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I can’t believe fair is upon us! There have been some changes to how we will be checking in projects and some dates and times have changed so make sure to review this newsletter and your fair newsletter to prepare. New this year, Tonya will be hosting an Instant Pot workshop during fair so check out how to register for that class inside. She can also check your pressure canner gauge to make sure it is ready for canning season. Speaking of canning if you like to garden and teach others to garden our next Master Gardener class will be starting in July. Check out registration details inside.

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

**Updated Livestock Release for 2025**

The Knox County Fair is looking for Livestock Family to **VOLUNTEER** to keep their livestock on the grounds though Saturday, July 19 by 9:00 pm.

The goal is to have 50% of the barn full for Saturday evening’s crowd.

Many members of the public are only able to attend the Fair on the weekend. If the barns are empty by Saturday, the Fair loses a valuable opportunity to showcase all the hard work 4-H’ers’ and 4-H animals have put in over the year. Your presence on Saturday helps maintain the full fair experience for those who may not be able to attend earlier in the week.

The official released of livestock is on Friday, July 18 after the auction at 12:01 AM.

* Trucks & trailers must stay in the parking lot until after 12:01 AM.
* Trucks & trailers are not allowed to be pulled up waiting beside the barns.
* After 12:01 AM, then trucks & trailers can be moved beside the barns to load animals.

**4-H & Youth Development**

Mitch Wagoner

Extension Educator – 4-H Youth Development

[mwagoner@purdue.edu](mailto:mwagoner@purdue.edu)

**4-H Fair Schedule**

**Deadlines**:

* June 27: Creative Writing and Genealogy projects due to Extension Office by 3:00pm (hard copies or email to Mitch)
* June 30: Fair Entry closes.
* July 1: State Fair 4-H early bird registration deadline.
  + State Fair website: <https://exhibitorscorner.indianastatefair.com/>
* June 30: Livestock penning paperwork due to the Extension Office by 4:00 pm.
* July 7-12: General Record Sheets and Livestock Record Sheets can be turned in to the Extension Office to receive your 4-H Fair Pass.
* July 17: Auction animals need identified and auction pictures are due by 12:00 pm.

**4-H Fair Set-up & Tear Down:**

* June 25: Horse & Pony clean-up will be announced during a Horse & Pony Club Meeting.
* June 28: Rabbit members will be hanging cages at 8:00 am
* July 6: Livestock cleanup day at the Fairgrounds **and** building setup at the Farm Bureau Exhibit Hall at 6:00 pm for **ALL Clubs**!
* July 21: Building tear down at the Farm Building Exhibit Hall at 6:00 pm. Clubs responsible: Junior Leaders.

**Mini 4-H Information**

* Mini 4-H building projects can be turned in either day during judging on Wednesday, July 9 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm or Saturday, July 12 from 8:00 – 11:00 am.

**4-H Scavenger hunt all week to win candy!!**

You can pick up your new passport book each day at the 4-H Exhibit Hall and go to different locations to get your booklet hole punched.

**The Farm Bureau Exhibit Hall Information**

* July 9: In-person non-perishable project judging at the Farm Bureau Exhibit Hall from 5:00 to 8:00 pm.
* July 12: In-person perishable and sewing project judging at the Farm Bureau Exhibit Hall from 8:00 to 11:00 am.
* July 14-19: Farm Bureau Exhibit Hall hours to the public
  + July 14 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm & 4:00 to 10:00 pm.
  + July 15 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm & 4:00 to 10:00 pm.
  + July 16 – 18 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm & 4:00 to 10:00 pm
  + July 19 from 4:00 to 9:00 pm
* July 19: Building projects released from 9:00 to 11:00 pm
* July 20 & 21: Building projects released from 5:00 to 6:00 pm.

**Animal Show Information:**

* July 13: All animals may arrive on the grounds from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
* July 13: Official check-in for ALL animals from 4:00 am to 9:00 pm. All animals must be in the barn by 9:00 pm.
* July 13: Dog Agility at the Club meeting location starting at 6:30 pm
* July 14: Poultry Show starts at 8:00 am at the Poultry Barn.
* July 14: Rabbit Show in the Show Barn Arena will start at 9:00 am.
* July 14: Horse and Pony Contest Show starts at 4:00 pm at the Horse & Pony Arena.
* July 15: Swine Show starts at 8:00 am at the Show Barn.
* July 15: Dog Obedience & Showmanship starts at 8:30 am in the Old Commercial building.
* July 15: Sheep Show starts at 5:30 pm at the Show Barn.
* July 16: Beef show starts at 9:00 am with the Dairy Show between the Heifer and Steer Show at the Show Barn.
* July 16: Cat Show starts at 3:00 pm in an A/C building.
* July 16: Goat Show starts at 5:30 pm at the Show Barn.
* July 17: Horse and Pony Show starts at 9:00 am at the Horse & Pony Arena.
* July 17: Llama and Alpaca Show starts at 9:00 am at the Show Barn.
* July 17: Round Robin starts at 7:00 pm at the Show Barn.
* July 18: Horse and Pony Show starts at 9:00 am at the Horse & Pony Arena.
* July 18: 4-H Livestock Auction starts at 5:30 pm at the Show Barn.
* July 19: After the 4-H Auction at 12:01 am Livestock released.
  + Looking for **Volunteers** to keep livestock until 9 pm on Saturday.

**Other Fair Information:**

* July 8: Consumer Clothing Judging at 6:00 pm and Fashion Revue at 7:00 pm at the First Church of God in Monroe City.
* July 9: Extension Office moves to the Fairgrounds.
* July 17: 4-H Premium money will be available to be picked up starting at 4:00 pm.
* July 18: 4-H Parade of Champions for the Grand & Reserve Grand Champions for Exhibit Hall, Dog, & Cat starts at 3:00 pm
* July 18: 10 Year Member Awards starts at 5:00 pm at the Show Barn.

**Youth Activities not during shows:**

* July 14 - 17: 4-H games & activities around Livestock Arena at 2:00 pm.
* July 16: Kiddy Day from 5:00 – 8:00 pm
  + Watermelon eating contest & painting with bubbles.
* July 18: Ag Olympics starts at 11:00 am around the Livestock Arena. Then Color Me Green 4-H Dash then the water slide ending around 2:00 pm

**State Fair Project Information:**

* For 2025, The Purdue Extension – Knox County Office will be providing transportation for projects to & from the Indiana State Fair.
* Projects that are big, heavy, fragile, or etc. must be transported by the exhibitor. The Extension Office is not taking responsibilities.
  + July 28: All projects except Foods & Gardening to be check-in at the State Fair from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.
  + August 4: Foods & Gardening projects must be dropped off to the Extension Office by 10:00 a.m.
  + Preserved food exhibits will **NOT** be returned and will be destroyed, including canning jars!
  + August 18: All ribbons, non-animal exhibitor pins, judge’s score cards can be picked up from the Extension Office.

**General Information:**

* July 4: Independence Day – Office Closed
* October 1: 4-H Enrollment begins for the 2025-2026 program year

## **Health & Human Sciences**

Tonya Short, Extension Educator – Health & Human Sciences

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# Extension Homemakers—Updates

Next **County Council** meetings are July 7, 2025 & September 8, 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.

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

# News from the Knox County Extension Homemakers

Summer’s here and it’s soon going to be the Knox County Fair (Jul 14-19). Several Extension Homemakers are still involved in Open Class. There are SO many ways to show off your talents. The Open Class Showcase Exhibitor Information booklet can be found online at [knoxcountyfarmfair.godaddysites.com](https://knoxcountyfarmfair.godaddysites.com) and on the Open Class Showcase, Knox County Fair Facebook page. Printed copies are available at the Extension Office. The booklet includes rules, entry categories, guidelines, and project entry times. If you’re not an exhibitor, come see what your neighbors have to show!

Extension Homemakers and Purdue Extension will also be involved in the demonstration classes. On pages 20-21 of the booklet you will find a listing of workshops that will be held during fair week. Sara Jane Hope is the Chairperson of Open Class and can be reached for inquiries or questions at [sjhope@comcast.net](mailto:sjhope@comcast.net).

May Brunch was enjoyed by the Knox County Extension Homemakers at the American Table restaurant in Vincennes with 15 members present. Guests included Karel Kirschner former HHS and the Heart to Heart guest speaker, Paige Williams. Darlene Decker and Pat Summers will be attending the annual Homemaker’s Conference in June. Pat Doades conducted a Memorial Service for deceased members. New county handbooks were distributed for the presidents to forward to the local members. Paige shared with the group about the Heart to Heart Women's Resource Center at 1404 N 4th St, Vincennes and the services they offer to pregnant and new mothers. This group is funded by donations and grants only so the homemakers made a donation. The next County Council meeting is scheduled for July 7. All members are welcome to attend.

Suzan Morgan, Vice President, Knox County Extension Homemakers

# Leadership Knox County

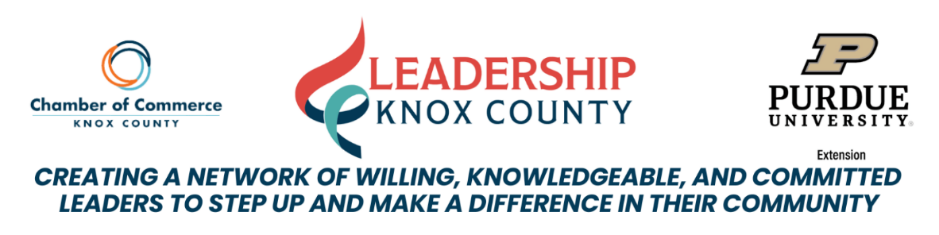
The third cohort of Leadership Knox County graduated just two months ago. This has been an exciting journey of new partnerships, getting to learn more about Knox County and most importantly getting to know and grow together with others who aspire to lead and make positive impact on our community.

The Leadership Knox County program meets monthly throughout the school year and is open to anyone who lives or works in Knox County. Through a series of interactive modules, participants learn about their own leadership capacity, the people, organizations and institutions that make up Knox County and how they can engage in serving our community more deeply. By fostering and nurturing confident, skilled and knowledgeable leaders we are more equipped to build our community from within. 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 curriculum 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 Short [short43@purdue.edu](mailto:short43@purdue.edu); 812-882-3509 or Jamie Neal [jamie@knoxcountychamber.com](mailto:jamie@knoxcountychamber.com); 812-882-6440.



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# Using your Instant Pot

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

# 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](mailto: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.

# Is your Pressure Canner Accurate?

If your pressure canner dial gauge is not accurate, you could be producing unsafe food. Get your dial gauge tested annually before each canning season to ensure you are canning at the proper pressure. If your dial gauge is off only by a pound or two, adjustments can be made to still safely use your pressure canner. If your dial gauge is off by more than 2 PSI a new gauge is necessary. Remember, even new gauges can be incorrect. Recommendations are to have your gauge checked for accuracy before every canning season. You can even bring in your entire canner for inspection by your local Purdue Extension office. Pressure canners that use a “jiggler” rather than a gauge do not need to be tested; however, you are still free to bring the canner in for an overall inspection, if desired.

For canning related questions or to schedule a time to test your dial gauge contact Tonya at 812-882-3509.

## **Agriculture & Natural Resources**

Valerie Clingerman-Extension Educator

Agriculture & Natural Resources

[clingerman@purdue.edu](mailto: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. |
| July 14-19 | Knox County Fair | 8:00am-10:00pm | Bicknell | 812-735-2344 |
| 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 |
| Jul. 26 | Knox County Goes Native Field Day and Nature Days | TBD | Vincennes | 812-882-8210 |
| Aug. 13 | Clean Sweep (see below for details) | 9:00am-2:00pm | Terre Haute | Complete form by Aug. 8 , cleansweep@groups.purdue.edu |



**Indiana Pesticide Clean Sweep-Pesticide Disposal Program**

The Indiana Pesticide Clean Sweep Pesticide Disposal Program designed to collect and dispose of suspended, canceled, banned, unusable, opened, unopened or just unwanted pesticides (herbicides, insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, miticides, etc.). This disposal service is free of charge up to 250 pounds per participant. Over 250 pounds there will be a $3.00 per pound charge. This is a great opportunity for you to legally dispose of unwanted products at little or no cost.

All public and private schools, golf courses, nurseries, farmers, ag dealers, public, cities, towns, municipalities and county units of government or others receiving this notice are eligible to participate.

The closest event will be held from 9:00am-2:00pm at Keystone Cooperative, 2500 S. 13th St, Terre Haute, IN 47802.

Fill out the form by Aug. 8th to reserve your spot. It can be found at: <https://oisc.purdue.edu/pesticide/2025cleansweep/2025_clean_sweep_form.pdf>.

Submit to [cleansweep@groups.purdue.edu](mailto:cleansweep@groups.purdue.edu) or mailto: Office of Indiana State Chemist, Attn. Mitch Trimble, 175 S University St. West Lafayette, IN 47907.

# **Tar Spot: What To Look For In Corn And Making An Informed Decision On Fungicide Application**

# **Written by: Darcy Telenko, Purdue University**

Tar spot continues to be a concern this season. Tar spot may be hard to find early because of how small the initial tar spot lesions (stromata) will be. I am not as worried about finding these first tar spots in the first few leaves of the corn, **what I’m really interested in to make an informed decision on putting a fungicide out, is what are you finding once corn is V8-V10**? At that point I usually find the tar spot (stromata) in fully-expanded leaves knee to hip height in the canopy and this what we are really looking to find. We will continue to monitor for disease and keep you updated. Again, the recent favorable weather has helped to promote tar spot.

I would like to make a few recommendations.

1. If you have a **history of the tar spot** it is time to keep an eye out and make an informed management decision.
2. Once corn has reached**V10 then look at the new Crop Risk Tool**([**https://cropprotectionnetwork.org/crop-disease-forecasting**](https://cropprotectionnetwork.org/crop-disease-forecasting)) to see if environmental risk is high in your field. This tool replaces the Tarspotter App.
3. **What to look for when scouting:** Small, black, raised spots (circular or oval) develop on infected plants, and may appear on one or both sides of the leaves, leaf sheaths, and husks. Spots may be found on both healthy (green) and dying (brown) tissue.
4. You can use the Crop Risk Tool initially to tell you **to get out and scout** (but right now the whole state of Indiana has been high risk) – we have time to apply fungicides if we find tar spot in the lower canopy. We don’t want to apply fungicides before **growth stages of V10.**
5. Research has shown the best return on investment in making a fungicide application in corn occurs when the**fungal diseases are** **active in the corn canopy between VT to R3**. You just need to be scouting for those early lesions to help inform your decision making.
6. But, don’t wait too long, if significant disease develops in the upper canopy, then a fungicide application may be too late at that time.

When should I be putting out a fungicide?

A **well-timed, informed fungicide application** will be important to reduced disease severity when it is needed, and we recommend holding off until the diseases is active in your field and corn is at least nearing tassel/silk (VT/R1) or even blister (R2). Scouting will be especially important if the recent rains we have seen continue.

We are working hard to try to understand this new disease to minimize losses. The good news is that there are a number of fungicides are highly efficacious against tar spot here in Indiana when applied from tassel (VT) to milk (R3). I would recommend picking a product with multiple modes of action. The national Corn Disease Working Group has developed a very useful fungicide efficacy table for corn diseases (see link).

[**https://cropprotectionnetwork.org/publications/fungicide-efficacy-for-control-of-corn-diseases**](https://cropprotectionnetwork.org/publications/fungicide-efficacy-for-control-of-corn-diseases)

To read this full article visit <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/newsletters/pestandcrop/> or contact the Extension Office.

**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](mailto:clingerman@purdue.edu).

**Did you know?**

The Purdue Extension-Knox County Office provides many services but did you know the Agriculture and Natural Resource (ANR) Educator receives approximately 100 calls a year from the community?

Common homeowner calls include questions addressing pest identification and management, trees, garden, turf, wildlife management, soil sampling, and more.

Common farm questions include cash rent, custom rates, pest management, licensing, other agronomic questions, and more.

Along with these services there are many programs throughout the year that are offered addressing similar topics. Guest speaking roles for organizations are also common addressing the topics of their choice.

With that being said if you have any questions related to garden, landscape, farming, or natural resources reach out and we are happy to help! Also, if you are looking for a speaker for a program related to the above topics let us know.

You can contact the ANR educator by calling 812-882-3509, [clingerman@purdue.edu](mailto:clingerman@purdue.edu), or find me on Facebook @ PurdueExtKnoxCoANR

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Look inside for Agriculture and Natural Resource, Health and Human Science, and 4-H updates. Thank you to the Knox County Soil and Water Conservation District for advertising with us this issue.

