

Pay Dirt

HORTICULTURE
March 2025



Cooperative Extension Service
Madison County
230 Duncannon Lane
Richmond, KY 40475
(859) 623-4072
Fax: (859) 624-9510
<http://extension.ca.uky.edu>

Hello Horticulturalists!

I am excited to partner with Julia Reid for a Youth Gardening Day Camp! Because this is a 4-H event, registration is a bit different. Rather than calling in, use this link to register.

https://uky.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2mJCgBbNWalaDf8

I've included with this newsletter a list of where to find locally produced foods and plants. It's amazing to see how this list has grown over the years!

Sincerely,

Amanda Sears

County Extension Agent for Horticulture

amanda.sears@uky.edu

Visit <https://madison.ca.uky.edu/> and click on "Program Areas" and then "Horticulture"

Meet Connor Gettman!



I am excited to introduce myself as Madison County's Assistant Extension Technician for Agriculture and Horticulture.

In my younger years, I spent much of my time playing football, basketball, and participating in track and field. But beyond sports, my passion for the outdoors was always strong—when I wasn't training or in school, I was often hunting or fishing.

After high school, I attended Bakersfield Community College before discovering Eastern Kentucky University. I moved to Kentucky in the summer of 2021 to continue my education. In 2023 I received my bachelor's degree in Agribusiness.

I am thrilled to be serving my community, combining my love for agriculture with my desire to help our community thrive.

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

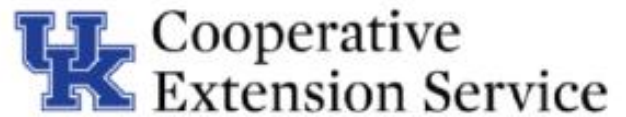
MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating. Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

The More You Know the Better You Grow!



Backyard Fruit

**Tuesday, March 25th 6-7:30 pm or Thursday
March 27th 1-2:30 pm**

Interested in growing fruit in your backyard? Do your research before you get started! This class will focus on choosing the right varieties, planting location and avoiding the bad guys like plant diseases and insects.

Each person attending will receive 4 strawberry plants to take home. The class is offered twice, you need to only attend once.

Companion Planting

Monday, April 14th 10 to 11:30 am

Plants interact with one another, isn't that amazing! Some are beneficial to one another; others can cause harm. This class will focus on the basics of companion planting.

Several books on the topic will be given away as door prizes during the class. Everyone will receive seeds for common companion plants!

Gardening Naturally

Tuesday, April 29th 10 to 11:30 am or 6 to 7:30 pm

As a gardener, you play a huge role in the environment and ecosystem! Whether you are a brand-new gardener or your current garden needs to be rejuvenated, this class will give you ideas on how to focus on low input sustainable gardening.

There are several books the Horticulture Agent keeps on her desk as references, copies of those references will be given away during the class!

**All classes held at the Madison County Extension
Office at 230 Duncannon Lane in Richmond, KY
40475. If you would like to attend, please let us
know by calling 859-623-4072.**

Amanda Sears

Amanda Sears, County Extension Agent for Horticulture amanda.sears@uky.edu
Visit <https://madison.ca.uky.edu/> click on "Program Areas" and then "Horticulture"



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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties. Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



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accommodated
with prior notification.

Will the Cold Weather Hurt My Landscape?

Do we live in a tundra or central Kentucky? I half expect to see a caribou on my way home from work. While the cold weather has been hard on us, how is it affecting our plants?

- **Soil Heaving:** When we have alternating warm and cold weather, the ground freezes and thaws. This action can push shallow rooted or poorly established plants out of the ground. Having snow on the ground can actually be beneficial for preventing heaving. Otherwise, you can use mulch such as wood chips, straw, or leaves. Just be sure to pull the mulch back in the spring.
- **Low Temperatures:** Plants have a temperature range in which they live. For example, cabbage can live under much cooler conditions than a palm tree can survive. The USDA has a Hardiness Zone Map which breaks down the country into zones based on average annual minimum winter temperature (<http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/>). We are a zone 6b or 7a. If you used plants in your landscape that are meant for zones with higher numbers, they will be more likely to experience damage than those which can tolerate cold temperatures. Damage may not be noticeable right away. Problems may not show up until several months later.
- **Some flower buds on plants such as dogwood and forsythia may be damaged by extreme cold, leading to a decrease in blooms in spring.**
- **Freeze cracks:** Trees with thin bark such as maples or cherries may experience a vertical split in the bark, primarily on the south or southwest side. This is due to sudden changes in temperature which causes the inner tissue of the tree to expand and contract. This can be prevented by using tree wrap. Wrap the tree up to the first set of branches.
- **Winter Burn:** Evergreens, such as pine, yew and azaleas, do not go dormant, like deciduous plants. Instead they continue to transpire and lose water out of their leaves throughout winter. Damage can occur when the water leaving the plant is more than that which is coming in through the root system. When the ground is frozen beyond the depth of the roots, no water can be taken in. Windy conditions can dry the plant out even more quickly. To prevent this, it is important that evergreens receive enough water in the fall. Also, plant them in protected areas, away from the wind.

So for the most part, our landscape plants should make it through the winter. After all, plants have been surviving winters for untold number of years. But if you do need to replace any plant, tree, or shrub this spring, be sure to choose one that is well suited for our area. Who knows what next winter may bring!



VOLUNTEER AT 4-H CAMP

Who can Volunteer?

Anyone ages 16-116 by the first day of camp (June 23rd, 2025).

Junior Counselors (16-17) get around 100 service hours!

Adults (18+) get a very rewarding week and an opportunity to be a good example in the lives of young people!

Contact Us

Email Julia for a camp counselor application!

5596234072
julia.reid@uky.edu
230 Duncannon Lane
Richmond, KY 40475

Madison County 4-H SUMMER CAMP

Camp Applications will be available starting March 3rd!
Camp Fees:
Early Bird (March 3rd-14th): \$250
Regular rate (March 15-May 16th): \$275
Late Fee (After May 16th): \$300

Applications will only be available in paper form this year. no online registrations! If you would like an application mailed to you, please email Casey your mailing address and camper(s) age(s). casey.faulkner@uky.edu

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to sponsor a child, 4-H gives out \$100 scholarships to families who need it! You can stop by and write a check, or mail one to Madison County 4-H, 230 Duncannon Lane Richmond, KY 40475! Check payable to Madison County 4-H



Farmers' Market Updates!

Berea Farmers' Market

The market is opened on Saturdays from 10 am to 1 pm and is located during the winter at 207 North Broadway Street in Berea between Tourism and the Skating Rink.

Website: <https://www.bereafarmersmarket.org/>. Find them on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/bereafarmersmarket>

Madison County Farmer's Market

The market is currently accepting applications. They will be open for the season on May 3rd at 1238 Barnes Mill Road, Richmond at White Oak Pond Church. For more info, check out their website at mc-fm.org. You can also find them on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/MadisonKYFarmersMarket>

Scale Certification

Tuesday, April 8th at 4:00 to 6:00 pm

Madison County Cooperative Extension Office

Representatives from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) will be at the Madison County Cooperative Extension Office testing and certifying scales for anyone who sells at the Farmers' Markets.



Scales must be for legal trade and made for commercial use. A legal-for-trade scale will be marked with a serial number, model number and Class III designation on the identification plate or seal

For more information about scales, check out the Kentucky Farmer's Market Manual at https://www.kyagr.com/marketing/documents/FM_Manual_and_Resource_Guide.pdf

If you plan on bringing a scale to be certified, call 859-623-4072 to let us know.

Produce Best Practices Training

The Produce Best Practices Training (PBPT) covers basic food safety. This training will be offered twice. You need only attend one session. If you have gone through the training before, you don't need to do it again. The training takes about 45 minutes and consists of a video and quiz.

Tuesday, April 8th at 5:00 pm

Madison County Cooperative Extension Office

or

Via ZOOM on Monday, April 14 at 2:00 pm.

If you plan to attend either session, please contact me and let me know 859-623-4072 or amanda.sears@uky.edu.



Go Light on the Lawn Care in Spring

Temperatures are finally rising, the sun is occasionally peeking out of a bluer sky than we've seen for a while, and many of us are itching to start working on lawns that may not look so great after a long, wet winter. Before you spend a lot of money on herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers, realize that less is often more when it comes to spring lawn care.

The time to spread pre-emergent weed control is when forsythia blooms. Those bright yellow blooms are the first to emerge in early spring, and they are good indicators that the soil is beginning to warm and weeds are close to germinating.

Annual weeds such as crabgrass and goosegrass germinate in the spring. Depending on how thick your turf is and the amount of weed seeds in the soil, these weeds can outcompete with your grass and take over your lawn. If you miss the pre-emergent window and weeds start to sprout, your best bet is to apply some post-emergent herbicide to your lawn, when weeds are small.

It's not a good idea to apply nitrogen fertilizer to your lawn in the spring, so avoid applying a weed-and-feed herbicide. The best time to fertilize your lawn is in the fall. Spring feeding promotes the growth of warm-season weeds. Also, high amounts of nitrogen in spring and summer can result in increased damage from white grubs in the soil. High nitrogen levels restrict turf rooting, and that adds to damage from grubs feeding on turf roots.

Be aware that not all weeds are bad. We love to have pristine lawns, but the herbicides and pesticides needed to acquire those types of lawns are often detrimental to our pollinators. Dandelions are important early spring flowers for bees. If you don't like them, you can mow off the blooms before they go to seed, rather than spray them with herbicide.



Gardening in Small Spaces

People living in urban areas might not think they are able to garden, but that is not true!

One limiting factor for many people is sunlight. Most vegetables require full sun, meaning six or more hours of direct sunlight each day. If you have an open yard free of tall trees or a south-facing sunny patio, you should have enough light. If you only get four hours or so of light, try lettuce, spinach and radishes for the spring garden, or Swiss chard, cucumbers or winter squash for the summer garden.

Gardening with limited space is best done in raised beds in the yard or containers for the patio. Beds can be made of many materials such as wood, plastic, vinyl or concrete blocks. Kill or cover any existing grass within the bed area. Beds should be six to eight inches tall. Fill them with a mixture that includes part native soil and peat, compost or potting soil. Little fertilizer should be needed if the mix contains at least 25 percent compost.

For patio gardening, use pots or other containers to grow vegetables. These containers should be filled with potting soil, not garden soil. Use containers large enough to provide soil for good plant root growth. Be sure your pots have drainage holes. It is a myth that adding rocks to the bottom of pot helps drainage! Be sure your container is big enough for the plant you want to grow in it. For instance, to grow a tomato plant you would need a container that is at least five gallons.

Whether you are gardening in a small space or have a huge garden, the Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky publication is a great resource. Find it here: <https://publications.ca.uky.edu/files/ID128.pdf>. Or if you prefer, stop by the Madison County Extension Office to pick one up or let us know and we can put one in the mail for you.

FARM FOOD - GROWN OR SOLD IN MADISON COUNTY

Updated February 12, 2025

<https://madison.ca.uky.edu/horticulture>



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FARMERS MARKETS

Check out each farmers market's website and/or Facebook page for more up-to-date information and events, including winter market hours and locations.

Ask individual farmers at the markets about larger quantities of produce for canning or freezing.

- **Madison County Farmers Market:** www.facebook.com/MadisonKYFarmersMarket or madcountyfarmersma.wixsite.com/website
- **Berea Farmers Market:** www.bereafarmersmarket.org/ or www.facebook.com/bereafarmersmarket

COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE PROGRAMS

A CSA is a subscription service for which you pay the farmer up front for weekly deliveries of seasonal produce from their farm. All of these CSAs have pick-up/drop-off locations or home delivery in Madison County. Call or check websites for details.

- **Lazy Eight Stock Farm-** Paint Lick- USDA certified organic farm- www.lazyeightstockfarm.com
- **Sustainable Harvest Farm-** London, KY www.sustainableharvestfarm.com -certified organic- Farm shares are 100% customizable- Ford Waterstrat- 859-227- 5101- ford.waterstrat@gmail.com
- **Wolf Gap Gardens-** 20 week CSA providing certified organic veggies, herbs and flowers - Offer family share or small share - For more information- call 859-582-3105, contact by email wolfgapgardens@gmail.com, or through Facebook- www.facebook.com/wolfgapgardens. More details at directory.oak-ky.org/farm/wolf-gap-gardens/

SEEDS, TRANSPLANTS, and PLANTS

- **Bill Best-** Berea- heirloom bean and tomato seeds- www.heirlooms.org -also sells transplants at the Berea Farmers Market
- **Lucky Clover Farm/Blue Ribbon Tomatoes-**Richmond -tomato seeds and transplants- www.facebook.com/LuckyCloverFarm or luckycloverfarm@gmail.com
- **Berea Farmers Market-**transplants- see farmers market information
- **Madison County Farmers Market-** transplants- see farmers market information
- **Warren Farm Greenhouse-** vegetable transplants- www.facebook.com/WarrenFarmGreenhouse - 859-328-7005
- **Garver Farms-** Paint Lick- www.facebook.com/GarverFarms -Shane Garver- 859-200-8079- plants for sale: blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, currants, and gooseberries
- **Berea College Horticulture Farm-** vegetable, flower, and herb transplants- also have fruit plants for sale: blueberry, blackberry, raspberry, and strawberry- sales on Saturdays, mid-March through May- contact manager, Ema-Leigh Forbes- forbese2@berea.edu .
- **Spurlock Greenhouses-** vegetable transplants and flowers- www.facebook.com/Spurlockgreenhouses - 2785 Red House Road, Richmond, KY- open from about the third week of April through May and June- check Facebook page for updates.
- **Lazy Eight Stock Farm-**Paint Lick- USDA certified organic- vegetable transplants- order 10 weeks in advance, minimum of 72 plants- order through website www.lazyeightstockfarm.com/plants/

FRUITS – also check the **U-PICK** listings

- **Hérons Landing Apple Orchard**-Apples available September through January- 32 Herons Landing, Richmond- Ken Perry- 859-582-7883- Please call ahead.

MEATS AND POULTRY/EGGS

NOTE TO BUYERS: Most meat purchases need to be pre-ordered, so plan several months ahead and contact your producer early to get locked in on a processing and/or pick up date.

All meats, poultry, and eggs are available for pick-up, drop-off, or delivery in Madison County. You can also sometimes purchase these items at the farmers markets.

BEEF

- **Harris Farms Beef**- Richmond- sold by ¼, ½, or whole beef, or packaged cuts- Call 859-358-0314 for more information or to place an order.
- **Windhover Farm**- Garrard County- Larry Swartz and Genia McKee- 859-339-4735- can take orders for lamb, goat, and beef.
- **Darrell Tate**- Madison County-859-893-8283- Preorder a whole, half, or quarter beef- can be cut to order- grain-finished
- **Berea College Farm**- beef available through the Berea College Farm Store-331 North Main Street, Berea- 859-985-3685- www.bereacollegefarmstore.com
- **K&R Farm** - Richmond - 606-260-5502. Pasture-raised beef. Sold by the whole, half, quarter, and USDA-inspected individually packaged cuts. Beef butchered monthly. www.kr-farms.com. Family-owned and operated by Kyle & Roxanne Wooton. Check website for storefront hours.
- **Simpson Livestock**- Andrew Simpson 859-358-5733, Poosey Ridge, www.SimpsonLivestockRKY.com - andrew.simpson6317@gmail.com- We sell beef by the individual cut or wholes, halves, quarters, even eighths. Grass fed, grain finished. Check the website.
- **Reid Farms** – Richmond – 859-200-9188 (call or text). Grain-fed beef by the ½, whole, or individual retail cuts
- **Waco Farms**- Austin Hunt- 859-200-5509 Hormone free, grass fed and grain finished beef- sold by the ¼, ½, or whole beef.
- **Tincher Farms**- Richmond- sold by ¼, ½, or whole beef, or USDA certified individual cuts- Jake Tincher- 859-582-1283- also has a customizable monthly delivery option- check Facebook for more information- www.facebook.com/TincherFarms
- **Red Haven Farm**-Estill County- Sandy Ross- 734-718-5282 or info@redhavenky.com - 100% grass-finished Highland cattle beef- Sold by cuts- More info and online store on the website- www.redhavenky.com .
- **Muddy Creek Cattle Company**- Berea- Chad Eades- 859-893-5025- Grass-fed, grain-finished beef- sold by the cut at the Berea Farmers Market and on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/eadesbeef for farm pick-up or delivery- also sold by ¼, ½, or whole shares- message us on Facebook for availability and pricing

PORK

- **Berea College Farm**- available through the Berea College Farm Store- 331 North Main Street, Berea- 859-985-3685- www.bereacollegefarmstore.com
- **K&R Farm** - Richmond - 606-260-5502. Pasture-raised pork. Sold by the whole, half, and USDA-inspected individually packaged cuts. Hogs butchered monthly. www.kr-farms.com Family-owned and operated by Kyle & Roxane Wooton. Check website for storefront hours.

- **Simpson Livestock**- Andrew Simpson 859-358-5733, Poosey Ridge, www.SimpsonLivestockRKY.com - andrew.simpson6317@gmail.com - Offers fresh pork products. Check the website.
- **Red Haven Farm**-Estill County- Sandy Ross- 734-718-5282 or info@redhavenky.com - Pastured pork- sold by the cut and as half or whole share- More info/online store: www.redhavenky.com .

OTHER MEATS

- **Windhover Farm**- Garrard County - Larry Swartz and Genia McKee- 859-339-4735- can take orders for lamb, goat, and beef.
- **K&R Farm** - Richmond - 606-260-5502. Pasture-raised lamb. Sold by the whole and USDA-inspected individually packaged cuts. Pre-order a whole lamb. www.kr-farms.com. Family-owned and operated by Kyle & Roxane Wooton. Check website for storefront hours.
- **Red Haven Farm**-Estill County- Sandy Ross- 734-718-5282 or info@redhavenky.com - goat-grass fed and finished- Sold by the cut as well as half or whole shares-More info and online store on the website- www.redhavenky.com .

POULTRY or EGGS

- **Berea College Farm**- chicken, eggs, and turkey- can be ordered or purchased through the Berea College Farm Store- 859-985- 3685- 331 North Main Street, Berea- www.bereacollegefarmstore.com
- **K&R Farm** - Richmond - 606-260-5502. Pasture-raised chicken. www.kr-farms.com. Family-owned and operated by Kyle & Roxane Wooton. Check website for storefront hours.
- **Reid Farms**-Richmond-859-200-9188 (call or text) Eggs are sometimes available.
- **Red Haven Farm**-Estill County- Sandy Ross- 734-718-5282 or info@redhavenky.com - pasture-raised and organically-fed poultry- Turkeys sold by whole bird- Chickens sold by the whole bird or cuts- Eggs from free-range chickens- More info and online store at www.redhavenky.com .

U-PICK

Please check contact information to make sure the crop is available for picking before going to the farm

- **Garver Farms**- Paint Lick- Blueberries, thornless blackberries, gooseberries, elderberries, currents, and black raspberries- Shane Garver- 859-200-8079- www.facebook.com/GarverFarms
- **Baldwin Farms**- Richmond- Pumpkins- check the website for hours, location, and contact information- www.baldwinfarmsky.com
- **Marcum Farms**- Waco- strawberries- Tammy Marcum- 859-369-7300- Also sell already-picked fruit at the farm- www.facebook.com/MarcumFarms

RESTAURANTS USING LOCAL FOODS

- **Boone Tavern**- 100 Main St, Berea- www.boonetavernhotel.com 859-985-3700
- **Native Bagel**-436 Chestnut St., Berea- www.nativebagelcompany.com 859-756-6185- breakfast/lunch
- **Night Jar**- 436 Chestnut St., Berea- www.nightjarberea.com 859-756-6185- dinner
- **Berea College Farm Store cafe**-311 North Main Street, Berea- www.bereacollegefarmstore.com - 859-985-3685. Offers daily lunch menu. Also offers catering.

We hope to keep this list growing, so if you know of anyone else that needs to be added, please let us know (amanda.sears@uky.edu). The requirement for being included on the list is that the food must be grown or raised by a farmer in Madison County. If not raised in Madison County, then the product must be sold in or brought to Madison County by the farmer who produced it.