

# Pay Dirt

HORTICULTURE  
October 2024



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!

Fall has arrived! Soon we will have our first frost. If you still have warm season plants in your garden and landscape you'd like to keep a bit longer, plan on covering them. To prevent frost damage cover plants with a cloth material. Cloth is better than plastic. Be sure when you cover the plant the ends of the fabric touch the ground. That is the best way to take advantage of radiant heat from the ground.

Sincerely,

*Amanda Sears*

Amanda Sears

County Extension Agent for Horticulture

[amanda.sears@uky.edu](mailto:amanda.sears@uky.edu)

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

## Farm City Banquet

6:00 PM, Monday, November 11, 2024 ~

Madison County Cooperative Extension Office

**UK** Martin-Gatton  
College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
Cooperative Extension Service  
Madison County  
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Come join us in celebrating agriculture in Madison County! In addition to great food and awards, Dr. Gary Lacefield, retired UK forage specialist, will present a program called "Gratitude and Patriotism". Veterans will be recognized for their service.

Tickets go on sale October 1st until November 1st and are \$20 each. Purchase online at: <https://madison-4-h.square.site/> or in person by check (payable to "Madison County 4-H Council") at the Madison County Cooperative Extension Office located at 230 Duncannon Lane in Richmond. For more information call 859-623-4072.

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

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Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.

# Buy Local, Buy Fresh, Buy from the Farmer!

## **Madison County Farmers' Market**

Open Saturdays from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm White Oak Pond Christian Church located at 1238 Barnes Mill Road in Richmond.

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

## **Berea Farmers' Market**

Open Saturdays from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at 635 Chestnut Street in Berea.

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

## Peeling Winter Squash

Looking at a recipe and seeing that a winter squash needs to be peeled can sound challenging to a new cook (or if you are like me, a very simple cook!). Hopefully you find the tips below helpful!

- The thin-skinned varieties (acorn, butternut, delicata and sweet dumpling) can be peeled with a paring knife or vegetable peeler. Consider cutting it in pieces and then peeling it, rather than trying to do the whole thing at once.
- Before peeling, wash and poke holes in the squash, then put it in the microwave on high for 3 minutes. After it cools down a bit, you can easily cut and peel it.
- Cut the bottom from the squash so it sits up on its own. For a butternut squash, cut the base and neck apart and tackle each separately. Then take a sharp knife and cut slices off that follows the contours of the squash.
- Roast squash for fifteen minutes at about 150 degrees F. The flesh will become soft and the skin will come off easily.



## Bulb Planting Time



October 15 to the end of November (Thanksgiving) is a good time to plant spring flowering bulbs. There are a lot of different spring flowers to choose from including dwarf iris, crocus, daffodil (I call them jonquil), hyacinth, and tulips.

Select quality bulbs. Keep them in a cool, dry, dark place until you are able to plant them. Choose an area to plant your bulbs that is sunny and well drained. If your soil is a heavy clay, you may need to amend the area with compost, peat moss or other organic matter. Another option would be to make a raised bed in the area.

When planting, dig a hole four times the height of the bulb. Place the bulb in the hole, pointed end up. Then fill in the hole. After planting, water the area with a gentle stream of water.