

# **Upcoming Classes**

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

### November 2023

• Friday, 11/3: Family Craft Night Make & Take, 6pm Join us for a family night of snacks, hot chocolate, and holiday crafting with natural items.

## **Meetings**

All meetings open to the public.

Master Gardeners' Assn. & Horticulture Council, 6pm (1st Tuesday of each month)

- November 7th
- December 5th

# **Bullitt Co. Beekeepers' Association & Class, 7pm** (2nd Wednesday of each month)

- November 8th
- December 13th



# November,

Horticulture Newsletter



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Follow us for 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.





# November Garden Calendar

Rosie Lerner, Purdue University

#### Home

- As houseplant growth slows, apply less fertilizer and water.
- If plants are dropping many leaves, move them closer to sunny exposures, such as west and south facing windows. Artificial lights may be needed to supplement particularly dark rooms.
- Pot spring-flowering bulbs with tips exposed to force into bloom indoors. Moisten soil and refrigerate 10 to 13 weeks. Transfer to a cool, sunny location, and allow an additional three to four weeks for blooming.
- Continue dark treatment for poinsettias by keeping them in complete darkness from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. daily until early December or until red bracts begin to show



### Garden

- If frost hasn't taken your garden yet, continue harvesting.
- Harvest mature green tomatoes before frost, and ripen indoors in the dark. Store at 55-70 degrees F. The warmer the temperature, the faster they ripen.
- Harvest root crops and store in a cold (32 degrees F), humid location. Use perforated plastic bags as an easy way to increase humidity.
- Remove crop and weed plant debris from the garden and add to the compost pile. This will help reduce the carryover of diseases, insects and weeds to next year's garden.
- Fall tilling, except in erosion-prone areas, helps improve soil structure and usually leads to soils warming and drying faster in the spring. This allows crops to be planted earlier.
- Apply mulch to strawberries to prevent winter injury or death to their crowns. Wait until temperatures have hit 20 degrees F to be sure plants are dormant. If mulch is applied too soon the plant's crown can rot.
- Dig and store tender flowering bulbs, and keep in a protected location.
- Complete planting of spring-flowering bulbs.

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**

- Prevent rabbit and rodent feeding damage by erecting physical barriers, such as metal mesh hardware cloth. Pull mulch a few inches away from the trunk, as the mulch provides a warm winter home for rodents. Chemical repellents also are available, but their effectiveness is temporary and not foolproof.
- Prevent frost cracking (or sunscald) by wrapping trunks with commercial tree wrap or painting the south- and southwest-facing sides of the trunk with white latex outdoor paint. Young, thinbarked trees such as maples and many fruit trees are especially susceptible. Be sure to remove the tree wrap by early spring to prevent overheating of the bark.
- Remove dead, diseased or damaged branches.
- If you are planning to order a "live"
   Christmas tree, prepare its planting hole before the soil freezes. Mulch the area heavily to prevent freezing, or dig the hole and put fill in a protected, nonfreezing area such as a garage or basement.
- Clean up and discard fallen leaves and fruits around fruit plants to reduce disease carryover.
- Continue mowing lawn as needed. As tree leaves fall, run them through your mower (remove bagger), allowing the shredded leaves to remain on the lawn. Be sure to mow only when grass and leaves are dry.

HOW CAN WE

# serve you??

Take our ten-minute survey to help us develop programs addressing needs in your community. Scan the code above or visit go.uky.edu/serveKY

#### 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

Perfect for chilly days and nights. Serve with corn bread or crusty bread.

# **BUTTERNUT & ACORN SQUASH SOUP**



#### Ingredients

- I butternut squash, halved and seeded
- 1 acorn squash, halved and seeded
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/3 cup chopped sweet onion
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 3 tablespoons peanut butter
- 1/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- Fresh parsley for garnish

#### **Directions**

- 1.Using a vegetable peeler, remove the skin from the butternut and acorn squashes and cut into 1-inch cubes.
- 2.In a large soup pot, heat the oil on medium high.
- 3. Add the onion, and cook 1-2 minutes until it starts to become translucent.
- 4. Add cubed squash, and cook 4 to 5 minutes.
- 5. Add chicken broth, and bring to a boil.
- 6.Lower heat, and simmer 30 to 35 minutes, until the squash is fork tender.
- 7. Allow to cool slightly, then blend until smooth in a food processor or blender.
- 8. Return mixture to the pot, and heat to medium low.
- 9. Add peanut butter, brown sugar, pepper, cinnamon, and nutmeg.
- 10. Stir until well blended.
- 11. Garnish with fresh parsley. Serve warm.

## **SLOW COOKER SANTA FE SOUP**



#### Ingredients

- 4 thawed, boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1 (7 oz) can chopped green chilies
- 1 (8 oz) bag frozen corn
- 1 (28 oz) can diced tomatoes, no salt added
- 1 (15 oz) can black beans
- 1 (14 oz) can or box vegetable broth, no salt added
- 1 (32 ounce) box low-sodium chicken broth
- 3 tablespoons low sodium chili seasoning mix

#### **Directions**

- 1. Place all ingredients in slow cooker and simmer on low for 6-8 hours or 3-4 hours on high.
- 2. Remove cooked chicken and shred with two forks.
- 3. Return chicken to soup, and it is ready-to-serve.

# KALE & POTATO SOUP

#### Ingredients

- 4 teaspoons olive oil
- 1 chopped yellow onion
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 box (48 ounce) low-sodium chicken broth
- 6 red potatoes, diced
- 1/2 cup chopped carrot
- 4 cups shredded kale
- 1/2 pound cooked chicken breast, shredded
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper

#### **Directions**

- 1. In a large saucepan, heat the olive oil over medium heat for 1 minute. Add chopped onion and garlic and cook uncovered for 5 minutes.
- 2. Add chicken broth, potatoes and carrot; cover and bring to a boil.
- 3. Reduce heat and simmer for 20 minutes.
- 4. Mix in the kale, chicken and black pepper. Cover and simmer for 15 minutes or until kale is tender.





# Herb-Roasted Turkey



### Ingredients

- 1 (10 to 12) pound turkey
- 2 tablespoons dried herbs (try any combination of parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, basil, etc.)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon ground pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 celery ribs, washed and cut into pieces
   2 or 3 inches long
- 1 large onion, washed, peeled, and quartered
- 3 cups water



#### **Directions**

- 1. Thaw turkey completely. The USDA recommends thawing turkey in the refrigerator. This is the safest method because the turkey will thaw at a consistent, safe temperature. This method takes some time, so allow one day for each 4-5 pounds of weight. If the turkey weighs 12 pounds, it will take about three days to thaw. It is not safe to thaw turkey at room temperature.
- 2. Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds, especially after handling raw turkey.
- 3. Move oven rack to a low position so turkey will fit.

  Preheat oven to 450 degrees F. Cooking at a high heat will crisp turkey skin and help keep juices in the meat.
- 4.Remove turkey neck and packet of giblets from inside the turkey cavity. Use these parts in other recipes or discard.
- 5. Twist wing tips up toward turkey neck opening and tuck them under back of turkey. This will help the turkey stay flat during cooking.
- 6.Pat turkey dry with paper towels and place it on a rack in a large roasting pan.
- Combine dried herbs, olive oil, pepper, and salt in a small bowl. Stir to combine. Spread mixture all over turkey.
- 8. Place celery and onion inside turkey cavities. This adds flavor while the turkey cooks.
- 9. Pour 3 cups of hot water into pan.
- 10. Place turkey and pan in pre-heated oven. Roast uncovered for 45 minutes or until skin is golden brown.
- 11. Carefully remove turkey from oven.
- 12. Use 2 layers of foil to tightly cover entire turkey. Use oven mitts to prevent burning your hands as you press foil around the turkey.
- 13. Return turkey to the oven. Continue roasting for 11/2 to 2 hours more.
- 14.Insert a thermometer into thickest part of the thigh without touching the bone. Turkey is done when it reaches an internal temperature of 165 degrees F.
- 15. Remove turkey from oven. Let turkey stand for 30 minutes, covered, before serving. Letting meat stand, or rest, for a few minutes after removing from the oven makes the meat more juicy.
- 16. Use a sharp knife to cut meat off the bone.
- 17. Refrigerate or freeze leftovers within 2 hours.

# **FALL AND WINTER WATERING**

J.E. Klett and R. Cox, Colorado State University Extension

The result of long, dry periods during fall and winter is injury or death to parts of plant root systems. Affected plants may appear perfectly normal and resume growth in the spring using stored food energy, but may be weakened, and all or parts may die in late spring or summer when temperatures rise. Weakened plants also may be subject to insect and disease problems.



## **Quick Facts**

- Water your trees, shrubs, lawns, and perennials during prolonged dry fall and winter periods to prevent root damage that affects the health of the entire plant.
- Water only when air and soil temperatures are above 40 degrees with no snow cover.
- Established large trees have a root spread equal to or greater than
  the height of the tree. Apply water to the most critical part of the
  root zone around the dripline.

#### Plants Sensitive to Drought Injury

Woody plants with shallow root systems require supplemental watering during extended dry fall and winter periods. These include European white and paper birches, Rocky Mountain and hybrid maples; lindens, alders, hornbeams, dogwoods, willows, and mountain ashes. Evergreen plants that benefit include spruce, fir, arborvitae, yew, and boxwood. Woody plants also benefit from mulch to conserve soil moisture. Herbaceous perennials and ground covers in exposed sites are more subject to winter freezing and thawing. This opens cracks in soil that expose roots to cold and drying. Winter watering combined with mulching can prevent this damage. Lawns also are prone to winter damage, especially newly established lawns.

## **Watering Guidelines**

Water only when air temperatures are above 40 degrees. Apply water at midday so it will have time to soak in before possible freezing at night. Monitor weather conditions and water during extended dry periods without snow cover – one to two times per month.



Soils are often on the dry side in winter. Watering plus mulching replenishes moisture loss that occurs from the freezing and thaw cycles of winter.

### Newly Planted vs. Established Plants

Newly planted trees are most susceptible to winter drought injury. Trees generally take one year to establish for each inch of trunk diameter. Trees obtain water best when it is allowed to soak into the soil slowly to a depth of 12 inches. Methods of watering trees include: sprinklers, deep-root fork or needle, soaker hose or soft spray wand. Apply water to many locations under the dripline and beyond if possible. If using a deep-root fork or needle, insert no deeper than 8 inches into the soil. As a general survival rule, apply 10 gallons of water for each diameter inch of the tree. For example, a two-inch diameter tree needs 20 gallons per watering. Use a ruler to measure your tree's diameter at 6" above ground level.

Newly planted shrubs require more water than established shrubs that have been planted for at least one year. The following recommendations assume shrubs are mulched to retain moisture. In dry winters, all shrubs benefit from winter watering from October through March. Apply 5 gallons two times per month for a newly planted shrub. Small established shrubs (less than 3 feet tall) should receive 5 gallons monthly. Large established shrubs (more than 6 feet) require 18 gallons on a monthly basis. Decrease amounts to account for precipitation. Water within the dripline of the shrub and around the base.

Herbaceous perennial establishment periods vary. Bare root plants require longer to establish than container plants. Perennials transplanted late in the fall will not establish as quickly as those planted in spring. Winter watering is advisable with late planted perennials, bare root plants, and perennials located in windy or southwest exposures.

# PROTECT YOURSELF FROM WINTER WEATHER

ready.gov/winterweather

# Know your winter weather terms:

## • Winter Storm Warning

Issued when hazardous winter weather in the form of heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet is imminent or occurring. Winter Storm Warnings are usually issued 12 to 24 hours before the event is expected to begin.

#### Winter Storm Watch

Alerts the public to the possibility of a blizzard, heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet. Winter Storm Watches are usually issued 12 to 48 hours before the beginning of a Winter Storm.

#### • Winter Weather Advisory

Issued for accumulations of snow, freezing rain, freezing drizzle, and sleet which will cause significant inconveniences and, if caution is not exercised, could lead to lifethreatening situations.

# **Preparing for Winter Weather**

Prepare your home to keep out the cold with insulation, caulking and weather stripping. Learn how to keep pipes from freezing. Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors with battery backups. Gather supplies in case you need to stay home for several days without power. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Remember the needs of your pets. Have extra batteries for radios and flashlights. If you are unable to afford your heating costs, weatherization or energy-related home repairs, contact the **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)** for help.





Recommended Items to Include in
a Basic Emergency Supply Kit:
Water and non-perishable food for several days
Extra cell phone battery or charger
Battery-powered or hand crank radio that can receive NOAA Weather Radio tone alerts and extra batteries
Flashlight and extra batteries
First aid kit
Whistle to signal for help
Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
Non-sparking wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
Can opener (if kit contains canned food)
Local maps

# Upcoming Events at the Bullitt Co. Extension Office

Call 502-543-2257 or visit https://bullitt.ca.uky.edu/ for more information.

#### Family & Consumer Sciences

• Sit-N-Sew: Second Thursday of each month from 6 - 9pm

#### <u>Agriculture</u>

- Backyard Maple Tapping Demo & Workshop: 11/7, 5:30pm
- KY First Farm Workshop & Resource Fair: 11/10, 8am
- Bullitt Co. Cattleman's Meeting: 11/14, 7-9pm

#### 4-H

(Contact 4-H agents for more details)

- Animal Explorer Club (Ages 4-8): 11/21 & 12/19 from 6:30 7:30pm
- Green Giants Club: 11/13 & 12/11 from 6:30 7:30pm
- Teen Club: Third Thursday of each month, 6:30-7:30pm
- Cloverbuds: First Thursday of each month, 6:30-7:30pm







NOVEMBER 2023 HORTICULTURE NEWSLETTER

Bullitt County Cooperative Extension 384 Halls Lane Shepherdsville, KY 40165 Return Service Requested

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

