

Weed It and Reap

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER**

Franklin County
101 Lakeview Court
Frankfort, KY 40601-8750
(502) 695-9035
Fax: (502) 695-9309



Draw Them In With Fragrance

Source: Richard Durham, Extension Professor,
Department of Horticulture

One of the most compelling aspects of a well-designed garden is easy to overlook on paper, and that is fragrance. From heavy aromas to light scents, a fragrance carried on the breeze can lure people deeper into your garden to enjoy its beauty.

Flowers and herbs both can provide a lovely bouquet. Plant them along paths or near open windows, by your patio or in containers on your deck. In late spring, the sweet bay magnolia blooms release an evening perfume that, when near a window, can waft gently through your house.

Planting in clumps will give you the best fragrance. Spread your scented plants throughout your yard, nestling them into crooks and crannies where visitors can follow their noses to find the source of a particular aroma.

Some plants, like mint, release their scent when brushed against, so place those where folks pass close by. The

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summer-blooming perennial agastache, also known as hyssop, is a member of the mint family. Both its purple flower spikes and its leaves release an anise-flavored aroma.



Rosemary is also a member of the mint family. The shrubby herb can be used in cooking or just enjoyed for its woody scent in a container on the deck or mingled with other plantings in the garden. Originating in the Mediterranean region, it prefers hot, dry weather and is only marginally hardy in Kentucky. If you want to guarantee its survival through the winter, it may be best to pot it up and move it to a sheltered but sunny area like an unheated sunroom.

For a light, grassy scent, plant chamomile. The herb's pretty, daisy-like flowers and its relaxing fragrance are an easy plant to add to either the flower or the herb garden.



Varieties of the annual nicotiana, known as flowering tobacco and sometimes jasmine tobacco, have a heavy, sweet scent that is strongest in the evening. If you're planting for fragrance, plant the taller varieties.

Phlox paniculata or garden phlox has a potent scent on warm days. It's best to buy these in bloom, so you can test their aroma. Many hybrids have had the scent bred out of them in exchange for larger flowers and enhanced disease resistance.

The sweet fragrance of yellow honeysuckle can bring back memories of summer days spent in the yard. Look for native varieties, like yellow or Scentsation, that can trail over archways or walls, rather than the invasive shrub varieties.



If you don't plan on harvesting your thyme for cooking, consider planting it as a groundcover. When you walk on it, it releases the appealing scent of, well, thyme.

You will find many uses for lavender in your garden. English lavender is prized for its calming scent, as well as its edible flowers, which can be dried and used in teas, cakes and cookies. Lavenders require well drained soil. Adding compost or other organic matter to the soil is beneficial.



Office of the
State Entomologist

Join our

CITIZEN SCIENCE PROGRAM!

Kentucky's Office of the State Entomologist monitors for new invasive pests that threaten Kentucky's agriculture and natural resources. We are seeking volunteers for our Citizen Science program to help monitor invasive species in Kentucky!



EARLY DETECTION OF INVASIVE PESTS IS KEY!

If you are interested in monitoring invasive pests and helping to protect Kentucky's agriculture and natural resources, please join our Citizen Science program!

APPLY TODAY!

Scan the QR code or visit the URL below.



<https://ose-uky-edu.hub.arcgis.com/pages/citizen-scientist>

Grow Smart With SOW: Kentucky Gardeners' Ultimate App for Planting Success

Source: Rick Durham, UK Horticulture Extension Specialist

Kentucky gardeners can download a free tool in the Apple and Google Play app stores to help them decide what to plant and harvest in their home garden.



The app SOW—A Planting Companion is largely based on ID-128 Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky from the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension. The app also has information from the Cooperative Extension services in Alabama and North Carolina for users in those states.

The app provides growing information for Plant Hardiness Zones 6a–9a. Some parts of Kentucky are in zones 6a or 7a, but most of the state is in zone 6b.

When you get the app, enter your state and county for plant information specific to your hardiness zone. You can always go back to the settings menu and change the information if you are interested in looking at data specific for other hardiness zones.

The app has three main parts: Library, My Garden and Journal.

Library:

The library has informational sheets and pictures of almost 40 common home garden vegetables. You can arrange the vegetables by planting date, vegetable name or harvest date.

When you click on a vegetable in the library, more information about that vegetable will appear. This information includes how many plants you need to grow for a good harvest, how far apart you should plant them, how deep you should plant them, and the range of pH levels in the soil.

There are also specific cultivars of each crop recommended for Kentucky gardens.

My Garden:

You can also add plants to the My Garden area. You can design more than one garden at the same time. For example, you could have a spring garden, a summer garden and a fall garden. My Garden helps you remember when you planted, whether you used seeds or transplants, what cultivar or variety you planted and when you should be able to harvest it.

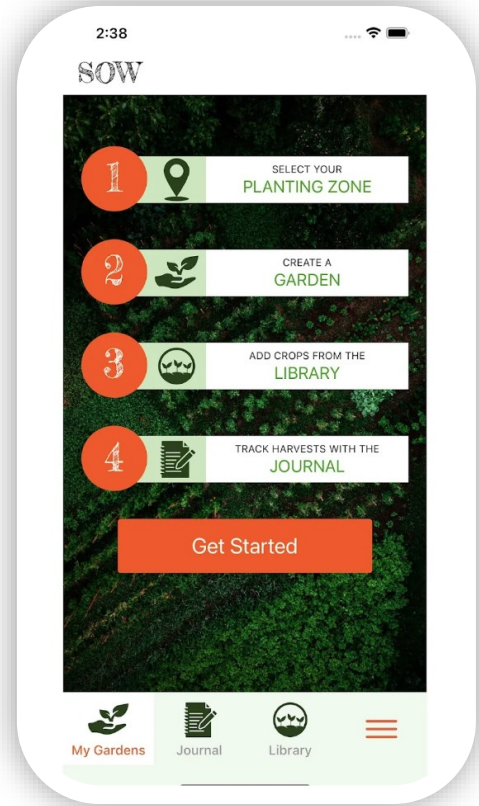
You can also plan and enter a date to plant in the future. This is beneficial when you are

planning transitions from the spring to summer garden, or from summer to fall. The app will then let you add that scheduled planting date to your phone's calendar as a reminder.

Journal:

Once a crop is harvested, use the Journal section to write down the yield, the harvest date and any other information that might help you plan your garden for next year.

The app can also link you to your local Cooperative Extension office, where you'll find staff information and ways to contact extension agents with questions.



**Capital Area Extension
Master Gardeners'**
Saturday, April 27th
9am - 1pm
Lakeview Park
(Farm Bureau
Pavilion)
118 Park Avenue
Frankfort, KY

Plant Market

Tomatoes, peppers,
herbs, perennials
and MORE!

SAVE THE
DATE!!!

Ants and Plants in Your Garden

By Joyce Fry, CAEMG Volunteer

I haven't always been a fan of ants. My distrust of them began when I was 8 years old and innocently left my Snickers bar on a porch railing for several hours. When I returned later at dusk, I found it covered in the little varmints, but not before I put it to my mouth! Lesson learned the hard way! This was but my first lesson regarding ants i.e., they are scavengers. Different ant species are more attracted to specific substances, such as those that are sweet (those with whom I first connected), provide proteins (insects, carcasses, and slugs), and those that provide lipids (greasy food items, insects).

Since my earlier encounter, I have gained a lot more respect, understanding and even appreciation for them. As a gardener, I learned that some species "farm" aphids. They actively move aphids around on plants and harvest the aphid's exudate, also known as "honeydew," a sweet sticky substance on which they and their larvae feed. Some ant species are known to farm caterpillars, taking them to various plant food sources, and even into their chambers. Caterpillars return the favor, providing ants with their droppings or "frass." Behavior such as this between two or more different species is called "mutualistic symbiosis" i.e., neither is harmed in the process and both benefit.

As if those mutualistic relationships aren't amazing enough, some ant species feed on a fleshy specialized structure, called an

elaiosome (ee-LAY-oh-sohm), which is attached to the seeds of some plant species.



Elaiosome

The word, elaiosome, is from the ancient Greek for "oil," and "body." One source likened it to that of a potato chip, and after all, who can eat just one? Unlike potato chips, however, elaiosomes are rich in protein, as well as lipids. Many of our native wildflowers depend on ants to help distribute and "plant" their seeds. This type of seed dispersal is called myrmecochory (mur-mee-koh-KOR-ee), which is Greek for "ant" (*myrmex*) and "circular dance" (*khoreiā*). The remaining seed is usually coated with a hard and slippery layer, so ants are unlikely to eat it. Instead, they discard the seed on their "compost heap," which is essentially where their waste or debris is stored. This makes them effectively decomposers, breaking down dead plants and animals and spreading around the resulting nutrients. The seed germinates in the decaying pile, benefiting by the availability of nutrients. The ants' tunneling produces additional plant benefits by aerating the soil and forming channels through which water can flow. This arrangement is perfect for the spread of beautiful wildflowers and additional food

resources for the ants that “planted” them. A few Kentucky wildflowers that produce elaiosomes are trillium (*Trillium* spp.), bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*), dutchman’s breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*), trout lily (*Erythronium americanum*), wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*), violet (*Viola* spp.), hepatica (*Hepatica* spp.), bleeding heart (*Lamprocapnos spectabilis*), squirrel corn (*Dicentra canadensis*), and celandine poppy (*Stylophorum diphyllum*).

Most people don’t think of ants as pollinator species, yet ants can be a secondary pollinator species. Because their bodies are covered in setae (insect hair with sensory organs at its tips), pollen may stick to them as they travel from flower to flower. As do all pollinator species, they help to diversify the genetic makeup of plants, thus fortifying their vigor. However, because ants also secrete an antibiotic substance as protection from bacteria, it may kill the pollen before it can be transferred to another plant.

Ants are scavengers, farmers, hunter/gatherers, decomposers, and pollinators as well as pests in our gardens. Like all components of an intact ecosystem, ants play a crucial role in the cycle of life. So, before you freak out when you discover ants among your plants, observe their behavior and contemplate the benefits first. You may decide not to freak out at all!



Kids Day

AT THE FRANKLIN CO. FARMERS MARKET
SPONSORED BY SOLARIZE FRANKFORT
APRIL 20TH
 OPEN FROM 8:30AM-NOON
 404 WILINSON BLVD., FRANKFORT



BABY DUCKS & CHICKENS



COMPOSTING



SOLAR BUBBLE MACHINE









GARDEN CLUB

For youth ages 9-18

4-H GARDEN CLUB WILL BE GROWING AND LEARNING ABOUT:

- Seed to Supper Program
- Grow and harvest your own garden
- Pollinator Gardens
- Horticulture, Floral design and Flower Shows



3rd Thursday of the month
@5:00 pm



Franklin County Extension Office **101 Lakeview Ct.**
Frankfort KY 40601

QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE FRANKLIN COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE AT 502-695-9035 OR EMAIL THE CLUB LEADER BETSY KENNEDY @ YARNADDICTION62@GMAIL.COM





Paw Paw Grafting Class

LEARN TO GRAFT YOUR OWN PAW PAW TREES

CLASS BEGINS AT 6PM
\$10 PER PERSON



TO REGISTER,
SCAN THE QR CODE ,
ENTER THE LINK BELOW,
OR CALL 502-695-9035.
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/33SAT2J3](https://tinyurl.com/33SAT2J3)



APRIL 23

101 LAKEVIEW COURT
FRANKFORT KY 40601
502-695-9035

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.



Cooperative Extension Service

HORTICULTURE WEBINAR WEDNESDAYS

APRIL CLASSES

12:30PM ET/11:30AM CT

- April 3 – Chaos Gardening
- April 10 – Hostas:
Not What You Think
- April 17 – Cicadas
- April 24 – Beyond Begonias,
New Plants for 2024

You must register before the class. Register at:

[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/24APRHWW](http://tinyurl.com/24APRHWW)

Click on the class you want to attend. You will then get an email with the class link.



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4-H Youth Development
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**UK Cooperative
Extension Service**

Save the Date

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF

4.27.2024

8-12

309 Rouse Ave

For more information:

- email pamela.hollbrook@uky.edu or call 502-695-9035
- go to the NEP webpage, <https://franklin.ca.uky.edu/NEP> or scan the QR code
- Explore the social media sites listed below.



Franklin County Nutrition Education (NEP)

Follow us on:

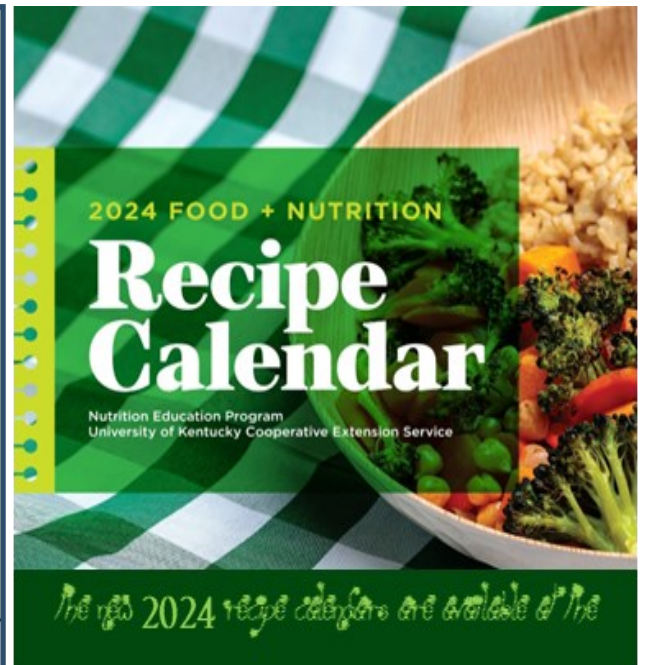
Facebook @Franklin County NEP

Instagram @FranklinCountyNEP

Tasty and nutritious recipes, food safety, meal planning on a budget, fun and educational events for kids and adults.



An equal opportunity university.



Be sure to follow our Facebook page

for all the up-to-date

information and articles.



@FranklinCountyKyCooperativeExtension



PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATION TRAINING

April 29, 2024

6:00 p.m.

Franklin County Extension Office

Register NOW!



502-695-90335

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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

GROW IT, EAT IT, COOK IT

GROW YOUR OWN FOOD, COOK DELICIOUS RECIPES,
AND ENJOY A TASTY MEAL TOGETHER!
EACH PARTICIPANT WILL GET TRANSPLANTS
OR SEEDS TO GROW AT HOME.

@ 6PM

- Mar 14** -Potatoes
- April 18** -Broccoli & Cauliflower
- May 16** -Tomato
- June 20** -Pepper
- July 18** -Summer Squash
- Aug 15** -Spinach
- Sept 12** -Radishes
- Oct 10** -Garlic



SCAN THE QR CODE OR
ENTER THE LINK TO
REGISTER.

[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/SGBQOKHNX93JMjXQ6](https://forms.gle/SGBQOKHNX93JMjXQ6)

YOU MAY ALSO CALL TO REGISTER:
502-695-9035



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Lexington, KY 40506



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Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
University of Kentucky.

WANTED

FRANKLIN COUNTY BRADFORD PEAR BOUNTY



APRIL 20
10A.M. - 2 P.M.

DEAD NOT
ALIVE!
INVASIVE!



FIRST COME,
FIRST SERVED



**Liberty Hall Historic Site,
202 Wilkinson Street, Frankfort, KY 40601**

**Cut down your invasive Bradford pear tree and
receive a free native tree!**

Questions? Franklin County Extension Office - 502.695.9035.

Sponsors: Franklin Co Extension, UK Forest Health Extension, City of Frankfort
Parks Department, Franklin Co Joint Task Force on Invasives, RIP,
The Garden Club, and Andrew Cammack



Request for Proposal for Annual Financial Audit Services

1. Introduction

The Franklin County Extension District Board (FCEDB) is a local special taxing district that serves as a link between the Franklin County and the state's land grant universities to help people improve their lives through an educational process focusing on their issues and needs. The FCEDB has an annual operating budget of approximately \$2.7 million and is seeking proposals from qualified firms of certified public accountants to perform an annual financial audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, with the option to renew for four subsequent fiscal years.

2. Scope of Services

The selected firm will be expected to provide the following services:

- Conduct an audit of FCEDB's financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards.
- Express an opinion on whether FCEDB's financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- Report on FCEDB's internal control over financial reporting and compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements that could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements.
- Communicate with FCEDB's management and board of directors throughout the audit process and present the audit results and recommendations.
- Provide any other audit-related services as requested by FCEDB.

3. Proposal Requirements

The proposal should include the following information:

- A cover letter summarizing the firm's qualifications and experience in performing audits of similar organizations and expressing the firm's interest and availability for the engagement.
- A description of the firm's approach and methodology for conducting the audit, including the proposed timeline, staffing, and deliverables.
- A list of the firm's current and past clients in the nonprofit sector, with contact information and references.
- A statement of the firm's independence and quality control procedures.
- A detailed fee proposal for the audit services, including the hourly rates, estimated hours, and total cost for each fiscal year. The fee proposal should also include any additional or optional services and their respective fees.

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Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

- A copy of the firm's most recent peer review report and any other relevant credentials or certifications.

4. Proposal Submission and Evaluation

The proposal should be submitted electronically to adam.leonberger@uky.edu by April 30, 2024. FCEDB reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to request additional information, and to negotiate the terms and conditions of the contract.

The proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- The firm's qualifications and experience in performing audits of similar organizations.
- The firm's understanding of FCEDB's needs and expectations and the quality of the proposed approach and methodology.
- The firm's availability and responsiveness and the adequacy of the proposed staffing and resources.
- The reasonableness and competitiveness of the proposed fees.

FCEDB's expects to select the firm by May 15, 2024 and to commence the audit by September 1, 2024.

To create transparency of proposals, if a firm has business affairs, or personal/business connections with Cooperative Extension Services, the Extension District Board, or others connected with selection process, please disclose that relationship and how they are affiliated with your firm in your submitted proposal.

5. Contact Information

For any questions or clarifications regarding this RFP, please contact Adam Leonberger, at 502-695-9035 or adam.leonberger@uky.edu

FARM CITY FIELD DAY

Happy Jack's Farm July 11, 2024

SAVE the Date





WILDFLOWER WALKS
at Cove Spring Park.

APRIL 7, 14, 21

1:30 - 3:00

EACH WALKING TOUR WILL BEGIN AT THE MAIN COVE SPRING PARKING LOT (NEAR THE WATERFALL)

For questions contact the Park's office at (502)875-8575 or acunningham@frankfort.ky.gov

See you Sunday!



Blueberry French Toast Bake

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| ¼ cup whole wheat flour | 3 eggs | 1 cup fresh blueberries |
| ¼ cup all-purpose flour | 6 egg whites | ½ cup chopped almonds |
| 1½ cups skim milk | 1 loaf (12 ounces) French bread, cut into 1 inch cubes | Honey, if desired |
| 1 tablespoon sugar | 3 ounces fat free cream cheese, cut into ½ inch cubes | |
| ½ teaspoon vanilla | | |
| ¼ teaspoon salt | | |

Generously **grease** a 13x9x2-inch baking dish. **Beat** flours, milk, sugar, vanilla, salt, eggs and egg whites in a large mixing bowl with a hand mixer until smooth. **Stir** in bread cubes until they are coated. **Pour** bread mixture into baking dish. **Top** evenly with cream cheese, blueberries and almonds. **Cover** and **refrigerate** for at least 1 hour, but no longer than 24

hours. **Heat** oven to 400 degrees F. **Uncover** and **bake** 20-25 minutes or until golden brown. **Sprinkle** with honey, if desired.

Yield: 8, 1 cup servings

Nutritional Analysis: 420 calories, 6 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 70 mg cholesterol, 860 mg sodium, 69 g carbohydrate, 4 g fiber, 9 g sugar.



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


Adam Leonberger

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