

EXTENSION CONNECTION



PURDUE
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Extension - Whitley County

MAR-APR 2022

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Reminder

As the calendar starts heading towards spring, our 4-H activities really pick up! I receive questions frequently asking “**how important is it that I/we attend our 4-H meeting, 4-H workshop, or board meeting?**” In short, they are IMPORTANT.

4-H Club meetings are where up to date 4-H information is shared, questions can be answered, etc.

4-H workshops are the place where youth can learn specific skills, techniques, and knowledge about a specific 4-H project. These workshops are also an opportunity to get hands-on learning and can take the place of a specific project's worksheets.

Adults, if you are a part of 4-H Clubs, Inc., 4-H Council, 4-H Leaders, or a livestock/animal advisory board your meetings are important. These meetings are an opportunity for you to stay informed in your specific volunteer role within our 4-H program, work with others to carry out your duties, brainstorm ideas, and connect with others as we work together to truly make a positive lasting impact on the youth in our Whitley County 4-H program.

Get involved, stay informed, and take the opportunity to learn a new skill or knowledge these next two months!

~ Todd Geiger, 4-H Youth Development Educator ~

2022 Whitley County 4-H Fair Dates  July 15 – 21



DAYLIGHT
SAVING
TIME

Spring
FORWARD

March 13, 2022 at 2:00 a.m.

Todd  John  Brittney  Jacki  Lisa  Candy

Whitley County Leadership 2022

4-H LEADERS:

President: Annette Minthorn
Vice-President: Angela Miller
Secretary: Jacki Bishop
Asst. Secretary: Lynnette Bridegam
Treasurer: Pam Sherbahn

4-H COUNCIL:

President: Tammy Studebaker
Vice-President: Julie Haire
Secretary: Rachelle Cormany
Asst. Secretary: Vickie Galloway
Treasurer: Lindsay Barron
Asst. Treas: Mark Miller

4-H CLUBS, INC.:

President:
Vice-President: Shane Caudill
Secretary: Jainele Smith
Treasurer: Lori Heuer
Asst. Treasurer: Jainele Smith
Executive: Sara Demski/Jerred Reiff

EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS:

President: Karen Hall
Vice-President: Janet Hindbaugh
Secretary: Virginia Faulkner
Treasurer: Janelle Burnworth

EXTENSION BOARD:

President: Tony Reust
Vice-President: Rex Eiler
Secretary: Judy Kreider

AG MUSEUM:

President: Don King
Vice-President: Ron Myer
Secretary: Joyce Houser
Treasurer: Kent Reese

MASTER GARDENERS:

President: Theresa Chenery
Vice-President: Jeannine Nix
Secretary: Mary Haynes
Treasurer: Karoline Davis

Whitley County 4-H Annual Fish and Tenderloin Supper - May 21

This event has been postponed until Sat., May 21 and will be held in the Commercial Building below the hill on the 4-H Fairgrounds. The Commercial Building will allow the event to be in an open-air building and help reduce the risks for all who attend. There will be a drive-thru / carry out line available for those who want to take their meals to go. Watch the May/June newsletter for maps on where to enter for the drive-thru. See more info on the right.

Questions - email whitleycounty4h@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support and generosity to the Whitley County 4-H Program!

National Volunteer Week: April 17 - 23



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to the hundreds of adults that volunteer to work with our

Extension program. You perform valuable roles for youth and adults; you are a role model, teacher advisor, counselor, mentor and friend. You provide educational opportunities and teach life skills that adults and youth do not receive in other settings. YOU are IMPORTANT and APPRECIATED!!!



4-H Fun Night All-U-Can Eat Fish & Tenderloin Supper



While Supplies Last



**Reschedule
Date**



**Saturday, May 21
4:00 - 7:00 PM**

Adults: \$12.00
Children 5-10: \$8.00
Children Under 5: Free
Carryout: \$12.00



Sponsored in part by:



Halzinger
SEED SERVICE

Come Out and Support Whitley County 4-H
Purdue University is an equal opportunity/equal access university.



Commercial Building
680 W. Squawbuck Rd.
Columbia City, IN 46725

PLEASE NOTE THE
LOCATION CHANGE

The Importance of Sleep and the Impact on Our Health

Did you know, on average, we spend about two hours per night dreaming per the National Institute of Health. This free program will educate participants on the different ways that sleep can impact our health, as well as provide strategies to help meet sleep recommendations.

The program is March 29 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at the South Whitley Public Library, 201 E Front St, South Whitley IN. Registration is required by March 24 by calling the library at 260-723-5321.



Beginning April 1, don't let anything stop you from setting and achieving your goals! Start walking more in April with Purdue Extension's Get Walk IN! Program.

Register before March 29 by going to: <https://forms.gle/acHm3BNLbmC11tEQ8> or by using the QR code above.

Extension Homemaker Happenings



Date	Event	Time	Location
MAR			
16	Spring District Meeting (\$12.00 and Registration due to Ext. Off by Feb. 18)	9:30 a.m.	First Christian Church, Kendallville IN
APRIL			
1	Local Club Officer lists and membership list due to Extension Office		
6	President Council Meeting	10:00 a.m.	Extension Office
15	Office Closed for Good Friday		
21	May/June Newsletter Mailing: (helpers: Union Busy Bells/Club 21)	10:00 a.m.	Extension Office
23	Spring Garage Sale	8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	4-H Center
26	Spring Fling	1:00 p.m.	4-H Center



Thank you to these Extension Homemakers who folded and labeled the January-February Extension Connection: Double Dozen – Janelle Burnworth and Cheryl Wilkinson and Evening Bells – Karen Bucher and Glenna Johnson.

President's Council Meeting

Date/Time/Location: April 6, 10:00 a.m., Extension Office

Extension Homemakers Cookbook – 2022

The NEW Whitley County Extension Homemakers cookbook has been sent to print. This cookbook has Whitley County Extension Homemaker and other recipes. The cost to purchase a cookbook is \$10.00 and will be first available at the Spring Garage on April 23 (see Garage Sale below).



This cookbook will celebrate the Centennial Anniversary of Whitley County Extension Homemakers.

Extension Homemaker Spring District Meeting

The 2022 Spring District meeting, hosted by Noble County, will be held Wed., March 16 at the First Christian Church, 110 W. Waits Rd. in Kendallville. The theme is "Bake Someone Happy" and the cost is \$12.00 per person. Program starts at 9:30 a.m. Contact the Extension Office to get a registration form. Registrations must be to the Extension office by Friday, February 18.

Garage Sale



The Spring Garage Sale is April 23 from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the 4-H Center.

Spaces are sold on a 1st come, 1st serve basis (\$25/space) so get your registration in early. Come and shop, as there will be a wide variety of items to choose from. Proceeds support our 4-H scholarship. Food is served by Union Busy Bells Extension Homemaker Club. For questions or more information, call Barb Overdeer at 260- 609-5210.

Spring Fling



The Extension Homemakers Spring Fling is set for Tuesday, April 26 at 1:00 p.m. at the 4-H Center.

Invitations will be mailed soon.

Annual Home and Family Conference

The annual Home and Family Conference for 2022 is sponsored by the Indiana Extension Homemakers Association and Health and Human Sciences Extension at Purdue University and will be held June 6-8. Join in the three-day conference to learn new heritage skill crafts, i-Lead sessions, annual meeting, and more. Conference is held at the Embassy Suites, 13700 Conference Center South Drive, Noblesville, IN. Stay tuned for further information or visit <http://ieha-families.com> for updates.

IEHA Website Lessons

Need another idea for an educational program for your club meeting? Through cooperation with the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service, IEHA offers a wide range of lessons at no charge. Program areas include: Food and Nutrition, Human Development, Family Resource Management, Health and Special Interest Lessons. These educational programs can be found at www.ieha-families.com or contact the Extension Office at 260-244-7615.

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 for application and scholarship requirements and information. The applications available are:

Career Advancement Scholarship

IEHA is offering eight (8) \$500 scholarships who are twenty-five (25) years of age or older to be given. One (1) as the Eleanor Arnold Award to an IEHA member, one (1) to a degree in the medical profession and six (6) random scholarships. Applications must be postmarked by March 15.

Ruth B Sayre Scholarship

This memorial scholarship of \$500 is offered for the purpose of fostering educational development of women. Applications must be postmarked by March 1.

Steps to Success Scholarship Application

This scholarship offers: five (5) \$500.00 scholarships will be given to four (4) to an applicant admitted to or enrolled in a state accredited college or university and one (1) to a state accredited vocational and technical program. Applications must be postmarked by May 1.

Homemaker Highlights – Tawasi Club

The Extension Homemakers Tawasi Club started in 1959 with 20 members. The first Tawasi President was Mrs. Donald Boner.

The Tawasi Club is active today with 18 members. The club has a variety of informative topics at the meetings and do many community service projects during the year.

Tawasi would welcome new members from any area. If interested in joining the Tawasi Extension Homemakers, contact the Whitley County Extension office at 260-244-7615 or Tawasi Club President Marsha Hoffman at 260-693-3278.

NEWS NOTES TO PARENTS

"News Notes for Parents" is a newsletter geared towards parents with children ages 8 and under. You will find articles about parenting, early childhood education, nutrition and much more. If you would like this newsletter emailed to you, please email Jacki at bishop87@purdue.edu.



Tips on Saving for Retirement

Source: Take Charge America Inc.



For many of us, a “nest egg” may seem like a fantasy. We all realize that we should be saving for retirement, but many of us are consumed with mortgage payments, auto loans, child care, tuition, and credit card debt, among other expenses. Instead of planning for retirement “later,” or hedging your bets on social security, making a plan now for that nest egg will reduce stress and challenges down the road. The earlier that you start saving, the better off you will be. Remember, it’s never too late to start. Here are a few tips to help you kick off the process of saving for retirement!

First things first, pay off any high-interest debt and outstanding credit card debt! As your credit card balances decrease, your momentum and drive will likely increase. I recommend checking out a personal finances calculator to determine how long it will take to pay off your credit card(s).

If your employer offers a 401(k) account, be sure to participate! You can contribute a percentage of each paycheck, before taxes, to retirement. For those who need a reminder to save regularly, I highly recommend this method! The money is automatically deducted from your paycheck, so you don’t see it and have the opportunity to spend it! Many employers offer a matching contribution to 401(k) plans. This means, that they’ll add money to your 401(k). In this case, opting out of your company’s 401(k) is like saying no to free money! In order to maximize this benefit, you should contribute the same percentage of the employer match, at a minimum! What if you are self-employed or your employer doesn’t offer a 401(k)? I recommend opening a Individual Retirement Account (IRA) or a Roth (IRA). If you want to pursue this option, I recommend seeking guidance from a financial advisor to help you determine the right retirement account for your needs and your goals!

It may be easier said than done, but don’t spend more than you are making. Our grandparents and great grandparents had the right idea when they tucked their grocery money into one envelope and their gas money into another. They didn’t spend more than they had, and they saved up for big-ticket items like cars and kitchen appliances. These days, we are bombarded with credit cards, leasing offers, etc. “Saving up” isn’t a necessity when you can simply charge your purchase, right? I recommend not racking up more debt and try your best to save money for those luxury items!

Have you considered a health savings account? If you are enrolled in a High Deductible Health Plan, consider a Health Savings Account (HAS) to ease healthcare costs as you enter retirement. HSAs allow you to make tax-free deposits into a savings account designed for health-related expenses. Just like a regular savings account, your contributions collect interest and grow over time! You can pay into an HAS now, and withdraw for medical costs in your older years. Just keep in mind that withdrawals for non-medical expenses will incur stiff penalties!

As the catch phrase goes, don’t put all of your eggs in one basket. This certainly applies to your nest egg! Take a look at U.S. Savings Bonds and treasuries for safe, guaranteed, inflation-linked investments. “Safe” investments become more crucial as you come close to retirement age. Remember it’s

never too late to start saving for retirement. Socking away \$25 a week, or even \$25 every month will significantly improve your quality of life in retirement while providing peace of mind right now!

National Move More Month

Source: US Dept. of Health & Human Sciences(NIH)

Did you know that April is National Move More Month? The objective is clear and simple: bring awareness to get up and move! The American Heart Association thought this was one way to help improve health of Americans everywhere, National Move Month is aimed at getting more of us to hit 10,000 steps every day or, even better, to hit that 20-minutes of aerobic exercise mark every day! Below are a few simple ways you can stay active every day.

Walk whenever possible!

- Walk instead of drive, whenever you have the opportunity
- Park a little further away from your destination
- Take the stairs instead of the escalator or elevator
- Go for a half-hour walk instead of watching TV
- Make a Saturday morning walk a family or personal habit
- Walk a little faster while shopping at the mall or grocery store
- Enroll in Purdue Extension’s free walking program that kicks off April 1, 2022 – Register today by going to <https://forms.gle/acHm3BNLbmC11tEQ8>

Move more while you are at home!

- Garden, or make home repairs
- Do yard work (i.e. rake, weed, or plant)
- Get some chores done around the house
- Wash the car by hand
- Use a snow shovel instead of a snow blower

Live actively!

- Join an exercise group or attend classes at the local gym
- Do sit-ups in front of the TV. Have a sit-up competition with your kid or spouse
- Try an at home exercise video
- Avoid labor-saving devices, such as a remote control or electric mixers
- Dance to your favorite music
- Choose activities you enjoy. Ask children/spouse what activities they want to do
- Explore new physical activities
- Give yourself a gold star with non-food related rewards, such as a family day at the park, lake, or zoo
- Go swimming at a lake or a pool
- Purchase a set of hand weights



ServSafe Food Manager 1-Day Class and Exam

ServSafe educates food service workers about food safety. ServSafe Food Protection Manager is their highest certification and focuses on five aspects: Foodborne microorganisms and allergens; Personal hygiene; Purchasing, receiving and storage; Preparing, cooking and serving; and Facilities, cleaning/sanitation and managing pests.

This full 1-day training includes an manual and proctored paper exam on March 30 at the Life Church, Café of Hope, 900 E State Street, Huntington IN. Registration is at 7:45 a.m.

and class is from 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. with the exam at 4:00 p.m. The certification is valid for five years.

The class, exam and book is \$165.00 with the exam only for \$65.00 and the book only for \$88.00

For more information including score needed and requirements, go to www.purdue.edu/servsafe and register online at: <https://event.me/17aXKP>.



4-H Youth Development

Todd Geiger, Extension Educator



March 4-H Calendar (Events, dates and times are subject to change)

Date	Event	Time	Location
3	Thorncreek Sons of Soil Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
4	Scrapbooking Club Workshop	6:30-8:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
6	Smith Worker Bees Club Meeting	2:00 p.m.	Collins Methodist Church
6	Bowling Club Meeting	12:30 p.m.	Main Bowl – Columbia City
7	Bicycle Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center East Room
7	Cat Club Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
7	Cleveland Showmen Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	South Whitley Town Hall
7	Etna Troy Willing Hearts Club Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Etna Troy Community Center
7	Union Sodbusters Club Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
8	4-H Clubs, Inc. Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Ag Museum
9	Poultry Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
9	Tractor Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
10	Jr. Leaders Gathering	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
13	Bowling Club Meeting	12:30 p.m.	Main Bowl – Columbia City
14	4-H Leaders & 4-H Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center
14	Sheep Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
15	Rabbit Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
16	Beef Club WC3 Beef Show Set-Up	5:00 p.m.	4-H Fairgrounds
17	Etna Troy Hustlers Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Etna Troy Community Center
17	Richland Ramblers Club Meeting	6:30-7:30 p.m.	Larwill Fire Station
19	Scrapbook Club Workshop	9:00-11:30 a.m.	4-H Center West Room
20	Bowling Club Meeting	12:30 p.m.	Main Bowl – Columbia City
20	Whitley Co. Cattlemen's Classic Open Beef Show	9:00 a.m.	4-H Fairgrounds
21	Beef Club WC3 Beef Show Clean-Up	6:30 p.m.	4-H Fairgrounds
21	Columbia City Clovers Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
21	Smith Harvesters Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Churubusco Fire Station
21	Washington 4-H Busters/Blue Ribbon Clubs Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Washington Community Bldg.
22	Horse & Pony Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
22	Goat Club Meeting/Workshop	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
23	Tractor Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
24	Thorncreek Northern Stars Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
24	Swine Club Meeting/Workshop	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
26	Mini 4-H Workshop	10:00-11:30 a.m.	4-H Center
28	Jefferson Hustlers Club Meeting	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Jefferson Township Fire Station
28	Dairy Steer Feeder Calf Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
29	Columbia Peaches Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
30	YQCA Training	5:00 p.m.	4-H Center



April 4-H Calendar (Events, date and times are subject to change)

Date	Event	Time	Location
3	Smith Worker Bees Meeting	2:00 p.m.	Collins Methodist Church
4	Bicycle Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
8	Scrapbooking Club Workshop	6:30-8:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
11	Union Sodbusters Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center Middle room
11	May/June Newsletter Articles Due	4:30 p.m.	Extension Office
11	4-H Leaders & 4-H Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center
11	Cat Club Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
12	Cleveland Showmen Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	South Whitley Town Hall
12	Shooting Sports – Archery Meeting	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Commercial Bldg. – 4-H Fairgrounds
12	4-H Clubs, Inc. Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Ag Museum
13	Sheep Club Meeting/Workshop	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
14	Thorncreek Northern Stars Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center East Room
14	Thorncreek Sons of Soil Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
14	Jr. Leaders Meeting	6:30 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
15	GOOD FRIDAY		EXTENSION OFFICE CLOSED
18	Columbia City Clovers Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
18	Etna Troy Hustlers Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Etna Troy Community Center
18	Washington 4-H Busters/Blue Ribbon Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Washington Community Bldg.
18	Jefferson Hustlers Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Jefferson Twp. Fire Station 8
18	Smith Harvesters Meeting	7:00 p.m.	Churubusco Fire Station
19	Horse & Pony Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
19	Rabbit Club Meeting	7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
19	Shooting Sports – Archery Meeting	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Commercial Bldg. – 4-H Fairgrounds



Date	Event	APRIL Continued	Time	Location
20	Poultry Club Meeting		7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
20	Tractor Club Meeting		7:00 p.m.	4-H Club Middle Room
21	Columbia Peaches Club Meeting		7:00 p.m.	4-H Center East Room
21	Richland Ramblers Meeting		6:30-7:30	Larwill Fire Station
21	Beef Club Meeting/Workshop		7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
21	Dog Club Workshop		6:30-7:00 p.m.	Commercial Bldg. – 4-H Fairgrounds
22	All Beef and Dairy Beef Steers Weigh-in		6:00-9:00 p.m.	4-H Fairgrounds
23	Dairy Steer Feeder Calf Weigh-in		8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	4-H Fairgrounds
23	Scrapbooking Club Workshop		9:00-11:30 a.m.	Washington Community Bldg.
24	Rabbit Ambassador Contest/Workshop		2:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
25	Dairy Steer Feeder Calf Club Meeting		7:00 p.m.	4-H Center West Room
26	Shooting Sports – Archery Meeting		6:00-8:00 p.m.	Commercial Bldg. – 4-H Fairgrounds
26	Goat Club Meeting		7:00 p.m.	4-H Center Middle Room
28	Dog Club Meeting		6:30-7:30 p.m.	Commercial Bldg. - 4-H Fairgrounds
30	Mini 4-H Workshop		10:00-11:30 a.m.	4-H Center
30	YQCA Training		1:00 p.m.	4-H Center



2022 FAIR DATES



Whitley County 4-H Fair: July 15-21 ~ Indiana State Fair: July 29 – August 21

Updates & Reminders

4-H Fair Theme

Be thinking of a “catchy” theme for the 2022 4-H Fair. One theme per club can be turned in and will be due at the Extension Office by Friday, April 1st by 4:30 p.m. Your ideas may be submitted to your 4-H Leader.

4-H Livestock Requirements for 2022



To exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, meat goats, dairy goats, poultry and rabbits, 4-H members must be certified through the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program. This is an annual program that can be completed via online modules or in-person trainings. More information about YQCA is available at <http://yqca.org>. While this is a new requirement, it should not be viewed as just another rule, but rather as an important educational opportunity for 4-H livestock members. Making this an exhibition requirement is how we are ensuring that 4-H members learn about quality assurance, but it really has nothing to do with animal exhibition. The real reason we are requiring this is so youth learn best management practices with their animals. The goals of having 4-H members complete the YQCA program include ensuring that:

* Youth will be more prepared to be ambassadors for animal agriculture in their role as youth livestock exhibitors.

* Animals from youth livestock programs are treated with the utmost care.

* 4-H members are contributing to a safe, wholesome food supply.

All 4-H youth exhibiting the species listed above must be certified through the YQCA program by May 16, 2022 in order to be eligible to exhibit at the 2022 Whitley County 4-H Fair. This is also a requirement in order to exhibit at the Indiana State Fair in 2022.

We have step-by-step instructions with screen shot pictures of how to navigate the YQCA website listed on our Whitley County Purdue Extension website.

The 2 remaining training dates for Whitley County are:

- March 30 @ 5:00 p.m. at the Whitley County 4-H Center
- April 30 @ 1:00 p.m. at the Whitley County 4-H Center

You must pre-register for the in-person trainings on the YQCA website at <http://yqca.org> and pay the \$3.00 registration fee prior to attending.

Bred, Born & Raised Forms

Reminder: These forms are due to the Livestock Club Leader only. Their names and addresses are listed at the top of Bred, Born & Raised forms. Forms are available from the Livestock Leader(s) at Club

Meetings or from the Extension Office, but may only be returned or mailed to the Livestock Club leader. ALL BEEF, DAIRY STEER and FEEDER CALF, GOAT and SWINE Bred, Born & Raised forms are due May 16th

Important 2022 Calendar Dates:

MAY 1

4-H Trip Applications Due

MAY 16

All Animal Identification Deadline in 4-H Online (Poultry Paper Form ONLY)

JUNE 25

4-H Cat Show

4-H Dog Show

JULY 1

Fair Entry Deadline for 4-H Projects to Exhibit at 4-H Fair

JULY 1

Record Books are Due to your 4-H Leader by 7:00 p.m.

JULY 9

Fashion Revue & Consumer Clothing Judging

JULY 12

Non-Perishable Judging at the 4-H Center

JULY 13:

Perishable Judging at the 4-H Center

JULY 15 - 21

WHITLEY COUNTY 4-H FAIR

Activity Worksheets vs Animal Workshops Continuing for 2022

This year we will continue this option for all 4-H animal exhibitors. In the past all of these 4-H members have had to complete their animal species activity sheets and turn them into their Township club leaders by July 1. This option is STILL available this year. But we are offering another option: If a 4-H livestock member attends a workshop put on by their specie club this will count in place of those activity sheets. These attendance sheets will be turned into the Township club leaders on July 1 instead. Please be watching in the newsletter, The Extension Educator, for more information, dates, and locations of your specie club's workshops that you can attend if you would like to choose this option in 2022.

Mini 4-H Animal Mentor Program

Mini 4-H'ers who are taking the "Farm Animals" project can sign up for this program in 2022. Mini 4-H'ers will be able to select a specie and then will be partnered with an older 4-H animal member (a mentor). They will have the opportunity to work with their mentor several times before the Fair to learn about their animal, how to care for it, and how to raise it. The Mini 4-Her will participate in Mini 4-H Exhibition Showcase on Wednesday, July 20th at 8:30 a.m. in the Show Barn. They will be able to walk with their mentor and their mentor's animal. (This is for all animal species.) If a Mini 4-Her chooses a companion animal (cat, dog or pets) they will follow the same procedures with the mentor, but will be able to bring their own animal during the day of their specie 4-H show prior to the Fair. More information on this program will be available at the Mini 4-H workshops and at the Extension Office.

To enroll in this program, a Mini 4-H Mentor Program Release Liability Form must be completed and returned to the Extension Office by April 1, 2022.



ATTENTION LIVESTOCK CLUB MEMBERS!!

Some changes to pay attention to:

1. Besides Ear Notching and 840-RFID tags for Swine, and 840-RFID tag and/or 5-digit county tag for Beef and Dairy Beef Cattle, DNA hair samples are



required for all Swine, Beef, Dairy Cattle, Meat Goats and Dairy Beef Cattle to be eligible for the Indiana State Fair. Collection envelopes and collection instructions are available at the Extension Office. Deadline to return DNA hair samples to the Extension Office by 4:30 p.m. are the same as the Animal Identification deadline in 4HOnline.

2. It is required that all identification information (ear notch, RFID tag number, breed, gender, etc.) must be provided in 4-H Online and on the collection DNA sample envelope for all animals that you want eligible for the Indiana State Fair. Any of this identification information that are missing, incomplete or incorrect will result in ineligibility to show your animal.

3. If you are enrolled in the Swine project, be sure you check the ear notches carefully! When purchasing your pig(s), make sure the ear notches match the papers you receive. Do not assume the notches match the paper! If you put the notches in yourself, be sure you put the notch in the correct location of the ear. After the May 16th animal identification deadline, ear notches cannot be changed, corrected or substituted.

4. ALL Dairy Cattle are required to have an 840-RFID tag in which to be eligible for 4-H shows and at the Indiana State Fair. This tag will need to be entered along with other required information in 4-H Online by May 16th. Any of these IDs that are missing, incomplete or incorrect will result in ineligibility to show your animal.

5. ALSO FOR 2022!

RABBIT: Animal identification for Rabbits will be completed in 4HOnline. There will be no forms available.

SWINE: 4-H'er may bring 4 animals – 2 barrows and 2 gilts, 3 gilts

and 1 barrow or 3 barrows and 1 gilt.

GOAT: All wethers, regardless of breed, must come to May 7th tagging date. Lamancha wethers will be tattooed at this time. Maximum 2 wethers per 4-H'er. All meat goat wethers and market meat goat does will need to be tagged with 840 RFID tag and those exhibiting at the Indiana State Fair will need to submit a hair DNA sample by May 16th

6. Poultry Animal Identification Enrollment Forms WILL NOT BE MAILED!

7. You can go to the Purdue Extension Whitley County office website

at: www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley to obtain the following information and forms for your livestock project:

- Animal identification enrollment instructions in 4-H Online
- Poultry Animal Identification Forms
- Pre-Fair Livestock Information
- Instructions on enrolling livestock project to be exhibited at the 4-H Fair in the FairEntry database.
- Copies will also be made available at the Extension Office.

8. It is recommended that you read all the general rules in the Rule Book, plus all the rules that apply to the projects you are enrolled in.

Indiana State Fair DNA Hair Sample Requirements for Livestock

In 2022 DNA hair samples will be required to be pulled for all beef cattle, **dairy cattle**, dairy beef cattle, dairy feeder calves, sheep, and meat goat for 4-H exhibitors who plan on showing at the Indiana State Fair. We will have the envelopes available at the Extension Office.



4-H Manual Reminder

All 4-H manuals will be given to you, the 4-Her, by your 4-H club leader. If you drop and/or add projects, you must communicate with your club leader to return manuals you will not use and/or get the manuals for projects you are adding. It is your responsibility to attend club meetings to pick up your 4-H materials.

4-H Project Supplies

The following supplies/kits are available or can be ordered through the Extension Office:

Foam Poster Board -	\$2.50
Poster Sleeve -	\$1.00
Salon Print Sleeve -	\$0.50
Mini 4-H Poster Sleeve -	\$0.50

Electric:

Division II Kit (Shake Light) -	\$16.00
Division III Trouble Light Kit -	\$35.00
<small>(Includes wire, caged light head, wire nuts, & plug)</small>	
Extension Cord Kit -	\$20.00
<small>(Includes wire, male & female ends)</small>	

Entomology:

Insect Boxes -	\$16.00
Insect Kit (Pins & Vials)-	\$6.00

2022 Whitley County 4-H

Rulebook

This year's rulebook is available to 4-H'ers and their families online on our website at www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley on the 2022 Whitley County 4-H Program page, under "Related Files" towards the bottom of the page. Click on it and it will download to your device as a PDF file.

If you don't need the entire rulebook this year, we have a 2022 4-H Projects page on our website that has all of the projects listed in alphabetic order.

Each project name is hyperlinked to its own PDF rules file for just that project. You can navigate to this page from our Whitley County Purdue Extension homepage, hover over the word "Youth" in the brown bar near the top right, next you will see a large drop-down menu appear and on the far left you will see "4-H Project - Whitley". Click on it and it will take you to the 2022 Whitley County 4-H Projects page, click on this phrase and it will open the page with all of the projects listed in alphabetical order.

4-H Information Book

This year all 4-H families will receive a copy of the green 2022 Whitley County 4-H Information Book. This book will contain all general Whitley County 4-H information including the fair week schedule. 4-H families can pick up their 4-H guide from their township club leader at a township club meeting.



Websites for Bookmark

Purdue Extension – Whitley County website:

www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley

State 4-H Department:

www.four-h.purdue.edu

Indiana State Fair:

www.state.in.us/statefair

Indiana 4-H Foundation Home

page: www.4h.org

National 4-H website:

www.4-h.org

National 4-H Source Book:

www.4-hmall.org

Whitley County 4-H Clubs, Inc.:

www.whitleycounty4-h.com

Whitley County 4-H Agricultural

Museum:

www.whitleycountyagmuseum.com

Ag Museum News & Benefit Breakfast

There will be an Ag Museum benefit breakfast at the Ag Museum on Saturday, April 9, 2022 from 7:00 to 10:00 a.m. The breakfast will include scrambled eggs, pancakes, whole hog sausage, and drinks. Bring family and friends to enjoy good fellowship and food. A free will donation will be received for the meal and the proceeds will help fund the new projects being planned at the Ag Museum.



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, you can inquire for a Premise ID number, but it is not required to exhibit.

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.

"I wouldn't be who I am today if it wasn't for ..." 4-H Adult Awards

How can we say "thank you" to the adults in our awesome 4-H program? The adults that have given of their time, effort, contributions, who have gone above and beyond for the youth and the 4-H program here in Whitley County. Fill out a form today to honor an adult that you know that has made and guided you and/or other youth to be the person you/they are today. Contact the Extension Office to pick up a form to nominate someone for either the: Adult Leadership Award, Friend of 4-H Award, or Distinguished Service Award. Deadline for 4-H Adult Awards nominations is May 1st by 4:30 p.m. at the Extension Office.

Indiana 4-H Specialty License Plate

Show your support for Indiana 4-H by purchasing an Indiana 4-H Foundation specialty license plate. Plate fees support programs for young people state-wide, and a portion of the money from each plate that is sold goes back to the 4-H county where the plate was purchased. Plates can be purchased at your local BMV office or online at www.in.gov/bmv.



Paper Clover Campaign

The Spring Paper Clover Campaign launches **April 27th to May 8th** at Tractor Supply in Columbia



City. A portion of their proceeds will be donated to the Whitley County 4-H

program. Stop by and support this local business.

Project News

Beef, Dairy Steer and Feeder Calf Weigh-IN



Beef Steers, Beef Market/Commercial Heifers and Dairy Beef Steers Weigh-In in Friday, April 22nd 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Beef Steers, Beef market heifers and any Beef heifer that wants to be shown as a crossbred must attend the scheduled weigh-in to be weighed and identified. Registered heifers are not required to attend the weigh-in, however may come if the youth so chooses.

Feeder Calf Weigh-in is Saturday, April 23rd, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Dues, vaccinations, implants and tags will need to be paid at Feeder Calf weigh-in.

REMINDER: Dairy Steer Feeder Calves cannot weigh over 300 pounds at the weigh-in. If you have any questions please contact the Extension Office at (260) 244-7615.

Attention Goat Club Members!!



The Goat Tagging date is on

Saturday, May 7th 8:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M. at the 4-H Fairgrounds. All wethers and those meat wethers and unregistered meat does going to exhibit at the Indiana State Fair must attend.

Attention Sheep Club Members!!

The Sheep weigh-in and tagging date is Friday, May 6th 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 p.m. at the Whitley County 4-H Fairgrounds. All sheep must come to the weigh-in.



Club News

4-H Club Meetings are an Important Part of the 4-H Experience!

Many community leaders will tell you that their earliest experiences in public speaking occurred at a 4-H Club meeting. Doing demonstrations at your club meeting and serving as a club officer are great ways to develop confidence and become comfortable in group settings.



4-H meetings are a great way to grow and develop life skills that you will use the rest of your life. 4-H meetings are also a great way to keep up on activities and gain information that you need throughout the 4-H year. Take advantage of your club meetings by attending and participating, and don't forget to thank your club leaders. They are volunteering their time to "Make the Best Better!"

4-H Junior Leader News

Upcoming Junior Leader Gatherings:

- March 10 @ 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H Center
- April 14 @ 6:30 p.m. at the 4-H Center

Reminder about our upcoming Spring Farm Toy Show happening on April 10 at the 4-H Center! Set-up will be on April 9 and 10, make sure that you sign up to help with this event as this is a Junior Leader fundraiser!! More information will be coming!

Youth Activities

Scholarships:

Farm House Fraternity



Who: Any male 4-H member enrolled as a freshman at Purdue University.

Basis of the Scholarship: Scholastic, leadership, community

Amount: \$1000

Deadline: March 15

For a copy of the application, contact the Whitley County Extension Office or www.purduefarmhouse.com

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: March 31, 2022

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 2022!!**

B.V. Widney Award

This award will be given to any current 4-H member in grades 6th – 9th as of January 1st. Selection will be based on 50% Record of Achievement and 50% questions.

Award criteria and questions are available at the Extension Office

Please submit copies of your "My Record of Achievement" forms and the B.V. Widney Award Application in a folder to the Extension Office by May 1, 2022.

Hester Adams Award

This award will be given to any current 4-H member in 10th grade and above. Number of awards given will be determined by the number of applications received with a maximum of 6 awards.

The award will be based on the following criteria:

- 40% Record of Achievement records
- 30% Interview – 10 to 15 minutes long

• 15% Resume (involvement of non 4-H activities will be noted in resume)

• 15% Essay

Copies of Record of Achievement records, resume and essay must be submitted to the Extension Office by Friday, May 1, 2022. Contact the Extension Office for essay topic.

Interviews will be scheduled for Tuesday, May 10, 2022.

Jim Tegtmeyer Award

This award is given to a 4-Her who is currently in 12th grade with outstanding community service. Applicants must fill out an application and submit it to the Extension Office by May 1, 2022. A selection committee will judge applications. Award is based on the following:

1. Community service projects in 4-H.
2. Community service projects in other organizations.
3. 4-H offices and committees served on.
4. Other activities.

Lester & Joy Worrick Memorial Scholarship

This \$500 scholarship will be awarded to ONE Whitley County 4-H'er who is currently a 10-year 4-H member that will be pursuing a post-secondary education at a college, university or other similar institution. The 4-H member must be active not only in 4-H, but also in the community. Applicants must fill out an application and submit it to the Extension Office by May 1, 2022.

Helping Hands 4-H Endowment Scholarship

Seniors attending post-secondary education are eligible to apply for the Whitley County Helping Hands 4-H Endowment Fund. There will be up to three \$500 scholarships awarded.

Applications may be picked up at the Extension Office and are due by May 1, 2022.

Winners of these awards will be announced at the 4-H Awards Recognition Reception on Sunday, May 22, 2022.

Indiana State Fair Workers

The State 4-H staff is looking for you if you are looking for an opportunity to work at the State Fair. Applicants are needed to work in the Exhibit Hall and Ag Hort Building.



Exhibit Hall workers must be a minimum of 14 years of age to college age young adults. Applications are available at the Extension Office and on the website:

www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley.

Deadline to State Fair Office is April 1, 2022.

4-H Trips

4-H Trips information will be emailed soon to all 4-H members, grades 3-12. Attending 4-H trips is fun, exciting and educational. There are many opportunities for 4-H'ers to travel and meet other 4-H'ers from all over Indiana as well as the USA.



In Whitley County, you must apply for those trips you are interested in attending. Copies of the applications are also available on our website:

www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley.

Don't Miss Out... 4-H Trip Application Deadline is April 1!

- 4-H Round-Up: Grades 7-9
- National 4-H Dairy Conference: Grades 10-12
- National 4-H Congress: Grades 9-12
- 4-H Academy: Grades 9-12
- State 4-H Junior Leader Conference: Grades 9-12
- State 4-H Band: Grades 9-12
- State 4-H Chorus: Grades 9-12
- 4-H Camp: Grades 3-6

For more information or to ask questions, please call the Extension Office.

Add Project Deadline Changed for 2022



Deadline to add non-livestock projects this year is June 15!! Any youth who adds a project after May 15 MUST contact the

office to add the project and come to the office to pick up the project manual. Please notify the office right away if your 4-H'er adds or even drops a project through 4-H Online as we do NOT receive notification of this.

MidWest America Federal Credit



Union to Donate Big to 4-H

We would like to say THANK YOU to MidWest America Federal Credit Union for their donation to helping us grow our youth Robotics and STEM Connection programs as well as our youth SPARK program! AND...for partnering with us moving forward through their Affinity Card program at their local branch right here in Columbia City! Would you like to support the Whitley County 4-H program and make an impact with these programs and many more? All you would need to do is ask for one of these debit cards at our local MidWest America Federal Credit Union branch. The cost is free for you and every time you use your "Whitley County 4-H" debit card, MidWest shares a portion of their profit with us! For more details stop by our office or the local MidWest America FCU branch.

"Winter Wonder Thru 4-H" Open House



Happening Friday, February 25th from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Center. There will be games for the kids, 4-H projects on display, 4-H Club information available, and our livestock/animal project "Can't Miss dates" will be on hand as well. Included during this event will be the opportunity for 4-H'ers to pick up all of their project bookwork and manuals for the year. So, swing on by, have some fun and pick up all of 4-H project paperwork on February 25th!!





Date	Event	Time	Location
MARCH:	National Invasive Species Awareness Week (February 28 – March 4)		
3	Whitley Co. Master Gardeners Assn.....	6:30 p.m.....	Woodlands Sr Activity Center & via Zoom
8, 15, 22	Becoming the Employer of Choice	6:30-9:00 p.m.....	Roanoke Church of the Brethren
29	ANR Program Advisory Committee Meeting	7:00 p.m.....	Extension Office/membership by invitation
APRIL:	Arbor Day is April 29 – Plant A Tree!!!		
7	Whitley Co. Master Gardeners Assn.....	6:30 p.m.....	Woodlands Sr Activity Center & via Zoom
15	Office Closed for Good Friday		
MARK YOUR CALENDARS:			
May 11	Emergency Animal Management Program (for law enforcement and first responders)		
June 25	Whitley County Master Gardeners' Garden Walk		
June 21	NEPAC Diagnostic Training Center event (commercial ag focus)		
Early July	Stay tuned for information about Whitley Co. Swine Evaluation (Carcass) Show – decision not yet made concerning show		
July 15-21	Whitley County 4-H Fair		
July 19	Master Gardeners Seminars at Whitley County 4-H Fair – 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.		
Aug 25	NEPAC Field Day (morning to early afternoon)		



Beef Producers Encouraged to Participate in Heifer Development Survey

A topic introduced at the IBCA regional beef meeting was the idea of a potential heifer development program.

Purdue Extension and the Indiana Beef Evaluation Program (IBEP) are investigating the need for a Heifer Development Program in Indiana. To determine the need, a short survey will help collect information and opinions necessary to pursue a Heifer Development Program opportunity. The survey should only take a few minutes to complete. It is anonymous, voluntary, and both computer and mobile friendly. Access the survey at: <https://bit.ly/heifersurvey>. See graphic for more details.

DOES INDIANA NEED A HEIFER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM?

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF A HEIFER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:

- Opportunity for replacement heifer development.
- Increase the reproductive efficiency of mature cows.
- Evaluation of heifer disposition, structural soundness, reproductive efficiency, and growth performance.
- Access to other genetics through artificial insemination.

HOW CAN INDIANA BEEF CATTLE PRODUCERS HELP?

- Take the short survey to share your thoughts!
- Visit bit.ly/heifersurvey or scan the QR code below to access the survey.
- Encourage other beef cattle producers to participate in the survey.
- The survey will be available through March 2022.
- For questions or more information, contact: Ophelia Davis at Purdue Extension - Lawrence Co. at 812-275-4623 or odavis@purdue.edu or Danielle Walker at Purdue Extension - Washington Co. at 812-883-4601 or dhowellw@purdue.edu.

SCAN THIS QR CODE TO TAKE THE SURVEY

Stay Up-To-Date

Access the agriculture and natural resources (ANR) section of our Whitley County Extension website to stay up-to-date on all ANR news, information and programs: <https://extension.purdue.edu/county/whitley/ANR.html>. This page is also available from our main homepage www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley - click on "Agriculture & Natural Resources" under "Whitley County Resources" near top of page.

More Aware of Invasive Species

Feb. 28-March 4 is National Invasive Species Awareness Week. Invasive insects, plants and other organisms are challenging our natural areas by out-competing or decimating native populations. This impacts native plants, insects, birds, fish and wildlife. Control efforts are expensive and time-consuming.



It's important to note that not all non-native species are bad – some behave themselves just fine in our environment.

For species that don't behave, local residents can report invasive species by calling the Invasive Species hotline at 1-866-NO-EXOTIC (1-866-663-9684) or using the free Great Lakes Early Detection Network smartphone app, which can be downloaded on iTunes or GooglePlay. Purdue has put together a YouTube video to demonstrate how easily the app can be used to alert authorities: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eFvaweR4cSw>.

[eFvaweR4cSw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eFvaweR4cSw). You can also email DEPP@dnr.in.gov.

For more information, see websites below:

- Report Invasive Species <https://ag.purdue.edu/reportinvasive/> (Good 1st stop website)
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/3123.htm>
- Indiana Native Plant Society: <https://indiananativeplants.org/>
- Midwest Invasive Plant Network: <http://www.mipn.org/>

For more information on invasive plant species in forest habitats, access the Purdue publication FNR-230-W, *Invasive Plant Species in Hardwood Tree Plantations*, at Purdue's Education Store, www.edustore.purdue.edu.

Additionally, learn more about national efforts during invasive species awareness week at: <https://www.nisaw.org/>.

If you are one who enjoys or manages natural areas, I encourage you to become more aware and knowledgeable of invasive species, and to identify steps you can take to minimize their impact.

Program to Help Farm Managers and Small Business Owners Become an 'Employer of Choice'

In addition to the daily responsibilities of keeping an agricultural operation or small business running, managers also have to become human resource specialists in their quest to find and retain the best employees.

To help develop those skills, Purdue Extension in Huntington and Whitley



Counties will offer the *Becoming the Employer of Choice* program on March 8, 15, and 22, 2022, from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. at the Roanoke Brethren Church, 415 S Main Street, Roanoke, IN. The program is a series, so participants would need to plan on attending all three nights. The popular program, developed by the University of Wisconsin Extension, is designed to improve human resource skills through hands-on activities and interactive sessions.

An issue identified in the ag industry is the tight labor market and lack of skilled labor currently available. You have to objectively ask yourself what your strengths and weaknesses are as a manager, and if your farm or business is the kind of place where people want to work. Content will also be applicable to agribusinesses and small businesses, helping managers become an employer of choice who can successfully compete for the best available employees.

Attendees will gain effective and practical approaches to managing human resource challenges. The program consists of seven modules, addressing topics such as: how different leadership styles are used, reducing mis-hires and turnover through hiring best practices, learning about organizational culture and how it impacts employee motivation and engagement, identifying keys to create a motivating environment, learning how to effectively communicate expectations to employees, developing skills to provide effective feedback, and learning ways to address and work through conflict.

The registration deadline is March 4, 2022. The registration form can be downloaded from the Purdue Extension - Whitley County website www.extension.purdue.edu/whitley/ or by contacting jwoodman@purdue.edu or 260-244-7615. The cost is \$45 for the first registrant and \$10 per person for additional attendees from the same operation. The fee includes handouts, program resources and snacks.

If you have questions about this event, contact Ed Farris in Huntington County at emfarris@purdue.edu, (260) 358-4826, or John Woodmansee in Whitley County at jwoodman@purdue.edu, (260) 244-7615.

Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity institution.

[Do You Need to Obtain an Applicator License?](#)

If you need to obtain a private applicator license (to apply pesticides or CFO fertilizer to your own crops, *not* for hire), go to this website for your options:

<https://ppp.purdue.edu/private-applicators/certification/>.

If you need to obtain a commercial applicator license (to apply pesticides for hire), go to: <https://ppp.purdue.edu/commercial-applicators/certification/>.

Commercial applicator categories are:

- Category 1 - Agricultural Pest Management
- Category 2 - Forest Pest Management
- Category 3a - Ornamental Pest Management
- Category 3b - Turf Management
- Category 4 - Seed Treatment
- Category 5 - Aquatic Pest Management
- Category 6 - Industrial Weed Management
- Category 7a - Industrial, Institutional, Structural and Health-Related Pest Management
- Category 7b - Termite Control
- Category 7d - Fumigation
- Category 8 - Community-Wide Mosquito Control
- Category 11 - Aerial Application
- Category 12 - Wood Destroying Pest Inspection
- Category 13 - Limited Certification
- Category 14 - Agricultural Fertilizer Application
- Category RT - Registered Technician

If you have further questions, feel free to call the Purdue Extension office at 260-244-7615.

[Dealing with Winter Damage of Trees and Shrubs](#)

We recently got a good dose of winter weather in northern Indiana, and we have a way to go yet. When spring does break, how should we deal with damage on our trees and shrubs?

Lindsey Purcell, Purdue urban forestry specialist, urged homeowners to follow three main tips when dealing with snow or ice damage:



1. Do not shake limbs to try to remove snow or ice
2. Hire a professional
3. Safely remove broken limbs

"If a limb breaks off from the weight of ice or snow and remains in the tree canopy, have it removed and the remaining stub properly pruned to the

branch collar as soon as weather allows," he said. "The tree will recover better when properly pruned."

For undamaged limbs bending under the weight of ice or snow, Purcell urged homeowners not to prune right away as a means of correcting the situation. "Be patient," he said. "It takes time for wood fibers in the limbs to return to its natural position."

[Enjoy Firewood, but Insects May Emerge](#)



For many homeowners, firewood is a popular source of fuel for winter heating, and in my humble opinion, hard to beat on a cold winter day. Although most firewood pests pose no direct threat to the home, its contents, or its occupants, a Purdue Extension specialist wrote that they can become annoying when they emerge inside the home.

Timothy J. Gibb, Purdue Extension entomologist, authored a Purdue Extension publication entitled, "Insects in Firewood," publication number E-67-W. Below are some highlights and insights from Gibb's work.

Wood-boring beetles that may be present in firewood include long-horned beetles (also called round-headed borers), flatheaded borers, bark beetles and ambrosia beetles. These insects may emerge from firewood if stored indoors too long before burning. However, these insects do not attack finished, seasoned or dried wood inside the home.

Firewood stacked outside on the ground for a long period of time, or not allowed to dry out sufficiently, can be subject to attack by carpenter ants. These large black or reddish ants may be up to 3/8-inch-long. Bringing carpenter ant infested wood into the home generally will not spread the infestation inside the home. Only wood that is higher than normal in moisture content is susceptible to carpenter ant damage.

Gibb said that wood stacked on the ground can become infested with termites. Their presence is not usually noticed until the wood is moved during the summer or fall. Infested wood may have mud tunnels on the outside, or tunnels may be noticed if the wood is split. Termites may appear dormant during the winter months in these areas. Firewood should not be treated with insecticides. Termites accidentally

brought indoors with firewood will not infest structural wood. However, their presence in firewood piled close to the home may warrant a home inspection for termites.

Many spiders, small beetles, wood roaches, sowbugs, pillbugs, wasps, ants and small flies may hide and/or overwinter in firewood. These pests generally leave the wood within a few days after being brought indoors. Most of them are harmless.

Homeowners must accept that nuisance insects will be brought into the home with firewood. After being warmed up they become active and may become nuisance pests. Recognizing these pests and knowing where they are coming from may reduce your anxiety when they are discovered.

Gibb said that homeowners should not make a practice of applying chemicals to firewood for pest control because of the possibility of harmful fumes being produced when the wood is burned.

He said the following guidelines may be helpful in reducing firewood pests:

1. Cut wood in mid- to late fall. This may make the wood less attractive to attack by borers that emerge in the spring.

2. Bring firewood indoors only as needed, at most a couple of days supply at a time. Storing firewood in the home for long periods speeds insect development inside the wood, which allows them to emerge inside the home.

3. Do not stack wood up against the house or garage. This can result in moisture or insect problems in the building. A minimum of 3 feet between the firewood and building should be maintained. This also allows better air circulation, which promotes more rapid and thorough drying of the wood. Stacking the wood off the ground whenever possible also will increase drying and reduce potential pest problems.

For additional information, search for Gibb's publication, "Insects in Firewood," at Purdue's Education Store at: www.edustore.purdue.edu.



Arbor Day is the last Friday in April in Indiana. If you have been thinking about adding a tree or two to your home landscape, late April is a great

time to do it! Find detailed tree planting advice from Purdue Extension publication FNR-533-W, *Tree Installation: Process and Practices*, available at: www.edustore.purdue.edu.

Additionally, Purdue's Lindsey Purcell has produced videos on tree selection and planting that are posted to YouTube. Search for:

- Tree Planting Part 1: Choosing a Tree
- Tree Planting Part 2: Planting Your Tree

[Northeast Purdue Agricultural Center \(NEPAC\) Field Days](#)



Whitley County is home to Purdue's Northeast Purdue Ag Center southeast of Columbia City on county road 400 South (4821 East 400 South, Columbia City, IN 46725). Please pencil in the following tentative dates on your calendars for 2020 events. Check our website and subsequent newsletters for further details closer to event dates.

- June 21: In-Field Diagnostic Training Clinic (commercial ag focus, Cat. 4)
- August 25: Field Day (local/area farmers), includes PARP

[Highlights of Recent Agricultural Production in Whitley County](#)

This is how Whitley County ranked among all Indiana counties for crops in 2020: corn, 48th; soybeans, 50th; and wheat, 8th. For livestock production, Whitley County ranked 57th in number of beef cows, and 31st in number of milk cows (as of Jan. 2021).

From the 2017 USDA Ag Census, Whitley County ranked 13th in all hogs, 56th in all sheep, 28th in chickens, and 57th in turkeys. Of the 214,764 total acres in Whitley County, 176,255 of those acres were in farms (2017 Census of Agriculture). 154,095 acres were in cropland, 3748 acres were pastureland, and 10,252 acres are woodlands. There were 696 Whitley County farms in 2017, at an average size of 253 acres/farm.

For average crop yields in Whitley County in 2020, corn came in at 159.6 bushels per acre, soybeans were 50.4 bushels per acre, and wheat was 75.2 bushels per acre.

Total ag receipts in Whitley County in 2019 totaled just over \$123.6 million, with crops contributing almost \$75.3

million, and livestock contributing just over \$48.3 million.

2019 realized net income (total income minus total expenses) to Whitley County farmers was just over \$30.3 million. This net was almost \$7.1 million in 2018, almost \$8.6 million in 2017, and just less than \$13.40 million in 2016. In 2015, the net was a loss just shy of \$1.82 million.

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Indiana Field Office, publishes the *Indiana Agricultural Statistics* bulletin each year. It contains current and historic data for all major crops, livestock, economic and related data. Find the current (2020-21) and past reports at: https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/Publications/Annual_Statistical_Bulletin/index.php.

[Sheep Checkoff Shearing School at Purdue](#)

The Indiana Sheep and Wool Market Development Program will sponsor a shearing school, hosted by the Indiana Sheep Association (ISA) on March 5 at Purdue University's Sheep Center. The statewide workshop, also sponsored by the Indiana Sheep and Wool Market Development Program, will take place at 5480 ASREC Drive, West Lafayette, and run 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET. Check-in will begin at 8:30 a.m.



A registration fee of \$50 will cover the cost of the workshop, lunch and required shearing equipment, though participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment if they have it. Registration forms, found at <http://indianasheep.com/>, must be mailed to ISA Executive Director Bob Benson at 3506 Heathcliff Ct. Westfield, IN 46074. The completed registration form with the fee enclosed must be received by March 1. The class is limited to 10 participants. As part of registration, attendees must sign a liability waiver.





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