



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

Bullitt County Extension Office
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May

Horticulture
Newsletter

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Connect with us, get program updates,
and daily horticulture tips:



Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Science
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

Educational programs of KY 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, or physical or mental disability. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.

LEXINGTON, KY 40546

> Upcoming Classes

*Pre-registration is required to ensure adequate supplies.
Call 502-543-2257 or email tlme234@uky.edu to register*

May 2025

Friday, 5/16: Urban Foraging, 6pm

Learn about edible plants common in urban areas and how to safely identify and forage them.

Friday, 5/30: Moon Gardening, 6pm

Learn about gardens that flourish at night, plants that reflect moonlight, and attracting nocturnal pollinators.

June 2025

Thursday, 6/27: Cut Flower Gardens, 6pm

Learn about plants that make great cut flowers and the best practices for growing and arranging them.

July 2025

Friday, 7/18: Carnivorous Plants

Learn about the life cycle and care of various carnivorous plants.

> Meetings

Master Gardeners' Association & Hort Council, 6pm (1st Tuesday of each month)

- May 6th, June 3rd, July 1st

Beekeepers' Association & Class, 7pm (2nd Wednesday of each month)

- May 14th, June 11th, July 9th



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

May Garden Calendar

Rosie Lerner, Purdue University

Home

- Move indoor plants to shady locations outdoors after the danger of frost has passed. Plants will dry out more often outdoors, so keep a close eye on soil moisture. Sinking the pots in soil will help slow down moisture loss.
- Now is a good time to take cuttings of houseplants to increase a collection or share with friends. Stick cuttings to root in media, such as vermiculite, perlite, or potting soil. Roots grown in water tend to be weak from lack of oxygen and do not adjust well to planting in soil.
- Fertilize houseplants according to label directions. Foliage plants require relatively high nitrogen fertilizer; flowering houseplants respond best to fertilizer high in phosphorus.

Garden

- Plant frost-tender plants after the danger of frost has passed, typically May 10th. This includes warm-season vegetables (such as tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, and vine crops) as well as most annual flowers and tender perennials (such as cannas, gladiolus, dahlias, tuberous begonias, and caladiums).
- Pinch annual flower plants to keep them compact and well-branched.
- Make successive plantings of beans and sweet corn to extend the harvest season.
- Thin seedlings of early-planted crops such as carrots, lettuce, spinach, and beets to their proper spacing.
- Harvest early plantings of radishes, spinach, and lettuce.
- Harvest asparagus by cutting or snapping spears at or just below soil level
- Harvest rhubarb by cutting or grasping the stalk and pulling it up and slightly to one side.
- Control cucumber beetles (which are carriers of bacterial wilt) as soon as cucumber plants germinate or are transplanted to prevent disease.
- Remove blossoms from newly set strawberry plants to allow better runner formation.
- Remove unwanted sucker growth in raspberries when new shoots are about a foot tall.

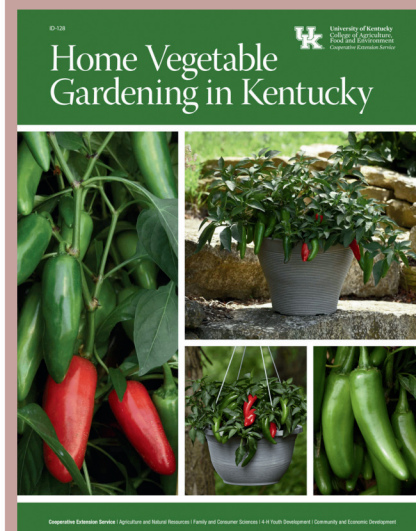
Need your soil tested? Drop off 8 dry oz. at our office to receive a free analysis report with recommendations. For more information, call 502-543-2257



Yard

- Prune early spring-flowering trees and shrubs after flowers fade.
- Plant balled-and-burlapped or container nursery stock, and water thoroughly.
- Remove and destroy overwintering bagworms from landscape trees and shrubs.
- Follow a spray schedule to keep home-orchard crops pest free. While trees are in bloom, use fungicide sprays without insecticide to avoid injuring bees.
- Apply fungicides to roses to control diseases such as black spot.

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





Bullitt County Master Gardeners' Garden Grant

The Bullitt County Master Gardener's are offering an education grant to provide up to \$200 for gardening materials, supplies, for horticultural education and the installment of new gardens.

Eligible Applicants

- ✓ Youth Programs
- ✓ Classrooms
- ✓ Daycares
- ✓ Community Centers

Eligible Activities Include but are not limited to:

- ✓ Youth Plant Programs
- ✓ Botany Lessons
- ✓ Planting Activities
- ✓ Gardening Classes



SCAN FOR APPLICATION



Bullitt County Extension Office
384 Halls Ln. Shepherdsville, KY 40165
502-543-2257

f *bullittcountymastergardeners*



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.

Beneficial Bugs

By: Louisville Zoo



One of the most overlooked and undervalued allies in maintaining and promoting a healthy garden are insects. Insects perform important “ecosystem services” that are beneficial to all of our gardens and the environment. They are vital as pollinators, meaning they are essential for most food crops and flowering plants, and many are important predators of “pests” in backyard gardens. Did you know the reason some insects don’t become pests is due to other predatory insects in the environment? These insects are known as “beneficial” insects. What does it mean to be “beneficial”? The concept of beneficial is actually a term that is only really appropriate when applied to desired goals from a human perspective. In farming/agriculture, where the goal is to produce selected crops, insects that hinder the production process are classified as pests, while insects that assist production are considered beneficial. Out of about a million species of insects, humans consider less than 3 percent as pests. Learning to identify and value the beneficial garden insects for the necessary roles they play is beneficial to you and the environment.

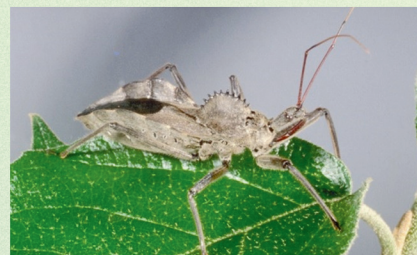
What are some of the more common beneficial insect species you might find in your garden? Praying mantids, green lacewings, assassin bugs, lady beetles and stag beetles. Insects, especially beetles and their larvae, help plants grow by digging tunnels into the ground allowing water and nutrients to flow into the soil. Insects like dung beetles and flies help recycle nutrients in animal waste back into the soil. The tiny, harmless springtails that reside by the billions in Kentucky forests do the same for fallen leaves. Without aquatic insects like dragonflies, mayflies, and stoneflies, we wouldn’t have fishing in Kentucky. Most game fish are predators and eat aquatic insects. A single dragonfly can kill 100 mosquitoes per day. Insects work for us ALL THE TIME! They don’t want your money, but they could use a little appreciation and a little help.

- **Minimize or don’t use pesticides.** The most important thing you can do to protect and encourage beneficial insects in your garden and landscape is to choose insecticides with care. Many beneficials are more sensitive to the insecticides than the pests you are trying to control.
- **Choose native plant species for your garden.** Pollinators are attracted to a wide variety of native species and many adult predator insects also feed on nectar and pollen.
- **Provide a small source of water** for beneficial insects by putting out a shallow dish of water with stones to allow them dry places to land. Be sure to clean it often so you don’t attract mosquitos!
- **Consider creating a ‘No Mow Zone’ in your yard** if possible. This is a designated area that is only mowed one or two times a year and allows native plants to regenerate through succession.

Treat these beneficial insects like your gardening allies, and they are sure to become one of your favorite garden additions. Happy gardening!



The Carolina mantid is a native insect. The European and Chinese species were introduced about 75 years ago as garden predators in hopes of controlling the native insect pest populations.



The most commonly seen assassin bug in Kentucky is the Wheel Bug. This is a predator that feeds on caterpillars, moths, and other soft bodied insects. They are considered beneficial in the garden.



Variety is key. Plant a mix of different flowers to provide a continuous food source and habitat for various beneficial insects throughout the growing season.

Bullitt County Farmers Markets

Mark your calendars and get ready to shop local! Get access to fresh, seasonal produce, support our local economy and farmers, and engage with community to forge healthier eating habits.



The mission of the Shepherdsville Farmers Market is to shine a spotlight on the hardworking farmers and entrepreneurs who contribute to the local economy to sell their products directly to the consumer in a clean, friendly, and community-oriented environment. Through this weekly gathering, we strive to foster a sense of togetherness, where neighbors can come together to explore, connect, and support one another.



The Shepherdsville Farmers Market

is open every Saturday starting June 7th - September 13th

Hours: 9am-12pm

170 W Joe B Hall Ave, Shepherdsville, KY 40165

Visit

facebook.com/shepherdsvillefarmersmarket for updates and list of events.



The Mt. Washington Farmers Market

is open every Tuesday and Saturday from June 3rd – September 9th

Hours:

Tuesday: 5PM – 8PM

Saturday: 8AM – 12PM

300 Snapp St, Mt. Washington, KY 40047

Mt. Washington Spring Festival

May 9th 4pm-8pm

May 10th 9am-5pm

*Food * Rides * Music *Handmade & Homemade Craft Vendors*

Visit facebook.com/mwfarmersmarket for updates and complete list of events.



Mt. Washington
Farmers Market

300 Snapp St.
Mt.
Washington,
KY 40047



EVENT SCHEDULE

➞ JUNE 2025 ➞ TUESDAYS: 5PM-8PM
SATURDAYS: 8AM-12PM

TUES. 6/3	Opening Day
SAT. 6/7	Live Glassblowing
TUES. 6/10	Family Game Night
SAT 6/14	Young Entrepreneur Day
TUES 6/17	BC Animal Shelter- Adoption Day
SAT 6/21	Second Chance Wildlife Center
TUES 6/24	Jeep Night
SAT 6/28	Makers Market





Spinach Slaw

2 cups chopped iceberg lettuce	¼ cup hummus, original flavor
2 cups chopped red cabbage	2 tablespoon local honey
2 cups chopped green cabbage	½ teaspoon garlic powder
1½ cups fresh spinach	⅛ teaspoon salt
¼ cup canola mayonnaise	⅛ teaspoon pepper

1. Wash, quarter, and core lettuce, red cabbage and green cabbage.

2. Thinly slice lettuce and cabbage quarters; chop slices into small pieces.

3. Wash and tear spinach leaves into small pieces.

4. Whisk together mayonnaise, hummus, honey, garlic powder, salt and pepper until ingredients are mixed well. **Toss** dressing with vegetables until coated thoroughly. **Refrigerate** for 30 minutes before serving.

Yield: 8, 1 cup servings.

Nutritional Analysis:

70 calories, 3.5 g fat, 0 mg cholesterol, 135 mg sodium, 11 g carbohydrate, 2 g fiber, 6 g sugar, 2 g protein.



Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers' market, or roadside stand.

Find more seasonal Ky Proud recipes cards here:



Kentucky Spinach

SEASON: May-June and September-November.

NUTRITION FACTS: One cup serving of raw spinach has 10 calories. Packed with vitamins that promote health, it is a major source of vitamins A and C. it is also a good source of calcium.

SELECTION: Look for bright green leaves that are fresh, young, moist, and tender. Avoid coarse stems, injured, torn, dried, limp or yellowed leaves.

STORAGE: Store in the coldest part of the refrigerator for no more than two to three days.

Source: www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov



PREPARATION: Wash in lukewarm water in a large bowl. Remove any roots, rough ribs, and the center stalk if it is large or fibrous.

TO FREEZE: Wash leaves and remove large stems. Blanch for 2 minutes, cool, drain and package, leaving ½-inch headspace. Seal, label, and store up to one year in the freezer.

KENTUCKY SPINACH

Plate It Up! Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences
University of Kentucky, Nutrition
and Food Science students

April 2012

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. For more information, contact your county's Extension agent for Family and Consumer Sciences or visit www.ca.uky.edu/fcs.

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College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
University of Kentucky

**HORTICULTURAL
PHOTOGRAPHY**

2025

PHOTO CONTEST



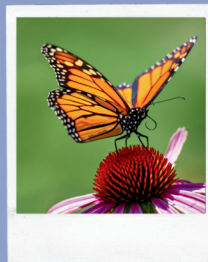
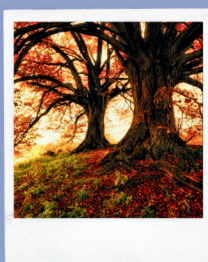
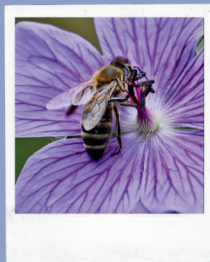
Sponsored by the Bullitt County Master Gardeners

WIN \$100 FOR FIRST PLACE, \$75 FOR SECOND OR \$50 FOR THIRD. PHOTOS THAT DO NOT PLACE MAY BE SELECTED FOR USE IN OUR 2025 CALENDAR!

ENTRY DEADLINE : SEPTEMBER 30TH

2025
Rules
in
Brief:

1. Topic of horticulture must be evident.
2. Must be submitted in jpeg format and be at least 1 mb in size
3. If contest deadline is not met or paperwork is missing, entries will be void.
4. Once submitted, photos become property of The University of Kentucky and/or Bullitt County Extension. Both entities reserve the right to use them in any way.
5. No name brands, people, or time /date signatures on any entries.
6. Photos are judged on creativity, adherence to the rules, photographic value, and interest of subject.
7. Must be original work of submitting individual.
8. Individual may submit up to 10 photos each.
9. See registration form for detailed list of rules!



Contact Lorilee Kunze at 502-543-2257 with questions and email horthphotocontest@gmail.com to enter your photo. Scan QR code or visit <https://bullitt.ca.uky.edu/horticulture> to access the registration form.



Upcoming Events at the Bullitt Co. Extension Office

***Pre-registration required for all classes. Call 502-543-2257 for more information.**

Agriculture

- **Bullitt Co. Bird Watching Walk** - Thurs, May 1st 9-11am and 6-8pm
- **Oyster Mushrooms Bucket (Make & Take)** - Wed, May 7th 6-8pm
- **Cattlemen's Association Vet Tips for Healthy Herd** - Tue, May 13th 7-9pm

4-H (contact 4-H agents to register)

- **Foodies Club** - Thurs, May 22 6-7:30pm
- **Green Giants Club** - Tue, May 27th 6:30-7:30pm
- **Teen Conference** - Tue, June 10th -13th University of Kentucky
- **4H Summer Camp** - Mon, June 30th - Fri, July 4th Lake Cumberland

Fine Arts

- **Stained Glass Class** - Wed, May 7th All Day & Wed, June 4th All Day



Go
paperless!
e-newsletter
sign-up:

