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| Office contact information:4259 N Purdue Rd. Vincennes, IN 47591Phone: 812-882-3509Fax: 812-882-3537Website: [www.extension.purdue.edu/knox](http://www.extension.purdue.edu/knox)Email: knoxces@purdue.edu  |

As we prepare for the holidays and for a new year, this is always a great way to reflect on the accomplishments achieved in 2023.

This year our office was able to secure a grant to continue to expand programming to underserved audiences. 4-H has been able to expand in some schools to offer afterschool programming. New programs were initiated such as the babysitting clinic and Jr. Master Gardeners. We have also been assisting with Eclipse planning and serve on numerous boards in the community. I am very proud of the success of our office and look forward to the new programs of 2024.

If you have 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

Broadband?

Are you happy with your internet? Do you even have access to high-speed internet? (Satellite and cell data do not count.)

Two different pots of money are available in Indiana for high-speed internet providers to upgrade equipment and lay new line to reach more homes.

THE CATCH:

You must report your address and your internet speed. This data will determine where the money goes. If you do not take these actions your address will not get attention. (We can’t promise that it will, but without taking action it definitely won’t.) Spread the word with friends and neighbors.

See [broadband article](#_August_is_Children’s) on page six for full details.

**4-H & Youth Development**

Mitch Wagoner

Extension Educator - 4-H Youth Development

mwagoner@purdue.edu

**4-H Enrollment for 2023-2024**

**Parents** can go into 4HOnline (https://v2.4honline.com) to enroll/re-enroll their children in 4-H for 2023

**Starts: October 1, 2023 Ends: January 15, 2024**

**Certificated adult volunteers** need to go into 4hOnline (https://v2.4honline.com) to re-enroll as an adult volunteer and to sign your 2024 Adult Behavior Expectations by **Jan. 15**!

If you do not have internet access, please contact the Extension Office (812-882-3509) so we can help!

**2024 4-H Scholarships**

4-H Accomplishment Scholarship – Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors, & College Freshman are eligible to apply for this scholarship!

4-H Senior Year Scholarship – All Seniors are eligible to apply. This one application will cover both County & State Scholarship.

4-H Club Scholarship - Senior in high school or currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution and will be transferring to Purdue University in the fall semester.

2024 4-H scholarship applications must be **uploaded & submitted through 4HOnline by January 25, 2024**!

Scholarship Workshop: January 9 at 6:00 pm at the Extension Office in the 1st classroom before the Junior Leader meeting.

For scholarship forms please visit this website:

<https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/get-involved/scholarships.html>

**2024 4-H Trips**

Upcoming 4-H Trips:

* 4-H Day at the Indiana Statehouse: Feb TBA, 2024. Open to grades 7-12.
* 4-H Camp Counselors: June 2 – 5, 2024. Plus, in-person camp counselor trainings date TBA. Open to grades 9-12.
* **4-H Camp: June 3 – 5, 2024. Open to grades 3-6.**
* 4-H Academy @ Purdue: June 12 – 14, 2024. Open to grades 9-12.
* State 4-H Junior Leader Conference: June TBA, 2024. Open to grades 7-12.
* 4-H Band Workshop: June 22 - 24, 2024 Open to grades 9-12.
* 4-H Chorus Workshop “aka. Show Choir”: June 22 - 25, 2024. Open to grades 9-12.
* 4-H Round Up: June 24 – 26, 2024. Open to grades 7-9.
* FYI, IN FFA State Convention: June 17 – 20, 2024.

**Upcoming Dates**

* Area 3 4-H/FFA Crops, Forestry, & Entomology CDE: November 8
* Junior Leader Callout meeting: Monday, November 13
* 4-H Scholarship workshop: January 9
* **4-H Enrollment push ENDS**: January 15, 2024
* 4-H Scholarships “Senior Year & Accomplishment” **DUE**: **January 25, 2024**
* \***NEW**\* 4-H Bowling Party at VU: January \_\_\_\_, 2024
	+ “More information to come!”
* Total Eclipse Day Camp: April 8, 2024
	+ “More information to come!”

**Social Media**

Facebook: “KnoxCountyIN4H”

Instagram: “@knoxcountyin4h”

## **Health & Human Sciences**

Tonya Short, Extension Educator - Health & Human Sciences

Short43@purdue.edu [www.facebook.com/KnoxCoHHS](http://www.facebook.com/KnoxCoHHS)



# Extension Homemakers—Save the Date

**November 6:** County Council Meeting

**January 8:** County Council Meeting

# A note to Knox County Extension Homemaker members

I must say – the District Meeting turned out so wonderful. Thank you to everyone who donated food for the buffet tables for breakfast and lunch. The food tables were amazing. Thank you to everyone who helped set up, organize, serve, decorate, and all the other unnamed tasks that were necessary to make this event happen. The three clubs came together and worked to make our District Meeting one we could be proud of. I am so proud of us!

Now, thinking forward to next year:

Mark your calendars for the Spring 2024 District Meeting that will be hosted by Dubois County on Wednesday March 13, 2024. Knox County will be responsible for the entertainment part of the meeting. Start brainstorming ideas now so we can provide something everyone might enjoy. If anyone wants to showcase their yodeling skills, let me know!

Out and around:

The library display window is now complete to highlight Indiana Extension Homemakers Association week which runs from October 22 - 28. This is our opportunity to educate the general public what IEHA does in the community. Hopefully it might generate interest in joining one of our three clubs. Trifold brochures about IEHA are available by the display for folks to pick up. Feel free to grab one and share it with someone.

On to business:

The next Knox County Extension Homemakers Council meeting is November 6 at 10:00 at the library meeting house behind the library. All county and club officers should attend. All members are welcome as well.

If there are any questions, feel free to contact me at (812) 881 7688.

Sincerely,

Barbara Holscher, President

# Indiana is receiving close to **$870 million** for broadband

# – how much Knox County gets is up to you

A huge investment is underway to make sure rural and underserved communities have equal access to broadband. Where the money goes will be based on data collected. We need as many people as possible to submit information about their internet in order for Knox County to get the most funds possible. You may have completed similar speed tests over the past year or two – but this is the one that will determine where the most need is and where the money will go. Here’s what to do to make sure your location is counted:

* If you do not have internet, text “Internet” to 463-946-4699 or call 463-946-4699
* If you do have internet of any kind (excluding cell data):
	1. Visit [https://connectingindiana.com/](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fconnectingindiana.com%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cshort43%40purdue.edu%7Cd7c14226544c4ad7a17208dbcbe21395%7C4130bd397c53419cb1e58758d6d63f21%7C0%7C0%7C638327944076078295%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=lQUJrIQytoL3BgFdCq8hOLaeJzvd4%2F6j3LBUoLqsA3g%3D&reserved=0) to submit a speed test
		+ Make sure you are connected to your home (or business) internet and not to cellular data.
		+ It is important to do this multiple times at different times of the day
	2. Visit [https://broadbandmap.fcc.gov](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbroadbandmap.fcc.gov%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cshort43%40purdue.edu%7Cd7c14226544c4ad7a17208dbcbe21395%7C4130bd397c53419cb1e58758d6d63f21%7C0%7C0%7C638327944076078295%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nY7zXZINQN6SeQyuvaOSjnu69jxQXDv4Hwf%2FMT2bwTU%3D&reserved=0), enter your address and look to see which internet providers are listed as available for your address
		+ Make sure the “fixed broadband” tab is selected
		+ If your address comes up at the wrong spot, click on the dot that is closest to the address pin and verify that it is the correct address. If it is not, click location challenge on the right
		+ If your provider availability list is incorrect, click availability challenge on the right

A couple of important notes:

* If your tested internet speed is less than 100Mbps download and 20Mbps upload (aka 100/20) you are considered underserved
* If your only internet option is satellite – you are considered unserved.
* If you have dedicated wireless (not cell phone data) that is considered served.
* This is not for cellular data. However, you can follow step 2 above and select the “mobile broadband” tab to see which services are listed as available for your address.

For step by step instructions with screen shots visit: <https://pcrd.purdue.edu/3-steps-to-bring-better-broadband-to-indiana>

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO INTERNET OR YOUR SPEED IS LESS THAN 100/20, you should also visit [https://www.in.gov/ocra/broadband/icp/](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.in.gov%2Focra%2Fbroadband%2Ficp%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cshort43%40purdue.edu%7Cd7c14226544c4ad7a17208dbcbe21395%7C4130bd397c53419cb1e58758d6d63f21%7C0%7C0%7C638327944076078295%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=B2%2B1VNZS8mpM%2BRgIv3pKIJu3nU8iDi7JI2dD6lz%2F7ig%3D&reserved=0) and click at the top where it says “click here to register” This will allow you to call special attention to your address. If you don’t know all the questions, that is ok. What is most important is your name, phone number, physical address, email address if you have one, and county. The rest can be left blank if you don’t know the answer.

Financial assistance is available to those within certain income levels. Visit [https://www.fcc.gov/acp](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.fcc.gov%2Facp&data=05%7C01%7Cshort43%40purdue.edu%7Cd7c14226544c4ad7a17208dbcbe21395%7C4130bd397c53419cb1e58758d6d63f21%7C0%7C0%7C638327944076078295%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=wB3vbnt6M0tRe0wC5xNwyAVpWgXNt9Zh2GqgOu0kL38%3D&reserved=0) to learn more and apply for assistance.

# ServSafe Manager and Food Handler courses

ServSafe Manager Certification is an approved training in the state of Indiana to become a certified food protection manager.

ServSafe Food Handler is for anyone else who needs basic food safety and food handling training, including home-based vendors, food service workers, volunteers, or others who work with food who only need the basic training. This course is NOT intended for food service managers.

Here are upcoming classes scheduled in our area. For more information including registration links visit [www.purdue.edu/servsafe/workshops](http://www.purdue.edu/servsafe/workshops) or <https://extension.purdue.edu/county/knox/ServSafe.html>

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| **ServSafe Manager Classes** |
| When | Where |
| November 2, 2023 | Washington, IN contact Jennifer 812-254-8668 |
| June 7, 2024 | Vincennes, IN - register at: [https://cvent.me/1mYOml](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcvent.me%2F1mYOml&data=05%7C01%7Cshort43%40purdue.edu%7C19fe06c21ec640da78fc08dbb52fe84a%7C4130bd397c53419cb1e58758d6d63f21%7C0%7C0%7C638302989581827866%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=82uSIxt3Ey%2FdH17064OCmoItTjOspzl2T9%2BNEojcv1k%3D&reserved=0) |

|  |
| --- |
| **ServSafe Food Handler Classes** |
| When | Where |
| March 12, 2024 | Vincennes – More info or register at: [https://cvent.me/0xKynD](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcvent.me%2F0xKynD&data=05%7C01%7Cshort43%40purdue.edu%7Ce3722d260d9f424a758208db941fb8c3%7C4130bd397c53419cb1e58758d6d63f21%7C0%7C0%7C638266636184358942%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OTwly0ueH2vYUsRcZG65F2%2BNKh6OLLPq5J1P02fwzug%3D&reserved=0) |

# Bite by Bite: Nutrition for Life

# Podcast

Anywhere you look you can find a magic pill or formula promising to protect your health and transform your body in three easy steps. And, many of these claims do have (or at least started with) a speck of valid science. So, how to you cut through all the hype and separate truth from false marketing claims? The truth is, it doesn’t have to be that complicated! Join us as we explore and dissect different fads and trends to discover the real science behind food and nutrition.

Find us on Apple and Google podcasts, Radio Public and Spotify. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @BiteByBiteNutritionForLife

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## **Agriculture & Natural Resources**

Valerie Clingerman-Extension Educator

Agriculture & Natural Resources

clingerman@purdue.edu

\*\*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. |
| Nov. 6 | Martin County PARP\*/CCH\*\* | 10:00 am | Martin County Fairgrounds | 812-295-2412 |
| Nov. 6 | Daviess County PARP\*/CCH\*\* | 5:00 pm | Daviess Co. Produce Auction | 812-254-8668 |
| Nov. 9 | Virtual PARP\* | 11:00 am | Online | Register at: [https://bit.ly/Nov9VirtualRecertProgram](https://bit.ly/Nov9VirtualRecertProgram?_ga=2.63319210.440841013.1697655067-677512006.1697654978)  |
| Nov. 13 | Knox County PARP\*/CCH\*\*\*This program is repeated in Pike Co. only one program can receive credit. | 10:00 am | Knox County Fairgrounds | 812-882-3509 |
| Nov. 13 | Pike County PARP\*/CCH\*\*\*This program is repeated in Knox Co. only one program can receive credit. | 6:00 pm | Pike Co. Fairgrounds | 812-882-3509 |
| Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Dec. 12 | Tax Strategies for Midwest Farm and Ranch Women | 7:30 pm | Online | Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/WIATax23> |
| Nov. 29 | 2023 Regional Ag Forum | 8:30 am | Gibson Co. Fairgrounds | Register at: <https://www.ccsin.org/event-details/regional-ag-forum> |
| Dec. 12 | Agriculture Outlook | 7:30 am | TBD | Register by calling: 812-882-3509 |
| Dec. 12 | Knox County PARP\*/CCH\*\* | TBD | Vincennes | 812-882-3509 |

\*PARP=Private Applicator Recertification Program \*\*CCH=Commercial Applicator Credits

**2023 Office of Indiana State Chemist Rule Revisions**

Reminder that new rules took effect in 2023 and enforcement will begin in 2024. The rule that impacts many people is:

ONLY CERTIFIED APPLICATORS can use/mix/handle/spray Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs). Supervision of non-certified applicators is no longer allowed for RUPs.

We are planning an exam training in the spring in Evansville and you will be able to test afterwards at the testing center. More details will be coming out on that. If you need a license earlier than this you can find other options by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/PesticideTrainingExam> or contact the Extension Office 812-882-3509.

**2024 Crop Cost and Return Guide Now Available**

“The **Purdue Crop Cost and Return Guide** offers farmers a resource to project financials for the coming cropping year. These are the September 2023 crop budget estimations for 2024; prepared by Purdue faculty members Michael R. Langemeier, Department of Agricultural Economics; Shaun Castell, Dan Quinn, and Tony Vyn, Department of Agronomy; and Bill Johnson, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Purdue University.”

There is also a companion spreadsheet tool available. “A user can evaluate up to three full-season crops, and the wheat double-crop soybean system. Gross revenue, cost, and net returns are evaluated on a per acre and per unit basis.  Breakeven prices to cover variable and total cost are computed for each crop.”

You can access these resources by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/PUCostReturn> or contact the Extension Office 812-882-3509.

**Winterization of Spray Equipment**

It has been another interesting year for growers, once harvest is complete though there is one more step that needs completed and that is winterizing equipment. The advantages of winterizing spray equipment include: it’s easier to clean tanks, ensure equipment won’t be damaged by frozen water, extend the life of the sprayer, reduce down time in spring, preventative maintenance is cheaper than large repairs, and many more.

Start by reviewing warranty requirements and manufacturer recommendations. Follow routine maintenance recommendations to prolong the life of the sprayer. Keep service records so you know what has been done and when.

In the fall check lights/flashers, change fluids/filters, lubricate grease fittings, fill fuel and hydraulic oil, inspect engine belts, remove, clean, and store batteries, inspect hoses for damage, upgrade hose clamps, tighten straps, hoops, and bolts on tanks, and look for signs of sun damage.

Clean equipment to remove grease and other grime accumulated over the summer. Replace old slow-moving signs that are faded or wore. Touch up areas where paint has been scratched to prevent rust. Upload all your data from your electronic equipment, remove from sprayer, and store in dry warm location. Check tires and tire pressure and sprayer air bags. Consider rodent management tactics as farm equipment can attract them. Cleaning out clutter in sheds can help along with use of rodenticides.

Remove as much water as possible from the tank, hoses, and booms. Add antifreeze to prevent water that cannot be drained from freezing and causing damage. Choose the antifreeze product most appropriate for your sprayer as some can be corrosive.

For more details on winterizing a sprayer review the publication “Preparing Spray Equipment for Winter Storage and Spring Startup” at <https://tinyurl.com/WinterizingSprayers> or contact the Extension Office 812-882-3509.

**Storing Leftover Garden Seed**

Written by Rosie Lerner, Retired Purdue University

If you didn’t use up all the garden seed you bought this year, much of it can be stored for use in next year’s garden – depending on the plant species. Seeds of some plants, such as corn, parsley, onion, viola (pansies), verbena, phlox, and salvia, are not very long lived, lasting only 1 or 2 years at best. Other seeds, including beans, carrots, lettuce, peas, radishes, snapdragon, cosmos, sweet William, and zinnia, will remain viable (capable of germinating) for 3-5 years.

Seeds need to be kept cool, dark, and dry so that they retain stored carbohydrates and minimize fungal infection. You can keep the seeds in their original packets to preserve their labeling information. If you transfer the seeds to another container, be sure to label them with at least the plant name and the year the seed was purchased. Either way, be sure the seed is as dry as possible before placing in storage.

One of the more practical methods for storing small quantities is to place leftover seed in sealable jars or other airtight containers and store in a cool, dark area, such as the refrigerator (not the freezer). A layer of powdered milk or uncooked rice at the bottom of the container will absorb excess moisture. Use a paper towel to separate the seed from the absorptive material.

When it’s time to plant next season, you can do a germination test on a few seeds to see if they sprout before you plant the rest. But these days, many seed packets have only a few seeds to begin with, so the germination test may be a moot point! On the other hand, saving even a few seeds can make a big impact on next year’s gardening budget.

To visit a chart listing common garden species storage life go to: <https://tinyurl.com/PUStoringSeed> or contact the Extension Office 812-882-3509.

Photo of Swiss chard seed provided by Rosie Lerner

**Early Fall Color Could Mean Stress**

Written by John Bonkowski, Purdue University

When examining a tree with early fall color, I would recommend checking the following:

* Is there a root flare?

-If not – tree could be planted too deep or the soil grade may have been changed

* Is there any obvious damage to the trunk, root flare, or surface roots?

-If so, there could internal decay that is not obvious and could be contributing to stress

* Are there any girdling roots?

-If present, they could be affecting the vascular system and strangling the tree

* Is the rootzone mulched?

-If not, the tree could be under stress from earlier drought, or weed and grass competition.

 -If so, make sure it is not mounded against the trunk of the tree

* Does the soil appear compacted? Was there construction near the tree within the last 5 years?

-Compaction leads to issues with water, nutrient, and even oxygen availability to the roots and could lead to general decline.

It is important to know the host species, but with the sheer volume of plant material available for sale in the nursery trade, it is even more important to know the cultivar that you are planting so you know what you might expect coming into the fall.

To read the full article visit: <https://tinyurl.com/EarlyFallColor> or contact the Extension Office 812-882-3509.

locust, and poplar are labelled as 

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This Purdue Extension-Knox County Newsletter is sponsored by German American Bank. Look inside for Agriculture & Natural Resource, Health and Human Science, and 4-H updates.

