



University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Bullitt County Extension Office
384 Halls Lane
Shepherdsville, KY 40165
502-543-2257
Email: bullitt.ext@uky.edu

Upcoming Classes

Pre-registration is required to ensure adequate supplies.
Call 502-543-2257 to register.

April 2023

- Friday, 4/14: Landscape Design Part 5, 6pm
- **Saturday, 4/29: Master Gardeners Plant & Art Sale, 8a-2p. All garden enthusiasts welcome!**

May 2023

- Friday, 5/19: Essential Plants for Butterflies, 6pm.
Learn about food plants required for healthy butterfly larvae and habitat.

June 2023

- Friday, 6/16: Growing & Drying Herbs, 6pm.
Learn the basics of growing, drying, and storing herbs. Craft and fill your own bottle to take home.

Meetings

All meetings open to the public

Master Gardeners' Assn. & Horticulture Council

(1st Tuesday of each month)

- March 7th, 6pm
- April 4th, 6pm
- May 2nd, 6pm

Beekeepers' Association & Classes

(2nd Wednesday of each month)

- March 8th, 7pm
- April 12th, 7pm
- May 10th, 7pm

*Check out other classes and events being offered at extension on our website: <https://bullitt.ca.uky.edu/>

March

Horticulture Newsletter

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Sign up for E-Newsletter





March Garden Calendar

BY ROSIE LERNER, PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Yard

- Prune trees and shrubs (except those that bloom early in spring) while plants are still dormant. If you are concerned about winter injury, delay pruning until after dieback; you can assess desiccation injury as plants come out of dormancy.
- Plant new trees and shrubs as soon as the soil dries enough to be worked. Plant bare-root plants before they leaf out.
- Apply horticulture oil spray to control scale insects and mites when the tips of leaves start to protrude from buds.
- Watch for blooms of early spring bulbs, such as daffodils, squill, crocus, dwarf iris, and snowdrops.

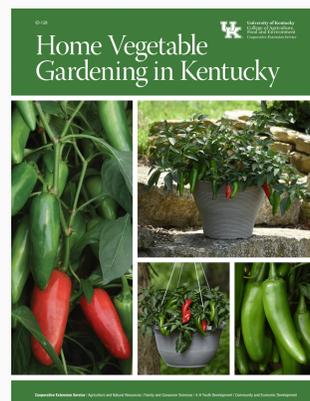
Garden

- Plant cool-season vegetables and flowers as soon as the ground has dried enough to work. Do not work the soil while it is wet; wait until it crumbles in your hand. If the soil forms a solid ball when you squeeze it, it's still too wet.
- Gradually harden-off transplants by setting them outdoors during the daytime for about a week before planting.
- Follow last fall's soil test recommendations for fertilizer and pH adjustment. It's not too late to test soil if you missed last year.
- Start the seeds of warm-season vegetables and flowers indoors.
- Remove old foliage from ornamental grasses and perennial flowers.
- Remove old asparagus and rhubarb tops, and side-dress the plants with nitrogen or manure. Plant or transplant asparagus, rhubarb, and small-fruit plants.
- Remove winter mulch from strawberry beds as soon as new growth begins but keep the mulch nearby to protect against frost and freezes.
- Remove weak, diseased, or damaged canes from raspberry plants before new growth begins. Remove old fruiting canes if you did not remove them last year, and shorten remaining canes if necessary.
- Prune grapevines after you can assess winter injury.

Home

- Begin fertilizing houseplants as new growth appears. Remove spent leaves and flowers
- Start flower seeds indoors for transplanting outdoors later in spring.
- Check stored bulbs and produce for decay; discard damaged items.
- Prune, repot, and clean houseplants as needed.

For more gardening resources, tips, and information, check out ID:128, Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky here:



Planting Native Flowers for Pollinators

Faye Tewksbury, Agent for Horticulture, Woodford Co. Cooperative Extension Service

Need a reason to plant more flowers? How does supporting local agriculture, ensuring the availability of healthy fruits and vegetables, and protecting thousands of plant and animal species sound? By planting flowers that sustain pollinators, you are accomplishing all of this, as well as making your yard more attractive. Pollinators, which include bees, butterflies, moths, wasps, hummingbirds, and bats, make reproduction possible for more than three-fourths of the flowering plants on earth, including many of the fruits and vegetables we eat every day.

While almost everyone is familiar with European honey bees, fewer people are aware of the vast variety of native bees found in North America. These include bumble bees, sweat bees, miner bees, and mason bees, all of which are valuable pollinators of crops as well as native flowering plants. Alarmingly, populations of both honey bees and native bees are in decline.

Reasons for bee decline include disease and parasite infection, habitat loss, and stress caused by pesticide exposure and malnutrition. As gardeners, we have a critical role to play in reversing this alarming trend. One of the most important things we can do to preserve and support pollinators is to plant flowers. Bees gather nectar and pollen from flowers to feed themselves and their offspring. To stay strong and maintain healthy colonies, bees need a season-long supply of flowers that have not been contaminated with pesticides.

Many of our native bees specialize in feeding on native plants. Including native plants in your landscape will support the widest range of pollinators. When planting flowers to support pollinators, aim to have at least three different types of flowers in bloom during each season, from early spring through late fall.

Flowering perennials are among the best nectar sources for bees. Recommended perennials native to our region that are available from most garden centers include spring bloomers such as spiderwort (*Tradescantia ohioensis*), Coreopsis species and varieties, wild indigo (*Baptisia* species), Wild geranium, beardtongue (*Penstemon* species), and bluestar (*Amsonia* species).

Some of the best native summer-blooming perennials for pollinators include coneflowers (*Rudbeckia* and *Echinacea* species), phlox, lobelia, butterflyweed and milkweed (*Asclepias* species), Stoke's aster (*Stokesia laevis*), bee balm (*Monarda* species), mist flower, liatris, and mountain mint (*Pycnanthemum* species). To provide late-season nectar sources, plant a variety of native asters (*Symphotrichum* species), goldenrods (*Solidago* species), joe pye weed (*Eutrochium* species), ironweeds (*Vernonia* species), and perennial sunflowers (*Helianthus* species). For more information on native flowers, contact the Bullitt Co. Extension office and stop by our plant sale on Saturday, April 29th from 8-2pm.



Goldenrods,
late summer-blooming



Milkweed,
summer-blooming



Wild Indigo,
spring-blooming



Native coneflowers,
summer-blooming



Native asters,
fall-blooming

BULLITT COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS'
PLANT & GARDEN ART SALE

Saturday, April 29th 2023

8a-2p

Bullitt Co. Extension Office

384 Halls Lane

Shepherdsville, KY 40165

Rain or Shine!

Hosting numerous vendors selling a wide variety of items: vegetables, herbs, flowers, bird houses, garden art & more!

All proceeds used by Master Gardeners for projects in the local community



Vendor Booths:
\$30

For more information, call 502-543-2257



Delicious, healthy recipes from the Kentucky Nutritional Education Program -- easy to find, easy to make!

Why serve regular cornbread when you can serve broccoli cornbread? All the same great taste – but with added nutritional goodness.



Broccoli Cornbread

Ingredients:

- ¼ cup margarine, melted
- ⅓ cup onion, chopped
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup low-fat cottage cheese
- 1½ cups fresh or cooked frozen broccoli, finely chopped
- 4 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1 (8.5-ounce) box quick corn muffin mix

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. In a mixing bowl, blend melted margarine, onion, salt, cheese, broccoli and eggs. Stir in muffin mix.
2. Pour into greased 9-by-13-inch pan.
3. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes, until the top is a golden brown. Cool and cut into squares.

Notes:

For thicker bread bake in a 9-inch round pan and add 5-7 minutes onto the suggested cooking time. Make it a meal with:

- Turkey chili
- Sliced apple
- Broccoli Cornbread
- Low-fat milk

Blueberry Cheesecake Bars

Ingredients:

- *1 cup graham cracker crumbs (9-10 graham cracker sheets)
- *3 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- *3 tablespoons unsweetened applesauce
- 1 1/2 cups nonfat plain Greek yogurt
- 3.5 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 cups blueberries
- 1 tablespoon lemon zest (optional)

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees F.
2. Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds.
3. Mix graham cracker crumbs, melted butter, and applesauce together in a medium bowl until combined. Evenly press crust into an 8-by-8 baking pan. Using the bottom of a dry measuring cup, firmly press down on the crust to make it more compact.
4. Bake for 12 minutes. Remove from the oven and set aside.
5. Increase the oven temperature to 350 degrees F.
6. In a large bowl, combine the yogurt, softened cream cheese, cornstarch, salt, sugar, and lemon juice. Fold in the blueberries and the lemon zest (if using).
7. Carefully drop spoonful's of the topping mixture over the cooled crust and spread to make an even layer.
8. Bake for 35 minutes, or until it does not jiggle. Remove from oven and let cool completely (about 45 minutes). For best results, refrigerate 1 hour before cutting.
9. Store in the refrigerator.



Spring Lawn Tips

By Andy Rideout, Agent for Horticulture, Henderson County Cooperative Extension Service

Fescue lawns in Kentucky can struggle by the end of the summer with drought, disease, and even insect problems. Often our fescue lawns are thin and needing some nitrogen by the time fall arrives. September and October are the best times to over seed and fertilize your lawn, but some maintenance practices can be done in the spring. Seeding in the spring is not the best but sometimes we need to over seed for various reasons. New spring seedlings typically do not have enough time to develop a strong root system before the hot summer arrives. If you do need to seed in the spring, do it as early as the weather allows. Make sure you get good seed to soil contact by using a slit seeder or aerify the lawn before broadcast seeding. Aerifying opens up small holes that allows the seed to contact the soil. Aerification also helps open up the soil allowing air in the profile. Realize that some of your newly seeded fescue most likely will not survive the summer, depending on the year.

Weed control is probably the most important task you can do for you lawn. There are two major categories of weeds; broadleaf weeds (dandelions, clover, henbit) and grassy weeds (crabgrass, goosegrass). The majority of broadleaf weeds are controlled post-emergently- after they germinate. Grassy weeds are best controlled pre-emergently- before they germinate. This spring is the best time to apply a pre-emergent for those grassy weeds. A good indicator plant for pre-emergent application is the forsythia; when you see the bright yellow flowers starting to bloom, it is time to apply your pre-emergent. Often, pre-emergent is combined with fertilizer and easy to apply using a broadcast spreader. The success of your pre-emergent depends on accurate application, so make sure not to miss areas. Best practices tell us to fertilize in the fall but, for higher maintained lawns, a little nitrogen in the early spring can provide some benefits. If you choose to apply some nitrogen, apply it early to mid March and be careful not to apply too much. Fescue lawns are lush and typically growing fast in the spring and will need very little encouragement.

Spring lawn care can be challenging with the spring rains and cooler temperatures. When applying products, ensure you read directions and application rates before application. Make sure to wear proper protective equipment when applying herbicides such as gloves, long sleeve shirt, and long pants. Weed control depends on proper application and your health and the environment will thank you. Applying herbicides and fertilizer are not for everyone. There are many qualified lawn care professionals that will help. Ask your friends and neighbors for recommendations, and give us a call at your local Extension office; we are happy to help!



Plan to over seed in Spring if needed. Aerifying will open up small holes that allows the seed to better contact the soil.



Controlling broadleaf & grassy weeds is the most important task for your lawn. Spring is the best time to apply a pre-emergent for grassy weeds.



When you see the bright yellow flowers of forsythia starting to bloom, apply your pre-emergent.



Always wear gloves, long sleeves, and long pants when applying herbicides.

Bullitt County Master Gardener

David Lee Puckett

Memorial Scholarship

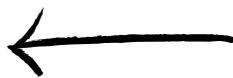
The Bullitt County Master Gardeners Association is taking applications for a \$1,000 scholarship to be awarded to a student. Majors in horticulture, agriculture, plant pathology, landscape design, botany, forestry, entomology, environmental concerns, urban planning, land management, agronomy, soil science or allied subjects preferred but not required.

CONTACT BULLITT COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS AT 502-543-2257

Application deadline is April 1, 2023



*Scan image to access the full application.



Cooperative Extension Service

Bullitt County

384 Halls Lane

Louisville, KY 40165

(502) 543-2257

Fax: (502) 543-6940

<http://extension.ca.uky.edu>

TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY:

YOU MUST GRADUATE FROM A BULLITT COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL OR APPROVED HOME-SCHOOL PROGRAM.

You must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident with permanent resident ID.

You must enroll as a full-time or part-time student in a Kentucky university or technical school with an accredited program.



In Remembrance of Marcia Moss

11/8/1953 - 2/18/2023

It is with great sadness that the Bullitt County Extension Service announces we have lost one of our own. Marcia Moss, Senior EFNEP Assistant, passed away on Saturday, February 18, 2023. She worked for the Extension office for 11 ½ years being an innovator in her position and was one of the first EFNEP Program Assistants to teach in the jails. She was a part of the first Bullitt County Detention Center SAP Program and served on the University of Kentucky state committee to develop a nutrition program that would benefit those in recovery. She loved teaching “her guys” at the local jail and the Isaiah Recovery center in Chaplin. She taught nutrition classes in various elementary schools and with the teens in the school parent program. She worked with the local library to teach parents, grandparents and caretakers of children throughout the whole county. She was full of life and had a way of making you laugh. She loved her job and lived the Extension mission.

Marcia was a special person with a heart of gold. She loved animals, especially horses and ran a horse rescue. She will be deeply missed but the impact of her work will live on in the lives of those she taught.

*in
loving
memory*



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HORTICULTURE NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2023

