PARP records?

Visit https://www.oisc.purdue.edu/

- Click on “My Records” in orange
- Click on “Applicator Login”
- Enter the information required
- Click on the different tabs to see where you attended meetings, how many credits you have, how many you need, and when your license expires.

If you have any questions about your PARP credits/sessions, please e-mail or call Alex at the Extension Office.
Impending Global Food Experiment

The pandemic has changed a lot of things, but one thing Americans continue to enjoy is one of the world’s most abundant and safe food supplies. While prices fluctuate, and in some cases, skyrocket, the United States has seen food prices remain relatively stable in retail markets. In 2020, American consumers spent an average of 8.6 percent of their disposable personal income on food. The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the sharpest annual decline in the share of disposable income spent on total food since USDA began tracking these expenditures. In part, this decline was the result of the largest annual increase in disposable personal income since 2000 and the sharpest decrease in food-away-from-home spending.

To keep up with growing demand and a growing population, agricultural production of the globe’s four primary crops, corn, rice, wheat, and sugar can, has increased by approximately 50% since the early 2000s. New technology, crop-protection tools, genetically modified crops, and regenerative soil initiatives have helped American farmers meet these production needs. One vital tool that has been utilized for decades, but is commonly forgotten, is nitrogen fertilizer. The developed world has enjoyed easy access to nitrogen for many decades, but that’s about to change.

While food prices have remained stable, agricultural fertilizer prices have most certainly not. Anhydrous ammonia is averaging $1,412.88 per ton and urea around $889 per ton with the likely possibility of continued increases as we continue into the spring season. 2022 will mark the first year in most active farmer’s careers that they will be reducing their reliance on fertilizer. The risk of a reduced harvest has the potential to impact the global food supply. Less money means less product and less fertilizer means lesser food production, almost any farmer would say so.

The demand for food is rising with every infant born and the population requires year-on-year record harvests to continue feeding the world as farmers have always done. See the issue here? This experiment farmers are unwillingly conducting has almost a certain outcome ahead. Even with opportunities to make up for the less than favorable conditions this economic environment will provide to our agricultural one, crops will likely face declines in yield. Farmers will presumably try to take advantage of precision techniques and various cropping approaches to encourage maximum yield potentials, which could prove to be positive for non-traditional and conservation-minded farming practices in the future. However, the end result of a lesser yield for a growing population remains.

The process and results of this high-stakes experiment are undeniably impending and will be experienced worldwide. Preparing for the worst is more important now than ever, because if we fail to prepare now, everyone will lose out on more than nitrogen prices or yields. Everyone in the food supply chain from farmers to each person with a dinner plate and especially those with low incomes who depend on the abundant food supply more than anyone else will be forced to make choices that will lessen their quality of life. A difficult year lies ahead, but famed agriculturist Benjamin Franklin’s words still hold true, “Those who fail to plan, plan to fail.”

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As the last few weeks of a difficult winter pass, continuing to check stored grain will ensure the viability of last year’s work as we move into a planting season that is certain to require more of your immediate attention.
Lemon Pepper Chicken & Potatoes Sheet Pan

This recipe is perfect dinner recipe when you need something quick and easy, especially when you have potatoes that need to be used up. Makes 4 Servings

Ingredients:
- 1 1/2 pound Chicken Breasts- boneless, skinless, diced into 1.5 x 1.5 inch cubes
- 3 1/2 cups Broccoli- Fresh or frozen
- 1 pound baby potatoes or regular potatoes cubed
- 3 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon course ground or stone ground mustard
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 3 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon lemon pepper seasoning
- 1/4 teaspoon salt pepper to taste

Directions:
1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees and place wax paper on baking sheet. In a small bowl, whisk together 1.5 tablespoon lemon juice, mustard, garlic, honey, salt, and 2 tablespoons of the olive oi. Set aside.
2. Place the potatoes and broccoli on the pan. Drizzle with the remaining olive oil and about half of the lemon-mustard mixture. Toss to coat. Season generously with salt, pepper, and 1/2 tablespoon lemon pepper seasoning. Spread evenly on the pan.
3. Cut your chicken breasts into roughly 1.5x1.5 inch cubes. Season each of your chicken with lemon pepper seasoning and place on the pan also. Drizzle the remaining lemon/mustard mixture over your cubed chicken.
4. Bake for 25 minutes, tossing halfway through. Cook until the potatoes are tender and the chicken is cooked.
The 2022 4-H Scoop will be in the mail next week.

*Please check out the Scoop carefully!*

All county and state projects were updated this year. As you start working on your projects, make sure you check the guidelines.

If you have any questions, call the office at 812-354-6838.