

EXTENSION CONNECTION



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Extension - Whitley County

JAN – FEB
2023

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Dear Friends of Extension:

Happy New Year!! As we enter another year of educational programs and activities, carefully check the calendars in this issue and take note of the times, dates and locations. The Purdue Extension - Whitley County Office offers a variety of research-based information to help you in your day-to-day living and business.

4-H Enrollment . . . Get Enrolled Today!

Enrollment can be completed online at <https://v2.4honline.com> or paper form. If the 4-Her does not have access to a computer, a paper enrollment form may be requested from the Extension Office at 244-7615 or schradel@purdue.edu.



2023 Whitley County 4-H Fair Dates - July 14 – 20



4-H FAIR CAMPSITE RESERVATIONS

Due to the feedback the Fair Board received at the end-of-fair meeting and from survey results, the Fair Board will be reworking the campsite rental procedures. **STAY TUNED.** More information will be released soon and will be posted on the 4-H Fair Facebook page (Whitley County 4-H Fair) and sent out through e-mail to 4-H families.

REMINDER: Winter weather can be challenging for travel and schedules. Our winter cancellation policy is as follows: If any public-school corporation in Whitley County is closed for a bad weather day, we may postpone any in-person Extension meeting scheduled for that day or evening. Call the Extension Office (260-244-7615), www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley, or look us up as Purdue Extension - Whitley County at www.facebook.com to check if you're unsure.

Handouts, Publications, Copies

In an effort to be responsible with our Extension Office budget and your tax dollars, we have adopted the following policy for copies and publications.

Educational materials will be provided at no cost. Educational materials include: agendas, secretary minutes, treasurer reports, member/leader contact lists, handouts, publications or flyers for educational programs, calendar of events, awards programs, annual meeting materials.

Non-educational materials will incur a nominal fee & include: fund-raising activities (tickets, flyers, registration forms), parties, cookouts or social activities. **Copy Cost:** Black & White - 10¢/side; Black & White (2 sided) - 20¢; Color - 25¢/side; Color (2 sided) - 50¢; **Laminating Cost:** 8 ½ x 11 - \$1.00; Poster size - \$5.00; Business card size - 50¢.

Education Store

Are you looking for resources, documentation, facts, figures, plans, guides, and/or research-based information? You may find what you are looking for at the Purdue Education Store. This website, provided by Purdue Extension, includes information in the broad categories of: agriculture; community; environment; food, family and garden; and youth. Information comes in many different forms, such as: print, free online, apps, software, video, workshops and special promotions. Much of the information is free, other resources have a nominal fee. Visit the website: edustore.purdue.edu or call the Extension Office, 244-7615.

Purdue Extension Career Website

Are you a recent college graduate looking for a job? Are you mid-career & need a change? Have you recently moved to the area or are looking to enter or re-enter the workforce? Purdue Extension offers unique challenges & a rewarding career.

The website: <https://extension.purdue.edu/careers/current-openings> contains a list of current Extension Educator openings, and information on how to apply, frequently asked questions & employee benefits. Todd Geiger, John Woodmansee and Brittney Schori, Extension Educators are also available to answer questions at: (260) 244-7615.

Happy *New Year*
2023

Todd * John * Brittney * Jacki * Lisa * Candy

32nd Annual Whitley County 4-H Fish Fry and Silent Auction

Join us at the 32nd Annual Whitley County 4-H Fish Fry on Friday, March 17th from 4-7:00 pm at the 4-H Center. The All-You-Can-Eat Fish Dinner will begin at 4 pm and will be served until 7:00 or while supplies last. The cost is \$14 for adults, Children 5-10 are \$8, and any children under 5 are free will donation. Cost of carry out meals is \$14 each. The address of the 4-H Center is at 680 W Squawbuck Road.

The menu for the evening includes Breaded Fish, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Applesauce, and Drinks. The Dinner will be held in conjunction with the 4-H Council Silent Auction, with all the proceeds going to support our 4-H Youth. The dollars that are raised fund six scholarships that are awarded to youth who are furthering their education, top 4-H'er awards, and supporting youth who attend 4-H trips and other youth activities throughout the year.

In May, be watching for the Tenderloin Dinner and 4-H Fun Night. These events will be located down at main concessions and in the Commercial Building. This was a huge success last year, and we plan to continue hosting the 4-H Township Club's games and activities with this May event.

If you have any questions, please contact Whitley County 4-H Clubs, Inc. by email at whitleycounty4h@gmail.com.

Local Farmer Directs Bayer Fund to Whitley County 4-H Program

The America's Farmers Grow Communities program, a Bayer Fund program, partners with farmers to provide grants to local nonprofits and schools to help their communities. Through the program, farmers enroll for the chance to direct a \$5,000 donation to a local eligible nonprofit organization or school of their choice. Farmers will once again be able to enter for a chance to direct an America's Farmers Grow Communities donation on August 1, 2022.

Local farmer Cindy Cormany recently directed a \$5,000 Bayer Fund [America's Farmers Grow Communities](#) donation to Whitley County 4-H. Whitley County 4-H will use the funds to further their 4-H youth educational programming, including expanding their robotics program with these dollars. "We would like to say THANK YOU to Cindy for this amazing donation to our program. These dollars will truly make an impact in our program and give us the ability to reach and make a difference in the lives of more youth in our community. We are looking forward to expanding our robotics program. These dollars will make it possible for us to purchase more robotic kits and expand our reach with this program for middle school and high school youth," said Todd Geiger, Whitley County 4-H Youth Development Educator.

In 2022, Bayer Fund revamped America's Farmers Grow Communities program, making it easier for farmers across the country to find and fund the organizations and institutions that keep their communities thriving. This included doubling the individual donations to \$5,000, up from \$2,500 in previous years to provide a greater impact to local rural communities.

For more than a decade, Grow Communities has partnered with farmers to direct funds to programs and organizations that contribute to their communities' health and vibrancy, such as food banks, schools and youth agriculture programs. Since the America's Farmers programs began in 2010, the initiatives have awarded nearly \$65 million to such programs.

"Each year we hear from several nonprofit and school leaders, as well as farmers, about the ways Grow Communities has made a difference," said Al Mitchell, Bayer Fund president. "Bayer Fund is proud to work side-by-side with farmers to identify local nonprofit organizations and schools that are improving rural communities in the areas of health and wellness, food and nutrition, and STEM and ag education." Farmers can enroll for the opportunity to direct a 2023 Grow Communities donation starting on August 1, 2022. To learn more about the enrollment process and how America's Farmers programs are making an impact, visit www.Americasfarmers.com.

Bayer Fund is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the communities where Bayer customers and employees live and work by providing funding for food and nutrition, education and community development projects.



4-H Clubs Inc. Annual Meeting Update

Congratulations to our re-elected 4-H Clubs Inc. Board members: Jainele Smith, Brooke Dear, Alyssa Fletcher, and Tabi Garber (left). Whitley County 4-H Clubs Inc. Board members (right). We do still have a 2-year position available on the Board. Anyone interested can reach to whitleycounty4h@gmail.com. We'd love to have you join us!

COOKING UNDER PRESSURE!

Come spend an evening learning how to use an electric pressure cooker (Instant Pot) and get to try out a yummy recipe.

- Location: Whitley Co. 4-H Center
- Date & Time: January 23 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- Best suited for youth in Grades 3 & up
- Cost: \$5.00
- Registration closes January 16, 2023
- Register: <https://bit.ly/JanSTEAM23>

P PURDUE UNIVERSITY Extension-4H Youth Development
Purdue University is an equal opportunity/legal access/affirmative action institution.

Extension Homemaker Happenings



Date	Event	Time	Location
JANUARY			
2	Office Closed for New Year's Holiday		
16	Office Closed for Martin Luther King Jr Day		
FEBRUARY			
1	President's Council Meeting.....	10:00 a.m.....	Extension Office
16	Newsletter Mailing: (helpers: Jefferson and Tawasi).....	10:00 a.m.....	Extension Office
18	Souper Saturday.....	11:30 a.m.....	4-H Center West Room
20	Office Closed for President's Day		
28	Volunteer forms due to Karen Hall		



Thank you to these Extension Homemakers who folded and labeled the November-December Extension Educator: Club 21 – Donna Rubrake and Judy Rhoads and Union Busy Bells – Cheri Geiger.

President's Council Meeting

Wed., February 1 – 10:00 a.m. – Extension Office

Extension Homemakers Cookbook

The 2022 Whitley County Extension Homemakers cookbook are at the Extension Office. This cookbook has Whitley County Extension Homemaker and other recipes. The cost to purchase a cookbook is \$10.00. Please bring correct change if you are purchasing a cookbook or make checks payable to: Whitley County Extension Homemakers. This cookbook will celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of Whitley County Extension Homemakers.



Souper Saturday

All Whitley County Extension Homemakers are invited to a day of food, fun and fellowship for SOUPER SATURDAY on February 18, 2023 from 11:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the 4-H Center West Room. A guest speaker (TBD) will be giving a lesson, along with a craft and/or game(s). The officers will be providing a variety of soups and those attending should bring a finger-food of choice to share. Please RSVP by Friday, February 10 to the Extension Office.



Volunteer Hours

Extension Homemaker volunteer hours are due February 28, 2023. More information to come.

Spring District Meeting

The Spring District Meeting is March 31, 2023 in Huntington County. This one is in our "backyard" so check your calendars to see if you are available to attend. Whitley County Extension Homemakers, please make an effort to attend.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Indiana Extension Homemakers sponsor scholarships annually. For a copy of the applications contact Purdue Extension - Whitley County office at 244-7615, 625-3313, email bishop87@purdue.edu or visit the website: www.ieha-families.org.

Career Advancement Scholarship

Indiana Extension Homemakers Association, is an organization affiliated with the Cooperative Extension Service and Purdue University and is interested in furthering education, leadership and community volunteerism. IEHA is offering eight (8) \$500 scholarships to Indiana homemakers who are twenty-five (25)

years of age or older. One (1) as the Eleanor Arnold Awards to an IEHA member, one (1) as the Ann Hancock Award to a degree in the medical profession and six (6) random scholarships.

These scholarships are to be used to complete education or upgrade vocational skills. One must be admitted to, or cleared for admission, to an academic or vocational school, which is state-licensed or accredited. Find applications on the Indiana Extension Homemakers website at: www.ieha-families.org and must be **postmarked** by March 15, 2023.

Ruth B Sayre Scholarship

This memorial scholarship of \$500 is offered for the purpose of fostering educational development of women.

The applicant must be a legal resident of Indiana.

Find applications In the Indiana Extension Homemakers website, www.ieha-families.org and must be returned by March 1, 2023.

Steps to Success Scholarship

Scholarship Guidelines:

1. Applicant must be a resident of the State of Indiana
2. Applicant must be admitted or be enrolled in an accredited college or university or an accredited vocational or technical program. This should be a two-year program earning an industry certification in the chosen field.
3. Vocational and technical scholarship applicants must include a letter from school advisor stating that candidate is on track for graduation.
4. Attach the following to completed application:
 - o Two (2) character reference letters from persons not related to you.
 - o Official High School transcript of courses completed, including GPA and class rank.
 - o A copy of the College/School acceptance letter, if courses have not started.
 - o A copy of acceptance letter to an accredited vocational/technical school.
 - o A letter of recommendation from your primary technical instructor or director.
 - o A 500-word essay describing the life skills applicant has developed through high school community involvement. Include educational background, financial need, volunteer or community service activities and how applicant would benefit from this scholarship.
5. Applications must be postmarked by May 1 to be considered. Applications postmarked after May 1 will not be considered.
6. Five (5) \$500 scholarships will be given: (4) to an applicant admitted to or enrolled in a state accredited college or university and (1) to a state accredited vocational and technical program.
7. Find applications on the Indiana Extension Homemakers website at: www.ieha-families.org.



Tips to Build Your Finances



Often times, January is a month of reflection on the previous year. The past few years have financially strained many of us. Many dealt with hardships and heartaches brought on by the pandemic. Some of us were riding in the front seat of an emotional and financial rollercoaster. Now that the holidays have come to a close, I challenge you to think about how you can improve your finances in 2023. A New Year means new beginnings and a fresh start. Here are a few financial tips to help you start the year off well and financially get yourself on track!

Tip 1: Build back your savings better! Do you find yourself taking money from your savings account in order to make ends meet? Make 2023 the year where you build back your savings and don't have to do this the entire year! To help you more and spend less, ask yourself "Will this purchase make my life better?" If the answer is no, or if it will just add clutter to your home then rethink the purchase! To help you save better, start small by doing things such as: eliminating your morning coffee run and brewing a pot at home instead, preparing and cooking meals at home rather than getting take-out, evaluating your cell phone plan and researching to see if there is a better bargain. I recommend that you take the money that you would normally spend for these activities and place it in your saving account! You will be pleasantly surprised at how quickly your balance will grow! For example, if you spend \$6 every morning on coffee, you could be saving \$2,190 at the end of the year!

Tip 2: Establish an emergency fund (or continue to add to it)! Yes I know, creating or continuing to add money into an emergency fund doesn't sound like fun because you can't enjoy it. However, an emergency fund is one of the most important things that you can save for. This fund can help provide you with peace of mind. Knowing that if your car unexpectedly breaks down, you will have the money to pay for it and you won't have to dig yourself into a deeper financial hole by having to pay for the unexpected expense! What does yours look like?

Tip 3: Commit to reducing your debt! Reducing your debt is like losing weight: it is difficult to do, but so satisfying when you accomplish your weight loss goal. If you have multiple credit cards, which one do you focus on first? Instead of focusing on the credit card with the highest balance, I recommend focusing on paying off the credit cards that have the highest interest rate first! Just like seeing pounds shed off, making small changes can start becoming a positive habit and can make it easier for you to continue with the program!

Tip 4: Understand where your money goes! If you track exactly where your money is going, it will give you a better idea of where your overall financial picture stands and will help you determine what areas you should cut to help trim your debt and increase your savings. Simple understanding where your money is going can help reduce anxiety, which in turn can start to reduce financial stress. There are several different ways and applications to help you track spending. Of course, there is still the old-fashioned paper and pencil method for those of you who prefer this way of tracking your spending!

Tip 5: Focus on experiences instead of "things!" Rather than buying that new pair of shoes or outfit, revisit all of your options. What experience are you going to get from purchasing the new pair of shoes? You could sign up for a virtual cooking class, learn a new language, attend a group fitness class, register for an event, or go on a daylong or weekend road trip! These options will provide you with experiences, rather than "things." Some of these options still require spending money, but focusing on experiences can help reduce stress and burnout while providing you with positive experiences. Set yourself up! Ask yourself: How can I reduce my financial anxiety and get back on track to building my finances in 2023?

DO YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHERE YOUR \$\$ GOES?

Where Does Your Money Go?

Are you interested in building back your finances in 2023? This workshop will help participants dig deeper into their spending leaks, as well as provide guidance on how to improve their spending, saving, and budgeting skills.

Workshop is broken up into (2) 60-minute sessions.



For more info on scheduling classes, contact:
Brittney Schori

What Exactly is Electric Programmable Pressure Cooking (EPPC)?

It's a food-preparation method that seals the food inside a vessel with liquid, using heat to create steam, which increases the pressure in the electric programmable vessel.

- Steam is trapped in the pot, raising the pressure, which increases the boiling point.
- Increased boiling point=faster cook time, i.e. pulled pork in the oven can take ~6 hours...but in the EPPC only ~2 hours!
- Because the pot stays closed and loses hardly any moisture, you can use less liquid and the flavors become more concentrated.
- Some foods do not necessarily cook faster, i.e. potatoes due to the extra time it takes for the EPPC to build up pressure prior to cooking.
 - The benefit of using an EPPC to cook this type of food would be the consistent outcome of the product.
 - Another example and a surprise to me, was cooking eggs under pressure! It does not really save time cooking hard-boiled eggs in the EPPC, but the eggs peel so easily after cooking under pressure.



Hard Cooked Eggs in the EPPC:

1. Place 1 cup water in inner pots EPPC. Add in egg or steam rack and carefully set a number of eggs according to EPPC directions on or in rack.
2. Place lid on EPPC and set for cook time for 5 minutes on high/low pressure according to EPPC directions. NOTE: Using high pressure to make hard cooked eggs, though the eggs are beautifully cooked with egg white and yolks fully set, the difference with fresh eggs, but it gets noticeable with older eggs.
3. After cook time has elapsed, let pressure release naturally for 5 minutes.
4. One 4 minutes has elapsed, release any remaining pressure in EPPC by using wooden spoon to move vent knob to vent position.
5. Carefully, remove eggs from pressure cooker and place in ice bath for up to 5 minutes. Eggs are VERY hot, use pot holder or tongs to transfer eggs to ice water.
6. Remove eggs from ice bath, peel and enjoy.

Cook's Tip: The thing you'll need to know is how to release the pressure one the pressure cooker has finished cooking. The easiest way is to do nothing and let the pressure release all by itself.

Information was adapted from Purdue Extension Health & Human Sciences F&N: Cooking Under Pressure presentation. For full F&N: contact Noble County Extension at 260-636-2111 or email creigh@purdue.edu.

4-H Youth Development

Todd Geiger, Extension Educator



January 4-H Calendar

(Events, dates and times are subject to change)

Date	Event	Time	Location
2	NEW YEARS HOLIDAY	CLOSED	EXTENSION OFFICE
8	Smith Worker Bees Meeting	2:00 p.m.	Collins Methodist Church
8	Bowling Club Meeting	12:30 p.m.	Main Bowl Bowling Alley
9	Cat Club Meeting	6:45 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
9	4-H Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center
10	4-H Clubs, Inc. Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Ag Museum
10	Columbia Peaches Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
11	Dairy Steer Feeder Calf Club Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
12	Jr. Leaders Gathering	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
14	Scrapbook Club Workshop	9:00-11:30 a.m.	Washington Community Bldg.
14	Mini 4-H Workshop & Call-Out	10:00-11:30 a.m.	4-H Center
16	Smith Harvesters Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Churubusco High School Cafeteria
16	Union Sodbusters Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
17	Rabbit Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
17	Horse & Pony Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
18	Poultry Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
19	Beef Club Meeting\Workshop	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
22	Bowling Club Meeting	12:30 p.m.	Main Bowl Bowling Alley
23	Cooking Under Pressure Workshop	6:00-8:00 p.m.	4-H Center
24	Thorncreek Sons of the Soil Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
25	Tractor Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
29	Bowling Club Meeting	12:30 p.m.	Main Bowl Bowling Alley



February 4-H Calendar

(Events, date and times are subject to change)

Date	Event	Time	Location
5	Smith Worker Bees Meeting	2:00 p.m.	Collins Methodist Church
6	March/April Newsletter Articles Due	4:30 p.m.	Extension Office
6	Cat Club Meeting	6:45 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
6	Cleveland Showmen Meeting\Bingo	7:00 p.m.	South Whitley Town Hall
8	Dairy Steer Feeder Calf Club Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
8	Tractor Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
9	Jr. Leaders Gathering	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
13	4-H Leaders & 4-H Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center
14	4-H Clubs, Inc. Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Ag Museum
15	Columbia Peaches Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
15	Poultry Club Meeting\Workshop	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
15	Etna Troy Hustlers Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Etna Troy Community Building
16	Richland Ramblers Meeting	6:30-7:30 p.m.	Larwill Fire Station
16	Beef Club Meeting\Workshop	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
17	4-H Book Work Pick-Up	4:00-6:00 p.m.	4-H Center
18	4-H Book Work Pick-Up	9:00-11:00 a.m.	4-H Center
18	Scrapbook Club Workshop	9:00-11:30 a.m.	Washington Community Bldg.
20	Smith Harvesters Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Churubusco High School Cafeteria
20	Jefferson Hustlers Call-Out Meeting & Bingo Party	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Jefferson Township Fire Station
20	Union Sodbusters Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
20	Washington 4-H Busters/ Blue Ribbon Call-Out Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Washington Community Bldg.
21	Horse & Pony Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
21	Rabbit Club Meeting\Workshop	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
22	Tractor Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
23	Thorncreek Sons of the Soil Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
25	Mini 4-H Workshop	10:00-11:30 a.m.	4-H Center Middle & East Rooms
28	Goat Club Meeting\Carry-In	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room



2023 FAIR DATES

Whitley County 4-H Fair: July 14-20 ~ Indiana State Fair: July 28 – August 20

Updates & Reminders

4-H Animal ID Enrollment Deadline



ALL animals to be exhibited at the Whitley County 4-H Fair and the Indiana State Fair must be enrolled in 4-H Online by May 15, 2023.

4-H Recruitment

The best way to get others involved in a program is by personal contact. Most people say they become involved because they have a friend in that organization. Have you talked to your friends about 4-H? *Invite a friend to join 4-H!*

4-H Enrollment Reminder!!!

Are you or your kids enrolled in 4-H yet? Enrollment has been open for about three months now!! Please don't forget to enroll or re-enroll by January 15th!! Visit www.v2.4honline.com to get enrolled for the 2022-2023 4-H year!! Don't hesitate to contact the Extension Office if you need help!

Those 4-H members who will be involved in livestock projects need to be enrolled by January 15th in order to not miss important livestock project deadlines and events.

Internet note: 4HOnline no longer supports Internet Explorer 10 and older due to security concerns. Please make sure that you use Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari when accessing 4HOnline and FairEntry.

Premise ID Info

Anyone who buys, sells or exhibits livestock must have a Premise ID. A Premise ID is an identification number for the physical location in which animals are housed and is necessary to protect animal agriculture and the livestock industry. In an emergency, animal health officials will be able to rapidly communicate disease spread with producers. All 4-Hers are required to know the Premise ID number for the property in which their animals are located and this number is recorded in 4-H Online when enrolling the animals to be exhibited at the 4-H Fair and Indiana State Fair.

If you own a horse or poultry it is strongly encouraged for you to get a

Premise ID number, but it is not required to exhibit at this time.

If you do not currently have a premise ID number, you may apply for one through the Indiana State Board of Animal Health at <http://www.in.gov/boah> for the quickest response or call (317) 544-2400.

You MUST have a premise ID to show at the Whitley County 4-H Fair and the Indiana State Fair for cattle, swine, goats and sheep.

4-H Teen Leaders

Youth in grades 7-12 are you interested in exploring beyond the traditional exhibition projects and the 4-H fair? Then check out teen leadership with Junior Leaders! A group of adult advisors and Todd work with a group of youth every month doing service-learning projects, plan events, fun activities, socialize, and learn leadership skills and teamwork. This is a great opportunity for youth seeking volunteer opportunities and even community service hours. Junior Leaders meet usually on the second Thursday of each month from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the 4-H Center. For more details contact Todd at geigert@purdue.edu.



Looking for 4-H Camp Counselors

Are you in grades 9-12 and interested in serving as a 4-H Camp Counselor this summer? Camp Counselor applications are due on February 1st. We will begin our planning and meeting with counselors from other area counties starting in March. 4-H Camp will be held June 7-9, 2023 for youth in grades 3-6. Counselors will be at camp from June 6-9, 2023. Be looking for more details about this great opportunity for youth to grow their leadership skills and helping plan fun activities for younger youth with peer counselors. You can request an application by contacting Todd at geigert@purdue.edu.

32nd Annual 4-H All-You-Can-Eat Fish Meal

Date: Friday, March 17, 2023

Time: 4:00 – 7:30 P.M.

Place: 4-H Center

4-H Fun Night Silent Auction

4-H Council is again holding a Silent Auction at the 4-H Annual All-You-Can-Eat Fish Meal on Friday, March 17th. Donation of new items, filled gift baskets or cash donations will be accepted. This is a great opportunity for 4-H clubs to provide community service by making up a themed gift basket.

Proceeds from the Silent Auction will go toward the 4-H program and 4-H Fairgrounds projects in 2023.

Thanks for your generosity and support of the Whitley County 4-H Program.

Helping Hands 4-H Endowment Fund

The Helping Hands 4-H Endowment Fund provides scholarships for Whitley County youth who continue their education. It would be great to add more scholarships for the future, and in order for this to happen the principal amount must grow.

If you would be interested in helping with this fund, you may drop off your donation at the Extension Office or at the Whitley County Community Foundation. Checks are payable to Helping Hands 4-H Endowment Fund.

Indiana 4-H Foundation



The Indiana 4-H Foundation helps to fund and grow Indiana 4-H. Most state and national 4-H trips and conferences and most 4-H leader conferences are financially supported by the 4-H Foundation.

For questions, please contact Shelly Bingle, Executive Director, at 765-494-8483 or visit www.in.4h.org.

Old Trophies

If you or your family have old trophies collecting dust and taking up space and you don't want to keep them anymore, we have a solution for you. You can donate old trophies to: **Easter Seals ARC of Northeastern Indiana, Inc., Attn: Doug Bowman-Recreation Manager, 4919 Coldwater Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46825**

Their phone number is 260-456-4534 X 430. Call first to arrange a donation time.

Project News

State 4-H Project Updates

Please go the Indiana 4-H website at: <https://extension.purdue.edu/4h/Pages/projects> to see the guideline updates for 4-H projects for 2023.

Club News

Mini 4-H News

Do you have a kindergarten through 2nd grade child? Are you looking for a hands-on, educational, and fun program for them to be a part of? Then check out the Whitley County Mini 4-H Club!!! We will be having a Mini 4-H call out workshop on Saturday, January 14 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. at the Whitley County 4-H Center. We will have enrollment forms there so that you can sign your kids up for Mini 4-H at the event and our Mini

4-H Leaders will have fun activities for the kids to take part in!! The February Mini 4-H workshop will take place on February 25 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. at the Whitley County 4-H Center also.

Mini 4-H Livestock Mentor Program



Mini 4-H'ers who are taking the "farm animals" project can sign up for this program in 2023. Mini 4-H'ers will be able to select a specie and then will be partnered with an older 4-H

animal project member (a mentor). They will have the opportunity to work with their mentor several times before the fair. Learning about their animal, how to care for it, and how to raise it. Then, Mini 4-H'ers will have the opportunity to participate in the Mini 4-H Animal Mentor Exhibition Showcase during the week of our 2023 fair! Information on the date and time of the showcase will be coming in early 2023.

Youth Activities

Upcoming 4-H Trips:

Don't miss out!!

- ✓ **4-H Camp:** June 7-9, 2023 @ Epworth Forest (Open to youth in grades 3-6)
- ✓ **4-H Academy:** June 7-9, 2023 @ Purdue University (Open to youth in grades 9-12)
- ✓ **4-H Round-up:** June 26-28, 2023 @ Purdue University (Open to youth in grades 7-8)

Contact Todd Geiger or Candy Sroufe at the Extension Office to find out more information on these awesome trips and get a registration form!

4-H Scholarships Opportunities



ALL applications are due electronically to the Extension Office on or before January 25, 2023. Scholarship application forms and information are available at extension.purdue.edu/4h/pages/scholarship.aspx

• **4-H Senior Year Scholarship:** 4-H members who are seniors in High School may apply for this one-time award to use for a post high school study or training. Approximately 150 scholarships selected.

• **Indiana 4-H Accomplishment:** 4-H members who are in grade 10 through the year following the final year of 4-H eligibility. There are ten different projects/activity- based categories, with a \$1,000 minimum award per category. Finalists will be interviewed in the Spring at Purdue University. At least 20 scholarships are selected.

• **4-H Club Scholarship:** 4-H members who are seniors in High School and have participated in 4-H at least 4 years. Student must enroll in the College of Agriculture or College of Health and Human Sciences at Purdue University, West Lafayette and have a FASFA application submitted by March 1 to receive this scholarship. Scholarships are

awarded on the basis of (1) scholastic ability; (2) financial need; (3) achievement in 4-H club work. Scholarships must be used no later than the first fall semester after the scholarship awards are announced.

AG Plus Scholarship

Who: Any local high school senior or college student in their freshman, sophomore, or junior year of studies and is pursuing a career in agriculture in any 2-year or 4-year college in an agriculture curriculum. Basis of Scholarship: Scholastic, leadership and must major in an agricultural field that includes forage, turf or landscape related programs. **Amount: \$1000 - Deadline: February 28, 2023**

For a copy of the scholarship, contact the Ag Plus office at (260) 723-5141 or you can download from Ag Plus website. All applications must be submitted to the South Whitley Ag Plus office. There will be 4 scholarships available for 2023!!

Upcoming Whitley County 4-H Awards & Scholarships

BV Widney Award: Current 4-H member in Grades 6-9 as of January 1; Deadline: May 1, 2023

Hester Adams Award: Current 4-H members in Grades 10 and above; Deadline: May 1, 2023

Jim Tegtmeyer Award: Any 4-H member with outstanding community service; Deadline: May 1, 2023

Lester & Joy Worrick Memorial Scholarship: Current 10-year 4-H member; Deadline: May 1, 2023

Helping Hands 4-H Endowment Fund Scholarship: Senior attending post-secondary education; Deadline: May 1, 2023

Extension Homemakers Scholarship: Current 4-H Member who is a Whitley County resident, a senior enrolled in post-secondary education and who has completed at least 5 years of 4-H; Deadline: May 1, 2023

Youth Loans

The Farm Service Agency makes loans to youth to establish and operate agricultural income-producing projects in connection with 4-H clubs, FFA and other agricultural groups. Projects must be planned and operated with the help of the organization advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. The maximum loan amount is \$5,000.



Youth Loan Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a citizen of the United States (which includes Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands) or a legal resident alien
- Be 10 years to 20 years of age
- Comply with FSA's general eligibility requirements
- Be unable to get a loan from other sources
- Conduct a modest income-producing project in a supervised program of work as outlined above
- Demonstrate capability of planning, managing and operating the project under guidance and assistance from a project advisor. The project supervisor must recommend the youth loan applicant, along with providing adequate supervision.

Contact the Farm Service Agency-Farm Loan Programs office that covers Northeast Indiana at 788 W Connexion Way, Columbia City, IN 46725 for help preparing and processing the application forms. They can also be reached at (260) 244-6266, extension 105.

*Amanda Borne
amanda.borne@usda.gov

*Robin Kleiman
robin.kleiman@usda.gov

*Kaitlyn Craft
kaitlyn.craft@usda.gov

*Nancy Reiff
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Date	Event	Time	Location
JAN: 5	Officer's Meeting - Whitley Co. Master Gardeners Assn.	3:30 p.m.	Extension Office
6	Purdue Top Farmer Conference		Hybrid in-Person +Virtual Conference
12	Priority Goal Setting – Whitley Co. Master Gardeners	6:00-9:00 p.m.	Ag Museum
12 - Mar. 9	Beginning Farmer Workshop		Virtual Workshop (multi-week)
17 - 19	Fort Wayne Farm Show		Allen Co. War Memorial Coliseum
23 - 24	Indiana Hort Conference & Expo.....		Beck Center, West Lafayette, IN
24 – 26	Purdue Crop Management Workshop		
FEB: 2	Whitley Co. Master Gardeners Association.....	6:30 p.m.	Woodlands Sr. Activity Center
MAR: 2	Whitley Co. Master Gardeners Assn.	6:30 p.m.	Woodland Sr. Activity Center
2 – 3	Indiana Small Farms Conference.....		Danville, IN
9 – Apr 20	Forest Management for Private Woodland Owner.....		Virtual
14, 15, 16	Becoming the Employer of Choice Program.....		Roanoke, IN



Visit the Agriculture & Natural Resources Page on County Website

I've put a lot of effort into providing the most current information relating to agriculture, natural resources, horticulture and other related areas on our new website. Please visit www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley, then scroll down to the "Agriculture and Natural Resources" link that is under the banner photo. Or, access the page directly at: <https://extension.purdue.edu/county/whitley/ANR.html>.

2023 Purdue Top Farmer Conference



Take part in one of the most successful and longest-running management programs geared specifically for farmers — the Purdue Top Farmer Conference, featuring faculty and staff experts from Purdue's Center for Commercial Agriculture. Surrounded by farm management, farm policy, agricultural finance and marketing experts, and a group of your peers, the conference will stimulate your thinking about agriculture's future and how you can position your farm to be successful in the years ahead.

The 2023 Top Farmer Conference is back in-person this year with an option to attend remotely. This year's conference features sessions focused on the interest rate outlook and how it will impact your farm; what's ahead for farmland values; key factors affecting used farm machinery values; understanding the drivers of fertilizer prices and what's ahead for 2023 and 2024. The conference will conclude with a look ahead at what's in store for corn and soybean prices. Registration for the one-day conference which will be held at Purdue's Beck Agricultural Center in West Lafayette on Friday, January 6, 2023, is \$150. If you can't attend in-person, you can still join us remotely for one of the best conferences of the winter meeting season. Registered participants will receive an email with a link to join the conference live prior to the start of the conference. Conference

video recordings and slide deck presentations will only be available to registered participants.

For details, go to: <https://ag.purdue.edu/commercialag/home/program/top-farmer-conference-2023/>

Whitley County Master Gardener Priority Goal Setting Session

Whitley County Master Gardeners are invited to join state Master Gardener Coordinator, John Orick, in a priority goal setting session on Jan. 12, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Whitley County Ag Museum. If you haven't signed up, please call the office to let us know you'll be in attendance: 260-244-7615.

Beginning Farmer Workshop



Are you a beginning farmer, but eager to enhance and improve your management practices? Are you interested in starting a farm, but unsure of how to get started or where you can find help? Purdue Extension's online Beginning Farmer Workshop can help put you on a path to success! During the series (January 12 – March 9), you'll learn about the following:

- Assessing your farming assets
- Addressing the realities of starting a farm
- Defining realistic goals
- Creating feasible plans to achieve your goals

Outside the weekly workshop sessions, you'll complete individual work to give you a clear perspective on planning farm projects and moving forward with confidence! Program participants will have the opportunity to hear from Purdue Extension Educators and farmers on a range of topics including asset mapping, goal setting, technical assistance, finding resources, and more.

The workshop includes 8 sessions held Thursdays from 7:00-8:30 pm EST. Session dates are below. Participants register for the entire program, not individual sessions. To learn more about the program, including registration and refund policies, visit <https://cvent.me/XPZeGe>

Pre-registration is required with payment due by January 10, 2022, 11:59

pm EST. The program fee of \$75 is payable by credit card on our secure server.

- Session 1 –Orientation & Networking-1/12
- Session 2 –Vision/Mission Statements -1/19
- Session 3 –Biophysical Assets -1/26
- Session 4 –Financial and Economic Assets -2/2

Session 5 –Sociocultural Assets & Opportunities and Challenges to Your Farm -2/9

Session 6: Setting Goals -2/16
Session 7: Feasible Action Plans -2/23
 3/2 – No class - Indiana Small Farms conference in progress

Session 8: Forming Projects & Wrap-Up –3/9

To further enhance the program there will be optional weekly discussion/information sessions – which will be held on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm EST starting 1/17.

If you require special accommodations to attend this event or have any questions about this event, please email Amy Thompson–afthompson@purdue.edu.

Fort Wayne Farm Show

Come to the Fort Wayne Farm Show at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum:

- Jan. 17: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
- Jan. 18: 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**
- Jan. 19: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**



January 17-19, 2023
 Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

The show will feature a major farm manufacturing and distributor trade show, educational seminars sponsored by Area XI (northeast IN) Purdue Extension and Northeastern Indiana Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and a Private Applicator Recertification Program (PARP) Jan. 17 from 2-4 p.m. For more info see the schedule in this section of the newsletter at the bottom of page 9.

Indiana Small Farms Conference

Save the date: The Indiana Small Farms Conference will be taking place on March 2nd and 3rd, 2023. More information should be available soon at: https://extension.purdue.edu/anr/teams/dffs/small_farm_conference/



Purdue's 2023 Crop Management Workshops

This coming January, Crop Management Workshops will offer three in-person meetings, with one also being a Livestream* (virtual) option.

Dates, times (Eastern time), and locations:

- Tuesday, January 24, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, in-person only, at Madison County Community Center, Alexandria, IN
- Wednesday, January 25, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, in-person only, at Westgate Conference Center (Crane Navel Weapon Support Center), Odon, IN
- Thursday, January 26: in-person (8:30 am to 4:00 pm), and Livestream* (8:45 am to 4:00 pm), at Beck Ag Center, West Lafayette, IN

Schedule and Topics:

- 8:30 In-Person Check-in
- 8:45 Virtual Log-in
- 9:00 Meeting Begins
- (State Chemist Highlights, Corn Responses to Sulfur, Effective Disease Management, Weed and Herbicide Updates, Insect Corn Traits, Input-Intensive Corn Management, Soybean Canopy and Nutrition, Safely Crossing Railroad Crossings)
- 4:00 In-Person and Virtual Meeting Concludes



Purdue Extension Field Crop Specialists of pests and agronomics, Purdue Pesticide Programs, and the Office of Indiana State Chemist Office will be sharing.

To register, visit <http://www.purdue.edu/conferences/Crop>.

Indiana commercial pesticide applicator Continuing Certification Hours (CCHs) for in-person and virtual will be as follows: Cat 1 = 6, Cat 11 = 2, Cat 14 = 2, and RT = 4.

5.5 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for Certified Crop Advisors for in-person and

virtual will be for categories: PM 2.5, CM 2.0, NM 1.0.

Private Applicator Recertification Program (PARP) credit will be available for in-person attendance only.

*Livestream (i.e., Virtual) meeting may be watched individually, or together in groups. However, if credits (CCHs and/or CEUs) are desired, then each person must register with an individual (unique) email address, attend the entire meeting, and complete an online survey after the meeting. Understand, this is a whole-day commitment, your attendance and attention are expected.

Additional questions may be directed to Purdue Conferences, 866-515-0023, confreg@purdue.edu.

Forest Management for the Private Woodland Owner Virtual Workshop

The online version of the Forest Management for the Private Woodland Owner course provides registrants access to eight pre-recorded presentations covering forest biology, ecology and management on private woodlands. After viewing two or three videos, registrants will be invited to live online meetings with the course coordinator, Lenny Farlee, on March 9, March 30 and April 20, 2023, at 6:30 pm to ask questions, seek clarifications and receive updates and additional information on topics covered. All course presentations and supporting materials will be delivered online or as electronic documents.

Because of the popularity of this workshop, credit card payment is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.

Refund and Cancellation Policy: All cancellations are subject to a 12% registration fee + \$5 processing fee. NO

REFUNDS will be processed after February 8, 2023. If a participant of a virtual event experiences technical difficulties that prevent participation (other than event-wide difficulties), NO REFUNDS will be issued after the link to join that event has been provided.

For virtual events, the link to join will not be provided until payment is received.

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action university. If you require special accommodations to attend this event or have any questions about this event, please email Lenny Farlee - lfarlee@purdue.edu

For registration questions, contact The Education Store, www.edustore.purdue.edu or 765-494-6794

Becoming the Employer of Choice Program

If you ask farm managers and small business owners what some of their top management issues are, finding and retaining good labor is usually among the top issues. Whitley and Huntington County Extension plan to offer this program to help you become an employer of choice. The program is tentatively planned for March 14, 15, 16 from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. in Roanoke, IN. Some topics to be covered include:

- From managers to leaders
- Developing a motivated workforce
- Hiring the right people
- The farm business culture
- Strategic leadership & on-boarding
- Reviews & feedback
- Managing conflict

All program details are not yet set, but we're working on it. Save the date for now and check back with us by early February for details: 260-244-7615.

Indiana Hort Conference and Expo



The Indiana Horticultural Conf. & Expo is a two-day meeting January 23-24, 2023 (Beck Ag Ctr., W. Lafayette) designed to inform vegetable and fruit producers on production practices, pest management, food processing and safety, marketing, and new regulatory requirements.

The Indiana Horticultural Conference & Expo registration is now open! Find info and link to register by Jan. 16, 2023 at: <https://www.indianahortconference.org/>.

Tuesday, January 17 Appleseed Room A

10:00 a.m.

Midwest Ag Market Outlook

Jon Cavanaugh
Market Analyst
David Kohli
Adjunct Professor, Ivy Tech
Ryan Martin
Farm Origination Specialist,
Louis Dreyfus Co.
Rob Winters
Farm Director,
News/Talk 1190, WOWO

11:30 a.m.

5 Ways to Lose the Family Farm

Dan Gordon
Owner, Attorney,
Gordon Legal

2:00 p.m.

Distilling Down Digital Agriculture

PARP, CCH, CEU Credits Available
John Scott
Digital Agriculture Extension Specialist,
Purdue University
James Wolff
Ag & Natural Resources Educator,
County Extension Director,
Purdue Extension, Allen County



Wednesday, January 18 Appleseed Room A

10:00 a.m.

Manage Farm Finances for Free in 2023

Jim Mintert
Director,
Center for Commercial Agriculture,
Purdue University

11:30 a.m. (Luncheon)

Farm Bill and Federal Policies

Appleseed Room B
Randy Kron
President, Indiana Farm Bureau
(Senator Braun and Representative Baird, invited)
See reverse panel for luncheon info.

2:00 p.m.

Fertilizer & Commodity Outlook

Josh Vollmar
Director, Commodities & Risk,
The Andersons Inc.
Alternative Fertilizers
Theresa Dirksen
Ag & Natural Resources Director,
Mercer County, OH
Maximizing Your Fertilizer Investment
Ben Wicker
Director,
Indiana Agriculture Nutrient Alliance

5:30 p.m.

Innovative Ways to Tell Your Ag Story

Aaron Chaffet,
Chaffet Brothers Partnership
Chris Steele, Steele Farms

Thursday, January 19 Appleseed Room A

10:00 a.m.

Looking Beyond the Basics of ARC/PLC

Jason Williamson
COO, Commercial Lines Manager,
Williamson Insurance

11:00 a.m.

Farm Pond Fish & Weed Management

Bill Horan
Director,
Purdue Extension, Wells County

12:30 p.m.

Using Drones on Farms

Purdue 'Quad Squad' (Drone Team)

January 17-19, 2023

Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

Be sure to visit our booths on the lower level, Expo Hall 4

For more educational resources visit WWW.ALLENSWCD.ORG or scan the code





Whitley County Office Phone:
260.244.7615 or 260.625.3313

www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Purdue Extension Whitley County](http://www.facebook.com/Purdue%20Extension%20Whitley%20County)

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4-H Youth Development

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Jacki Bishop, (bishop87@purdue.edu) Office Manager (ANR & HHS)

Lisa Schrader, (schradel@purdue.edu) Office Coordinator (4-H Youth)

Candy Sroufe, (sroufec@purdue.edu) Program Assistant

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday

Extension Educator available online at www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley

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