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The weather is warming up and that means 4-H programs are in full swing. Make sure to check out important dates in this newsletter. There are new home-based vendor rules coming out so read below or check out the health and human sciences section of the newsletter for more details. You can also find important Extension Homemaker dates and other programs while there as well. Garden, landscape, and farm season are in full swing so check out articles in the ag and natural resources section. If you have questions this season feel free to call and I can help.

If you have any 4-H, health, human science, agriculture, natural resource, or gardening questions feel free to call us at 812-882-3509.

Valerie Clingerman Extension Educator

Agriculture and Natural Resources/County Extension Director

**New laws impact home-based vendors**

Most individuals who sell goods at farmer’s markets or roadside stands are operating under home-based vendors laws. Indiana recently passed a new law ([HB 1149](http://iga.in.gov/static-documents/8/8/d/4/88d4c8cb/HB1149.04.ENRS.pdf)) which includes changes that will impact all persons operating as a home-based vendor. This new law will take effect July 1, 2022 and includes the following key changes:

* Home based vendors are now allowed to sell products in person, by telephone, or through the Internet;
* Products may be delivered to the end consumer in person, by mail, or by a third-party carrier (in the state of Indiana)
* Home based vendors must complete food handler training. ServSafe Food Handler training fulfills this requirement. This certification is valid for three years. You have two training options to fulfill this requirement.
	+ The Purdue Extension Food Safety Team is preparing a series of in-person food handler trainings. Call your local Purdue Extension office or visit <http://www.purdue.edu/servsafe/workshops> to find classes as they are scheduled.
	+ For those who prefer an online option, the ServSafe Food Handler training can be taken online at [www.servsafe.com](http://www.servsafe.com)

It is important to note that the law has not changed what a home-based vendor can sell. The sale of any potentially-hazardous food is not allowed by home-based vendors and requires a separate license type. For questions or to be placed on the training notification list, please contact Tonya at 812-882-3509; short43@purdue.edu. See page 8 for more details.

**4-H & Youth Development**

Mitch Wagoner

Extension Educator - 4-H Youth Development

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**Livestock Tagging & Tattoo Dates**

All livestock “BUT poultry at this time” must be ID’d on 4HOnline 2.0 by May 16!

Possession date for rabbits & poultry is the date of tagging! All others are May 16!

* **Steers** & **Commercial Heifers**: tagging was February 19 at Producers.
* For **Beef Cattle** & **Dairy Cattle** if you need an 840 RFID tag please contact the Extension Office.
* **Poultry** leg banding & blood testing is May 7 at the Southwest Purdue Ag Center from 8:00-10:00 am. \*Poultry must be large enough to blood test and band (based off of breed)
* **Rabbit** tattooing is May 7 at the Southwest Purdue Ag Center from 2:00–4:00 pm.
* **Sheep** & **Goat** tagging is on May 7 at the Extension Office Parking Lot from 9:00—11:00 am.
	+ Which sheep & goats need to come to tagging?
		- Any sheep planning to go to State Fair
		- All market lambs/ commercial breeding ewes.
		- All meat goat wethers and meat goat wether dams.
		- You can use last year’s tags. They do not need to come to tagging.
* **Swine**: No tagging date for swine. **All** exhibitors “County Only & State Fair” need to pick up tags from Extension Office **before May 13**.

**State Fair DNA Hair Samples** envelopes for beef cattle, dairy cattle, meat goats, sheep, & swine can be picked up from the Extension Office and are due back to the Extension Office by May 16!

**How to ID Animals on 4HOnline**

**All livestock must be ID’d by May 16!**

All Livestock “*BUT poultry at this time*” are to be ID’d on **“https://v2.4honline.com”**.

Instructions on how to ID your livestock was mailed out.

Worksheets are **NOT** enrollment forms. Worksheets should be used to help collect information to be inputted into 4HOnline 2.0.

If you have problems, please contact the Extension Office at 812-882-3509.

**4-H Meetings**

4-H Clubs have started to schedule meetings for the upcoming year. Once they have scheduled their meetings, we will send a letter out to inform you of the dates and location of the meetings.

Our office is working to update the website with this information.

Office Website: <https://extension.purdue.edu/county/knox/knox-4-h-information.html>

**Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)**

There are 2 ways to be YQCA certified:

1. Youth attend an in person YQCA training. Youth will receive the coupon at the training to register for the training.
2. Youth may complete the entire course online at <https://yqcaprogram.org/> Pay a $12 fee for online certification.

4-H members MUST BE certified through the YQCA program to exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, and rabbits in 4-H for 2022.

Knox County is hosting 3 in person events:

* Tuesday, April 12 at 6:00 pm at the VU Ag Center room 102.
* Sunday, April 24 at 3:00 pm at the Knox County Fairgrounds in the Farm Bureau Exhibit Hall.  After the Rabbit Club Meeting.
* Tuesday, May 17 at 6:00 pm at the VU Ag Center room 102.

**Color Me Green 4-H Dash**

Knox County 4-H will be hosting a Color Me Green 4-H Dash at the VU Pavilion at the Knox County Fairgrounds.

* FREE t-shirts and sunglasses will be handed out (First come, first serve!).
* FYI. The participates will get messy! Please bring change of clothes and something for the youth to sit on in the vehicle.

When: Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Registration: 6:00 p.m.

Run Starts: 6:30 p.m.

**Upcoming Dates**

* Knox County Performing Art Contest: May 5
* Livestock Tagging date (for Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, & Sheep): May 7
* Camp Counselor Training: May 10
* Area 3 Performing Art Contest: May 13 at Heritage Hills High School
* Animal ID Deadline: May 16
* Project Drop & Add Deadline: May 16
* YQCA Training: May 17
* Memorial Day “Office Closed”: May 30
* Fair Entry Opens: June 1
* Camp Counselor Training: June 5
* Knox County 4-H Camp: June 6-8
* 4-H Academy @ Purdue: June 8-10
* Knox County Tractor Driving Contest: June 12 at Fairgrounds
* Knox County Club Leader Meeting: June 14
* 4-H Round-Up: June 20-22
* Area 3 Tractor Driving Contest: June 25 at Warrick County
* Color Me Green 4-H Dash: June 28 at Knox County Fairgrounds
* Independence Day “Office Closed”: July 4
* Fair Entry Closes: July 6
* Livestock Cleanup Day: July 9
* Non-Perishable Judging: July 13
* Perishable & Sewing Judging: July 16
* Livestock Check-in: July 17
* Knox County Fair: July 18-23
* Livestock Auction and Livestock/ Building Project Release: July 22
* Indiana State Fair: July 29 – Aug 21
* Projects from State Fair available for pick up: August 23
* 4-H Enrollment for 2022-2023 opens: October 1

**Social Media**

Facebook: “KnoxCountyIN4H”

Instagram: “@knoxcountyin4h”

Twitter: “@knox\_in4h”

## **Health & Human Sciences**

Tonya Short-Extension Educator

Health & Human Sciences

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**Club highlight: North Knox Neighbors Homemakers Club**

Pat Summers says she is not for certain when the North Knox Neighbors Extension Homemakers Club was established but she joined in 1967. Her club was originally known as the Edwardsport Club. She can recall the ebb and flow of membership and as members joined from other areas including Oaktown, Bicknell, Freelandville, and Sandborn, they voted to change the club name to the North Knox Neighbors. The club would meet in different homes each month and sometimes even bring their children. Pat notes that her daughter still remembers attending meetings and is now president of her own club in Hancock County.

The North Knox Neighbors Homemakers have been very active in the community over the years helping with Ag Day, Bingo scholarship fundraiser, Open Class at the Knox County Fair, May Breakfast and Make it Take it Programs. Several of the members are superintendents for Open Class at the Knox County Fair and they all enjoy exhibiting their creations at the fair. They all are amazing to help keep the building very organized and operating smoothly. Members have also enjoyed attending Home and Family Conference every summer.

Over the years, members have made a toybox and filled it with gifts from other Knox County homemaker clubs to present to the first New Year’s baby at Good Samaritan Hospital. As fundraisers to support their outreach, the club also enjoys having a bake sale around Easter and a White Elephant auction in October.

They also make sure to make time for fun and fellowship. Members share their knowledge and talents offering craft lessons, basket making, noodle making, flower planting and needlework. They like to play bingo and stay connected through Heart Sister gift exchange. And every December they celebrate with their partners with a couples carry-in dinner.

As with many organizations, the pandemic has taken its toll but Pat notes that they plan to do things to build that back up. The North Knox Neighbors Extension Homemakers club meets the third Thursday of each month. Each meeting includes a lesson of some kind, a health and safety report and much more. “If you are interested in fellowship and fun, please join us. We have a great time,” Pat says.

**Extension Homemakers—Dates**



May 4: May Lunch – Ponderosa – 11:30 AM

June 1: Club Dues due to County Treasurer (Mary Louise Hess)

June 15: Liability Ins and annual dues due to IEHA State Treasurer

July 6: County Council Meeting

July 18-23: Knox County Fair

July 29-August 21: Indiana State Fair

August 16: Fall District Meeting, Warrick County

**Extension Homemaker May “Lunch”**

“Let’s not go another year without being able to get together and celebrate,” says Pat Summers, president of the Knox County Extension Homemakers Council.

The Knox County Extension Homemakers will host their Spring get-together on May 4th at 11:30 AM at Ponderosa. New officers will be installed, new program books will be passed out, Generations as guest speaker, fun and fellowship to be had by all. Bring a friend! All members are encouraged to attend.

**Meet Me At The Fair**

The pandemic has impacted many of our routines, and that includes participation at our county fair. To celebrate our fair and invite the community to preserve and continue the history, the theme for the Open Class exhibit hall this year will be “Meet me at the fair”. Extension Homemakers are busy collecting historical pieces to display during the fair and are asking your help. If you have any documents, pictures, newspapers articles, etc. from the fair of years past and are willing to display them and/or let us take a copy, please contact Barb Holscher at 812-881-7688 or bbd62@yahoo.com.

**Tools 2 Thrive**

If the pandemic has done one positive thing, it has allowed us to talk more freely about our stresses and mental wellness. (Never mind that the pandemic jeopardized mental wellness for many of us. Ugg) But, if hard times can prompt us to build skills then it really did strengthen us. I hope that you have built new mental wellness skills over the past two years. Here are some things that I hope for our community as we continue to be #InThisTogether.

* That’s it’s ok to say, “I’m not ok”
* That we can have grace and compassion with others
* That we can first assume the best in others
* That we can own our own feelings
* That we can be civil and kind even when we disagree
* That we can value our own self-care and make it a priority
* That we continue to find ways to reconnect; attend a program, join a club
* That we can contribute meaningfully to make Knox County a great place to live.

If you could use some tips and tricks to support your mental wellness, or information on how you can best help someone who may be struggling check out the Tool 2 Thrive resource library from Mental Health America at <https://mhanational.org/tools-2-thrive>.

**Home Food Preservation**

Purdue Extension Mastering Home Food Preservation team is offering several workshop options in various locations across the state, including an intensive 4-day training to be held on campus. Visit this website for more details:

<https://extension.purdue.edu/news/county/knox/2022/04/home-food-preservation.html>**ServSafe Manager Class and Certification Exam**

This class and exam fulfills Indiana requirements to become a “Certified Food Protection Manager” (formerly called Certified Food Handlers). Exams are available in a variety of languages and classes are offered in English and Spanish in our area.

This class and proctored examination is offered at a variety of dates and locations. Training with Exam or Exam Only options for those who self-study are available. For more information contact Tonya @ 812-882-3509 or short43@purdue.edu.

**The next local class will be held June 13, 2022 at the VU Agricultural Center (just north of Vincennes). Register here** [**https://cvent.me/r0aldA**](https://cvent.me/r0aldA) **or call Purdue Extension – Knox County with any questions. 812-882-3509**

For a full list of upcoming class dates visit: <http://www.purdue.edu/servsafe/workshops>

**Spring Cleaning for Your Finances**

Spring cleaning is upon us, but it shouldn’t be limited to tidying up your home. An annual financial clean-up will help keep you on track and will give peace of mind for the rest of the year. Here are some things to keep in mind:

* **Do you have an emergency savings account**? If you answer no, set a goal of saving $500-$1000 just to give yourself a little cushion when unexpected expenses come in - and you know they will. Your ultimate goal should be to have 3-6 months of living expenses on hand. You don’t have to save it all at once but regular savings contributions, however small, will add up over time.
* **Make sure you are contributing to right amount to a retirement fund.** Experts recommend saving at least 15% of your income (that is you and your employer’s contributions combined). If that is too much for your budget right now, start by focusing on maximizing your employer’s contributions. For example, if your employer matches the first 4% that you contribute try to contribute at least 4% so you can get that extra 4% for free!
* **Meet with your financial advisor** at least once per year to make sure you are on track to meet your financial goals.
* **Maximize other tax-sheltered accounts** that you may have access to. For example, if your employer offers an HSA or FSA account you can set aside money – tax free – to use for qualified medical expenses or even dependent care with special accounts.
* **Check your credit report** at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com). Review the report for accuracy and report any errors you find. They could negatively impact your credit score. Even if you are not planning on applying for a loan, a low credit score can cost you money through increased costs like insurance rates.
* **Review all your accounts** and make sure your beneficiaries are up to date. No one plans for things to happen but it’s better to be prepared and easier on your loved ones if all your records are current and accurate.
* **Make a plan to pay down debt**. The less debt you have the more money you have every month to do things you want.

**New Law for Home-Based Vendors**

If you sell food to an end consumer in the state of Indiana, you are either established as a [Retail Food Establishment](https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/retail-information/) or a Home-Based Vendor. Most individuals who sell foods at farmer’s markets or roadside stands are operating under home-based vendors laws. Indiana recently passed a new law ([HB 1149](http://iga.in.gov/static-documents/8/8/d/4/88d4c8cb/HB1149.04.ENRS.pdf)) which includes changes that will impact all persons operating as a home-based vendor. This article will help you understand who qualifies as a home-based vendor, which foods home-based vendors are allowed to sell and what has changed in the new law.

# Who is a home-based vendor? Pursuant to newly enacted (effective 7/1/22) code: [IC 16-42-5.3](http://iga.in.gov/static-documents/8/8/d/4/88d4c8cb/HB1149.04.ENRS.pdf), “A home based vendor shall prepare and sell only a food product that is:

* made, grown, or raised by an individual at the individual's primary residence, including any permanent structure that is on the same property as the residence;
* not a potentially hazardous food product;
* not resold; (e.g. you must sell to the end user not someone who intends to resell).

# What products may a home-based vendor sell? Home-based vendors are allowed to sell non-potentially hazardous foods. Non-potentially hazardous foods are those that do not require refrigeration for food safety. This list of allowable foods has not changed and includes:

* Baked items;
* Candy and confections
* Produce, whole and uncut
* Tree nuts, legumes
* Pickles processed in a traditional method (e.g. fermentation)
* Honey, molasses, sorghum, maple syrup
* Mushrooms grown as a product of agriculture (wild mushrooms should be certified)
* Traditional jams, jellies and preserves made from high-acid fruits and using full sugar recipes (This is the only home-canned food allowed.)

# Exceptions: Exceptions to this rule apply for in-shell chicken eggs, poultry and rabbit; however, additional guidelines from their respective agencies must be followed. i.e. Indiana State Egg Board and Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH).

# What has changed under the new law? There are two major changes under the new law:

1. Home-based vendors may now sell their product:
* in person, by telephone, or through the Internet; and
* delivered to the end consumer in person, by mail, or by a third-party carrier.
1. All home-based vendors must “obtain a food handler certificate from a certificate issuer that is accredited by the American National Standards Institute” (ANSI). ServSafe Food Handler training fulfills this requirement. This certification is valid for three years. You have two training options to fulfill this requirement.
* The Purdue Extension Food Safety Team is preparing a series of in-person food handler trainings. Call your local Purdue Extension office or visit [www.purdue.edu/servsafe/workshops](http://www.purdue.edu/servsafe/workshops) to find classes as they are scheduled.
* For those who prefer an online option, the ServSafe Food Handler training can be taken online at [www.servsafe.com](http://www.servsafe.com)

For questions or to be placed on the training notification list, please contact Tonya at 812-882-3509; short43@purdue.edu.

## **Agriculture & Natural Resources**

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\*\*Like **Purdue Extension Knox County Ag and Natural Resources on Facebook.**

**\***\*To receive monthly e-newsletters call 812-882-3509 or e-mail me to be added.

**Upcoming Events**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Event | Time (Eastern) | Location | Contact info. |
| May 5 | Forest Pest Damage from the Carbon Sequestration Perspective | 11:00am | Webinar | Register at: <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/eabu.php>  |
| May 7 | Sheep and Goat Health Field Day | 10:00am | Southern Indiana Purdue Agricultural Center, Dubois | Register at: <https://cvent.me/N37kAR> |
| May 17 | Youth For the Quality Care of Animals (See article on pg. 3) | 6:00pm | VU Ag Center room 102, Vincennes | Questions: Call 812-882-3509 |
| May 26th | Breeding for Emerald Ash Borer Resistance | 11:00am | Webinar | Register at: <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/eabu.php> |
| June 15-16 | Becoming the Employer of Choice (See article below) | 8:30-12:30 | VU Ag Center room 102, Vincennes | Registration due June 8th. Call 812-882-3509 |
| All spring/summer | Add a Row Produce Donation Program (See article on page 11) | All summer | Your home or field | Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/2022AddARow> or call 812-882-3509 |

**Becoming the Employer of Choice**

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This program is geared towards current and future farm or small business managers/owners looking to improve their human resource management (HRM) skills. The program includes hands-on activities to engage managers to increase management awareness and ability.

Topics to be covered include understanding leadership styles, identify keys to motivate employees, hiring the right people-job descriptions and interviewing skills, organizational and employee culture, on-boarding-effective communication, on-boarding practices, reviews and feedback, and managing conflict.

The next class will meet June 15-16 from 8:30am-12:30pm eastern at the Vincennes University Agriculture Center, Room 102 (4207 N Purdue Rd. Vincennes, 47591). Registration is due by June 8th, a registration form will be available by calling 812-882-3509 or email clingerman@purdue.edu.

# **Cool And Wet Conditions Now Predicted Over Next Few Months** Written by: Beth Hall, Purdue University

On the third Thursday of every month, the national Climate Prediction Center releases their 3-month climate outlook for temperature and precipitation. These outlooks are presented as the level of confidence (i.e., probability of occurrence) for conditions to be above or below normal. Since last fall, these outlooks have been consistently favoring above-normal temperatures and precipitation for Indiana. This suggested significant influence from the La Niña phase of oceanic temperatures over the tropical Pacific Ocean that has global impacts. Earlier models assumed that this La Niña event would weaken, transitioning to a more neutral phase by late spring. However, it has not shown much weakening, suggesting significant confidence that La Niña will continue into late summer. While this has happened in the past, the few cases coupled with the significant changes in global climates have made it difficult to draw strong comparisons for what to expect over the next few months. Regardless, the variety of climate models that contribute to the final climate outlooks have provided some guidance. For May, the climate outlooks are favoring cooler-than-normal temperatures and above-normal precipitation. Now that the temperature outlook has flipped from favoring above-normal temperatures to below-normal temperatures, there is increased concern that the number of favorable field days will be reduced. Lower temperatures will reduce evapotranspiration rates causing soil conditions to remain wetter for longer. The May-June-July climate outlook for temperature is indicating that the various climate models were inconsistent on whether temperatures would be above, near, or below normal. However, the 3-month climate outlook for precipitation is still favoring above-normal amounts. It is important to note, however, that if that outlook is correct, it only means that the 3-month total amount of precipitation is likely to be above normal with little-to-no guidance on its timing.

The recent cooler temperatures across Indiana has led to a slow start for accumulated modified growing degree days (MGDD) with a start date of April 1. Accumulated MGDDs ranging from the upper 30s in the northern counties to the lower 100s in southern Indiana. This is anywhere from 30 to 90 units below normal with the greatest differences occurring in southern Indiana. To read this full article visit: <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/newsletters/pestandcrop/> or contact the Extension Office.

**Soybean Cyst Nematode (SCN) Testing for IN Growers**

Currently, the SCN Coalition and National Soybean Board are offering free SCN soil tests this spring for all IN growers.

This program will **support one sample per Indiana farm** to be submitted to the SCN Diagnostics at the University of Missouri. Please print off a form here <https://tinyurl.com/22SCNsampleform> to include with your soil sample. Additional samples will cost $25/each.

Pack the samples in a box and cushion the samples with packing material so the bags don’t break open during shipping.

Ship to: SCN Diagnostics 1054 East Campus Loop University of Missouri Columbia, MO 65211-5315. For more information visit: <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/newsletters/pestandcrop> or contact the Extension Office.

**Horned Oak Galls Can Make a Mess out of Pin and Related Oaks** Written by: [Cliff Sadof](https://www.purduelandscapereport.org/author/csadof/), Purdue University

The horned oak gall making wasp, Callirhytis cornigera (Osten Sacken) causes pin and willow oaks to produce large numbers of round, spiked woody galls up to 2 inches in diameter around the stems of pin and willow oak trees. These galls will girdle limbs and can kill the portion of the branch that extends from the gall. Galls can’t be removed without cutting twig tissue. On small trees gall makers can significantly alter the shape of trees when they attack the structurally significant branches like the central leader. Heavy infestations can kill oaks in urban plantings.

Female wasps emerge from woody galls in early spring (April) and lay eggs into the swelling leaf buds. Each egg hatches into a larva that produces a small blister gall along the vein on the undersides of leaves. In summer (June) adults fly from leaf galls and lay eggs into twigs. The resulting galls become visible the following spring as small bumpy areas on twigs. Over the summer each twig gall expands and increases in size. Galls continue to grow two years until adults emerge in early spring to lay eggs on to leaf buds. Large groups of individual galls will grow together over this time to create spiked galls along branches. These galls can eventually girdle twigs and kill branches.

Remove young expanding twig galls as soon as they are visible in the spring. Cutting off old, dried galls is not necessary. Applications of insecticides can kill leaf galls, but do not reduce the number of new stem galls produced. Research conducted to date has been promising, but slow going. Use of long-lasting products such as emamectin benzoate injections every two years in May have been shown to reduce the production of stem galls.  But with a 33-month life cycle, it takes a long time to start seeing results. Don’t expect miracles. To read the full article visit: <https://www.purduelandscapereport.org/> or contact the Extension Office.

**Knox County Add a Row Produce Donation**

The Knox County "Add a Row" Produce Donation Program aims to connect local produce farmers and home vegetable gardeners to local organizations in Knox County that accept produce donations for the food insecure residents in community.

Participants will have the opportunity to report produce donations weekly through the growing season. There is no expectation that participants will have produce to donate every week nor is there a minimum donation requirement; every donation of any amount is appreciated!

To participate in the program, please sign up at the following link. <https://tinyurl.com/2022AddARow> We will then follow up with additional information including food pantries and their hours.  If you have questions, please contact Valerie Clingerman (clingerman@purdue.edu) or Tonya Short (short43@purdue.edu).

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**4-H INSPIRES KIDS TO DO**

**4-H programs are grounded in the belief that kids learn best by doing.**

**Kids complete hands-on projects in areas like science, health, agriculture, civic engagement, and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles.**



**This Purdue Extension-Knox County newsletter is sponsored by the Knox County 4-H Council**

Look inside for agriculture & natural resource,

health and human science, and 4-H updates.