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Warmer temperatures are slowly arriving. With that planting season is here. Please be careful of farm equipment as it travels much slower than personal vehicles. Keep your distance and be patient. If you have garden, farm, or landscape questions this spring please reach out as I am happy to help!

There are many 4-H dates coming up and many letters are being sent to families please make sure to read these letters and mark your calendars so you don’t miss out.

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

**2025 Area Sprayer School Another Success**

The area Agriculture and Natural Resource Educators offered a Sprayer School in Vincennes January 2025.

This year’s topics included sprayer nozzles and calibration, railroad tracks and electric lines, weed identification, drift management, regulatory updates, troubleshooting, and sprayer cleanout.

80 attendees represented agriculture chemical retailers and farmers as well as 13 Vincennes University students.

Participants were asked to rank their knowledge before and after the program. Topics with the largest knowledge gain included sprayer nozzles and calibration, railroad tracks and electric lines, and troubleshooting.

15 attended the 2024 sprayer school as well. 93% had adopted/changed a practice and 100% increased profits and benefited from attending this program.

Testimonials: “Learned quite a bit from the school, can use what I learned at my job” and “If someone wants to learn it would be a good class to attend”

**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 by May 15!

Possession date for rabbits & poultry is the date of tagging! All others are May 15!

* **Steers** & **Commercial Heifers**: tagging was on March 22 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 on May 10 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 on May 10 at the Southwest Purdue Ag Center from 2:00–4:00 pm.
* **Sheep** & **Goat** tagging is on May 10 at the Extension Office Parking Lot from 9:00—11:00 am.
	+ Animals that 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.
* **Swine**: No tagging date for swine. All exhibitors need to pick up tags from Extension Office before May 15.

**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 15!

**How to ID Animals on 4HOnline**

**All livestock must be ID’d by May 15!**

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

Instructions on how to ID your livestock will be 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.

**Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Program**

Indiana 4-H is still requiring exhibitors of the following animals: Beef, Dairy, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, and Swine to have Quality Assurance training. There are two options that will be accepted at the County Fair and State Fair.

1. **In-person ONLY option**, the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Assurance Program. This is a new program with more hands-on activities. The training is still one hour. You do not have to sign into a website. At the end of the training, the youth need to write down their name. The cost of the program is $3. The Livestock Committee will cover the cost of any Knox County youth attending a training in Knox County. In Knox County we will be hosting 3 workshops.
	1. Sunday, April 13, 2025 at 4:30 pm at the Farm Bureau Exhibit Hall at the Knox County Fairgrounds.
	2. Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 6:00 pm at Extension Office in classroom 115.
	3. Thursday, May 29, 2025 at 6:00 pm at Extension Office in classroom 115.

If you are not available to attend a training in Knox County. You are able to attend a training in another county. You will need to pay $3 cash to that county.

This training will **not** meet the National Livestock Show requirements!

1. **Virtual ONLY option**, Youth for the Quality Care of Animal “YQCA” Program. This is required for the National Livestock Shows. Visit <http://www.yqcaprogram.org/>. Youth will need to complete the online training and pay the $12 fee. The Extension Office has a few coupons available.

After you have completed YQCA training, you must submit a copy of your certificate to the Extension Office (email mwagone@purdue.edu). Also, print a copy for your records. The Extension Office cannot verify your information to see if you have received YQCA training.

**Knox County 4-H Pool Party**

**@ Rainbow Beach**

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Knox County 4-H is hosting a Pool Party for members at Rainbow Beach on Monday, June 9 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.

Admission is FREE.

Make sure you bring your swim suit, towel, & sun screen for a beautiful 4-H event.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Parents are asked to help supervise their children during the event.

https://www.creativefabrica.com/product/pool-party/

**Upcoming Dates**

* Purdue Day of Giving: April 30
* 4-H Bowling Party: April 30
* Day on the Farm for 3rd grader: May 8
* Poultry banding, Rabbit tattooing, Sheep/ Goat tagging: May 10
* IN 4-H Quality Livestock Care Program: May 13
* Animal ID Deadline: May 15
* Project Add & Drop Deadline: May 15
* IN 4-H Quality Livestock Care Program: May 29
* Fair Entry Opens: June 1
* 4-H Camp Counselors: June 1 – 4, 2025. Plus, in-person camp counselor trainings date April 22 & May 6. Open to grades 9-12.
* 4-H Camp: June 2 – 4, 2025. Open to grades 3-6.
* 4-H Pool Party: June 9 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm
* 4-H Academy @ Purdue: June 11 – 13, 2025. Open to grades 9-12.
* 4-H Band Workshop: June 21 - 23, 2025 Open to grades 9-12.
* 4-H Chorus Workshop “aka. Show Choir”: June 21 - 24, 2025. Open to grades 9-12.
* 4-H Round Up: June 23 – 25, 2025. Open to grades 7-9.
* Creative Writing & Genealogy Projects due in Extension Office: June 27 @ 4:00 pm.
* Area Tractor Driving Contest: June 28
* Fair Deadlines: June 30
* Livestock & Building Clean-up/ Setup: July 6 at 6:00 pm
* Non-Perishable Judging: July 9 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm
* Perishable & Sewing Judging: July 12 from 8:00 – 11:00 am
* Knox County Fair: July 14 – 19, 2025
* Indiana State Fair: August 1 – 17, 2025
* State Fair 4-H Projects pick up: August 18, 2025

**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—Updates

Next **County Council** meetings are May 5, 2025 and July 7, 2025 This meeting is for county officers, club presidents, and anyone else who cares about Knox County Extension Homemakers.

**Club Presidents:** If you have activities or announcements to include in the newsletter, get that information to Tonya by the 15th of even numbered months. E.g. Information to Tonya by June 15 for printing in the July-August newsletter.

**May Breakfast:** May 5, 2025 at 11AM at American Table, Vincennes

**Fall District Meeting:** September 30, 2025, Daviess County

# News from the Knox County Extension Homemakers

# May Breakfast

**When:** May 5, 2025; 11A-1P

**Where:** American Table, Willow St., Vincennes

**What:** Hear from Heart to Heart, Purdue Extension and connect with other clubs to celebrate the past year and look forward to the next.

**Cost:** Lunch on your own

# ServSafe Manager 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 and only need the basic training. This course is NOT intended for food service managers.

Here is information on upcoming ServSafe Manager Courses. If you have any questions, please contact Tonya at short43@purdue.edu or 812-882-3509

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| **When** | **Where** | **Learn more or register at** |
| July 22, 2025 | VU Ag Center, Vincennes | <https://cvent.me/VBb7de>  |
| October 9, 2025 | 4-H Fairgrounds, Washington | <https://cvent.me/wk2NRw>  |

# 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 podcasts, Spotify, or anywhere you listen.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @BiteByBiteNutritionForLife

# Purdue Extension Has Items to Help You Stay Food Safe

Food safety comes first - for your health and for your budget. Properly cooked, stored and preserved foods are less likely to contain harmful pathogens, less likely to spoil and more likely to maintain quality longer.

Whether you’re preserving your garden bounty, prepping meals for the week, or cooking tonight’s dinner, having the right resources and tools can help you stay food safe and make the most of your food budget.

The Purdue Extension – Knox County office has the following items for sale. All items are sold at cost as a service to you.

USDA Complete Guide to Home Canning $20

So Easy to Preserve 6th Edition $40

Refrigerator & Freezer Thermometer $2.50

Food Thermometer $2.50

Many other educational resources are available for no cost at the Purdue Extension Education Store such as our *Let’s Preserve* and *Food Entrepreneurship* publication series. Visit [edustore.purdue.edu](https://edustore.purdue.edu/) and search keyword preserve.

# Leadership Knox County

In April we celebrated the third cohort of Leadership Knox County graduates. Approximately 15 individuals have graduated each year since the program relaunched in 2022. This community leadership program is for adults who want to make a difference in their community; perhaps they are already in a leadership position or want to start getting involved.

Through a series of interactive modules, participants develop their own leadership capacity and learn about the people, organizations and institutions that make up their community. While there are many individuals who are willing to give their time and talents, sometimes they lack the connections, skills, or confidence to take on leadership roles. This program helps prepare participants to feel more equipped to engage and serve their community.

The program includes topics on personal development such as exploring personality strengths and personal leadership style, interpersonal communication, team development, cultural awareness and conflict management. Community focused sessions include local government, economic development and quality of place, education, workforce development, serving on non-profit boards and community health. Through each session, participants learn more about themselves and their community all while building a network of like-minded individuals who care about Knox County.

This Purdue Extension Community Development program is facilitated by Purdue Extension – Knox County and the Knox County Chamber of Commerce, and supported by the local businesses and organizations who allow us to visit their facilities. Each series lasts approximately 9 months, meeting one full day per month meeting at a variety of locations. Locations we have visited in the past include KC/ARC, Mouzin Brothers Farms, Sunrise Coal, Vincennes City Hall, Knox County Courthouse, KCIEDC, Purdue SW Agricultural Center, Lincoln High School, VU ICAT center, and more.

The next cohort will start in the fall. Registration will begin this summer. To learn more, contact Tonya at 812-882-3509 or Jamie at 812-882-6440.



# Upcoming Food Preservation Classes

Purdue Extension has a number of upcoming classes to help you sharpen your home food preservation skills and resources. Classes listed as a workshop include a hands-on component. Please reach out to Tonya if you have questions about any of the listed classes or if you just have questions about home food preservation. 812-882-3509 or short43@purdue.edu.

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| **When** | **What** | **Where** | **Register at** |
| May 14, 2025 | Water Bath Canning - Jams and Jellies Workshop | Spencer, IN | <https://cvent.me/bzkx75> |
| May 16, 2025 | Pressure Canning Workshop | Seton Harvest, Evansville, IN | <https://bit.ly/SWINHC2025> |
| June 24-27, 2025 | Mastering Home Food Preservation Workshop | Kendallville, IN | [https://cvent.me/3eLKY7](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcvent.me%2F3eLKY7&data=05%7C02%7Cshort43%40purdue.edu%7C69cf6f2bcbd1465c59f708dd665d7a6a%7C4130bd397c53419cb1e58758d6d63f21%7C0%7C0%7C638779273873227889%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2Bh1ZPfPLodxWXXrm02qDkw%2B8F%2FZGCWxb9tfjbs7W%2FfA%3D&reserved=0) |
| June 27, 2025 | Pressure Canning Workshop | Bloomfield, IN | <https://cvent.me/NzQE9n>  |
| July 9, 20251PM CT2PM ET | Water Bath Canning – Jams & Jellies Lecture Only | Gibson County Fair, Toyota Events Center | None required |
| July 29-August 1, 2025 | Mastering Home Food Preservation Workshop | Vincennes, IN | Class full |

# Using your Instant Pot

# Presentation and cooking demonstration

In this session we will explore the ins and outs of the electric pressure cooker – how it works, food safety considerations, and how to make the most of this versatile appliance. You will learn the science of pressure cooking, complete with demonstration and taste test!

Find us at the Knox County Fair in Bicknell

Friday, July 18, 2025 1-2:30 PM in the McCormick (Open Class) building

To learn more about all the events at the Knox County Fair visit <https://knoxcountyfarmfair.godaddysites.com/>

For questions about Open Class at the fair or about other workshops being hosted by Open class contact Sara Jane Hope, 601-832-4780, sjhope@comcast.net

## **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**

|  |  |  |  |  |
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| Date | Event | Time (Eastern) | Location | Contact info. |
| May 6 | Registered Technician Training (learn more below) | 1:00-4:30pm | Vincennes | Register at <https://cvent.me/2BLvmZ>  |
| May 8 | Day on the Farm for all Knox County 3rd graders | 9:00am-2:00pm | Vincennes | 812-882-3509 |
| May 16-17 | Southwest IN Homesteading Conference | TBD | Evansville | 812-882-3509 |
| June 21 | Youth UAV (Drone) Program | TBD | Vincennes | 812-882-3509 |
| June 26 | SWPAC Field Day PARP, CCH (see pg. 10 for details)  | 8:30am | Vincennes | Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/2025SWPACFieldDay> |
| Jul. 24- Nov. 13 | Master Gardener Basic Training (see pg. 11 for details) | 5:30 pm | Vincennes/ Washington | <https://tinyurl.com/Summer25MG> or call 812-882-3509 |

\*PARP=Private Applicator Recertification Program

**Registered Technician Training**

Anyone wishing to become a Registered Technician to apply general-use pesticides under the supervision of certified pesticide applicator can attend a training session to meet eligibility requirements. Attendance required for the entire training session.

For an explanation of Registered Technician requirements: <https://oisc.purdue.edu/pesticide/training_rt_gups.html>

**Registration**

* $75/person
* Minimum age: 18 years old.
* Advanced registration required. <https://cvent.me/2BLvmZ>
* Training site opens 1 hour before each session.
* Training begins promptly at 1:00 p.m. EST, concludes at 4:30 p.m. EST
* Cancellation required 5 days in advance.
* A cancellation fee will be charged.

**Southwest Purdue Agricultural Center Field Day**

Join us for the Southwest Purdue Agricultural Center Field Day that will be held on June 26th from 8:30am-1:30 pm eastern (4669 N Purdue Rd. Vincennes, IN 47591). PARP and CCH credits will be offered. If you need PARP the regulatory topic will begin after lunch. This years topics will discuss field crop diseases, spray drones, high tunnel tomato and cut flowers, vegetable crop diseases, resilient agriculture, pollinator use in watermelons, produce safety updates, and more! Lunch will be provided. Register by June 19th at <https://tinyurl.com/2025SWPACFieldDay>.

# **Your Input Needed: Resilient Agricultural Practices and Priorities**

##### Written By: Christian Krupke, Purdue University

Increasing interest in practices like cover cropping and soil health includes challenges across a range of agronomic factors, including pest management.

To help assess what’s important to our clientele and improve the focus of our research and extension programs, we’re requesting your input on a short survey – it should take no more than 10 minutes to complete and it is anonymous. Thank you for your time!

<https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8uAHzaJ8Qlcwepg>

**Spring Burndown Considerations: Air Temps and Herbicide Efficacy**

Written by Bill Johnson and Marcelo Zimmer, Purdue University

Every year growers may experience challenges when controlling winter annuals weeds or terminating cover crops with glyphosate-based burndown herbicide programs, specifically when glyphosate is sprayed in cool, cloudy weather conditions or tank mixed with residual herbicides, ATS, or synthetic auxins (issue mostly for grasses). In 2018, we conducted cover crop trials at a couple locations and were able to capture some good images and weather information around those treatments. The purpose of this article is to provide some recommendations on how to achieve good herbicide efficacy during spring burndown and share our data and experiences.

We conducted cover crop experiments at three different Purdue Agricultural Centers over the last couple of years. Our cereal rye experiment provided a good data set to look at the influence of air temperatures on glyphosate and glyphosate plus atrazine activity. At Throckmorton, two days before spraying we had daytime air temps that got up in the 50s and 60s, but night time air temps got as low as 29° on the day of spraying. The next two days after the spray treatment was made, our nighttime air temps got down as low as 29°. At the Southeast Purdue Ag Center, the two days before spraying, and the day of spraying nighttime air temps were down in the 30s and low 40s. The day after spraying, we had a nighttime low of 42.

At both sites, the Roundup (glyphosate) alone is providing more control than Roundup plus Acuron (atrazine + s-metolachlor + mesotrione + bicyclopyrone) at two weeks after treatment. The common thread with these results is the influence of cool nighttime temperatures on herbicide activity and the antagonistic effect of atrazine on grass control with glyphosate. For many years we focused our attention mostly on daytime air temperatures and its influence on herbicide activity. In our data set, daytime temps are mostly in the 50’s and above. However, over the last 8 to 10 years we have become more educated on the influence of nighttime air temps on herbicide activity. The moral of the story is that daytime air temperatures may seem ideal for herbicide activity, but night time air temperatures can cause plants to slow their growth rates or shut down. We know that if plants aren’t actively growing, herbicide efficacy is reduced for translocated (systemic) herbicides. Our general rule of thumb is that we want daytime air temperatures in the 50s and 60s and nighttime temperatures in the 40s or higher to assure plants are actively growing and maximize the effectiveness of postemergence herbicides. To read the full article visit <https://tinyurl.com/PUAirTempsHerbs>.

**Purdue Extension Master Gardener Program**

The primary objective of the Purdue Extension Master Gardener (EMG) Knox / Daviess Co. is to train volunteers to assist Purdue Extension with home horticulture education in local communities. In preparation for this role, Purdue EMGs receive the horticulture training they will need to perform their duties during EMG County Coordinator (County Extension Educator) - approved projects. To become a Purdue Extension Master Gardener, you must 1.) Complete the application/screening process and be accepted, 2.) Pay a registration fee, 3.) Complete EMG Basic Training, 4.) Pass an open-book final exam with a score of 70% or higher, and 5.) Contribute at least 40 hours of volunteer service, approved by the local EMG County Coordinator, within two years. To maintain active status, Purdue Extension Master Gardeners must complete at least 12 volunteer and 6 continuing education hours every year, thereafter.

The next EMG Basic training course will be held on Thursdays from July 24-November 13 from 5:30-8:30 pm eastern. We will meet at two locations throughout this course (Washington and Vincennes).

**Registration is a two-step process.**

**Step 1:** Read Master Gardener Policy Guide and submit below application to the local coordinator by Jul. 11, 2025.

**Step 2:** Registration and payment of fees through online portal. Due by Jul. 17, 2025. Individual registration is $110.00, or $155.00 for two people sharing the Purdue EMG manual (this works best for people living in the same household).

The application packet can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/Summer25MG>. If you have additional questions contact Valerie Clingerman, 812-882-3509 or clingerman@purdue.edu.

**Southwest Indiana Homesteading Conference**

Join us for the Southwest Indiana Homesteading Conference that will be May 16th and 17th.

**May 16th** -Pre-conference workshop all about food preservation. The primary focus of this workshop will be to learn about using a pressure canner. This workshop will be from 1:00pm-5:00pm eastern at the Daughters of Charity St. Vincent Conference Center (9200 New Harmony Rd. Evansville, 47720). This session will be $35 per person.

**May 17th**-Will be the main conference and will be from 9:00am-5:00pm eastern. The morning session will begin at the Daughters of Charity St. Vincent Conference Center (9200 New Harmony Rd. Evansville, 47720). New this year there will be beginner and advanced sessions. A few topics that will be covered during the morning sessions include backyard poultry, mushroom production, soil health, foraging, seed saving, pesticides, vegetable gardening, fruit trees, and sheep and goats.

The afternoon sessions will be live demonstrations and we will move across the street to Seton Harvest. Demonstrations on soil health, strawbale gardening, open fire cooking, hydroponics/aquaponics, and more will be available. Registration for the main conference is $40 per person.

If you have questions contact Amanda Mosiman at bailey1@purdue.edu.

Register by May 8th at <https://bit.ly/SWINHC2025>

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