

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Pike County Extension Office | 148 Trivette Drive | Pikeville, KY 41501-1271 | 606-432-2534



OCTOBER

Happy Fall!

October is going to be an exciting month with lots of meetings and events happening. On October 21st we will be hosting a kids day at the Pikeville Farmers market from 4:30-7:00. We are also looking forward to the safe trick or treat event at the Appalachian Wireless Arena on October 28th!

Mark your calendars for the beekeepers meeting on October 6th and Master Gardeners meeting on October 9th! Check out the calendar and event flyers on the next two pages for more information!

We are still encouraging people to get their soil samples in this fall! Testing in the fall gives ample time for the soil amendments to work before planting season rolls back around. Call us to ask about submitting a soil sample!

Best wishes,



Emily Davis
County Extension Agent
for Agriculture and Natural Resources
Email: emilydavis00@uky.edu



In this issue

- Introduction
- Calendar
- Event Flyers
- Soil testing
- Reading soil tests
- Kissing bug update
- Spotted Lanternfly
- Fall venison Recipe
- Kids Corner

**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





October



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 Farmers market 9:00-1:00
5	6 Beekeepers Meeting 6:00	7 Farmers market 4:30-7:00	8	9 Master Gardeners meeting 5:30	10	11 Farmers market 9:00-1:00
12	13	14 Farmers market 4:30-7:00	15	16	17	18 Farmers market 9:00-1:00
19	20	21 Farmers market 4:30-7:00	22	23	24	25 Farmers market 9:00-1:00
26	27	28 Safe trick or treat @ expo center Farmers market 4:30-7:00	29 Food as medicine event	30	31	

Pikeville Farmers Market

TUESDAYS
(JUNE-OCTOBER)
4:30 PM-7:00 PM

SATURDAYS
(MAY-NOVEMBER)
9:00 AM-1:00 AM



AG EXPLORERS CLUB

Join ANR & 4-H for interactive lessons to grow & share a love for agriculture! Call the extension office at 606-432-2534 to sign up!

**Tuesday, October 21st
4:30 – 6pm**

Location: Pikeville Farmer's Market

Activities:

- Interview farmers
- Market scavenger hunt
- Local treats
- Design a market bag
- And more!



Farmer's Market





HOMEMAKING IN THE MOUNTAINS

October 11th

2025

**Rhododendron Conference Center
Breaks Interstate Park - Breaks, VA**



**Recipes from the Pike
County Extension
Homemakers:**

**Freshly Crafted Recipes
&
Fall Favorites**



**Looking for a way to get your blood pumping,
exercise your brain, or just socialize?**

Line dancing can do all of those things!
**Come join us and have a blast on Oct. 7th, 16th ,
23rd and 28th !**

***Class on the 16th is at 7pm, the rest are at 6pm.**



6pm on Tuesday, Oct. 7, 23, and 28.

7pm on Oct. 16th

FREE!

**Pike County Extension Office
148 Trivette Dr.
Pikeville, KY**

**No sign-up
required!**

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Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

DRAacula

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY BRAM STOKER
OCT. 17 TO NOV. 2, 2025

PIKEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
TICKETS: \$12.00

EVENING PERFORMANCES AT 7:30 P.M.
MATINEE PERFORMANCES AT 3:00 P.M.





DON'T MISS OUT!

Pikeville Area Family YMCA Holiday Craft Fair

**Saturday, November 8th, 2025
8:00am – 4:00pm**

Located at the Pikeville Area Family YMCA
424 Bob Amos Drive Pikeville, KY 41501

Get ready to celebrate the season at our 1st Annual Holiday Craft & Vendor Fair! Shop from local crafters and local businesses as they offer a wonderful selection of unique gifts, handmade creations, and quality products. Your support helps fund our Community Support Campaign, by supporting families with financial assistance for membership, sports programs, after school care, and more!

Admission: \$2/person

Vendor Booths Available: \$25/spot; please bring tables for setup. Spots are limited and registration is due by October 15th 2025.

Interested in becoming a vendor? Please contact DeAnna Childers at (606) 433-9622 or via email at Deanna@pikevilleyymca.org.

Come out and get your holiday shopping started early!



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



SO MUCH FUN...IT'S SCARY!

SAFE KIDS HALLOWEEN Pikeville Area Family YMCA

Join the Pikeville Area Family YMCA and the Appalachian Wireless Arena for this years Safe Kids Halloween! Each year area schools are invited to bring the FMD students to trick or treat in a fun and safe environment.

For more details see below:

Date: October 28th

Location: Appalachian Wireless Arena

Time: Schools can begin arriving at 8:30am

Please check with your schools FMD director to see if your school is participating in this years event!



BECOME A SPONSOR!

The Y is currently seeking volunteers and sponsors for this years event. If you or your business would like to become a sponsor, a \$200 donation (which includes candy and media signage at your sponsored table) can be sent to the Pikeville Area Family YMCA. For more information on becoming a sponsor please contact the Y at 606-433-9622.



Why is fall soil testing beneficial?

Fall soil testing can have multiple benefits as apposed to spring or summer testing. There is more time available in the fall to collect soil samples and make fertilizer decisions to prepare for the upcoming planting season. Based on the soil analysis, fall season allows additional time to think about upcoming management decisions. Farmers usually apply phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) fertilizer in the fall when there is more time and equipment available and soil compaction is less of a concern.

Fall offers the best opportunity to apply lime as it provides more time to neutralize soil acidity. The soil test results should indicate the soil pH and if lime is needed to rectify excess acidity.

Based on the soil test results, fertilizer can be purchased prior to the end of the year. Fertilizer is often cheaper in the fall compared to spring when demand is high.

Weather conditions typically are more favorable for collecting soil samples as compared to spring. It is often easier to get into the field after harvest in the fall. Fields are often too wet in the spring.

Contact our office for more information about submitting soil tests this fall!



Growing Your Own

A beginner's guide to gardening

SOIL TESTING

Every time you grow something, the plant takes nutrients from the soil. Testing a soil sample before planting your garden can help you know what nutrients or other chemicals are present in your soil. The results recommend what fertilizers you may need to add for a successful crop. Healthy soil leads to healthy plants.

How and when should I collect a soil sample?

Test your soil at least once a year. It can take several weeks to get your soil sample results back. Do a soil test one to two months before you will plant your garden. You can bring soil samples to your local Cooperative Extension office for free or low-cost testing. They will submit your samples to the lab.

You will need to collect two cups of dry soil from your garden area. To take a sample, insert a shovel or trowel about six inches into the soil. Try to dig out a slice of soil that is a full six inches deep. Remove any grass or mulch and place the soil in a clean bucket. Repeat this in four to six spots around your garden area. Mix all the soil together, then bring the sample to your Extension office.

You may grow plants in a variety of areas, such as flower beds or lawns. Submit a separate sample for each area that you want to fertilize. For raised beds, submit one sample that combines soil from all raised beds. If one raised bed is showing problems, submit a separate sample for that bed. If you are growing plants like blueberries or asparagus, they require a different soil pH (see the graphic on soil pH levels for garden plants). Submit a separate sample for each of these crops.

Be sure to label each sample before you turn it in. Record where each sample was taken so you can remember when you get the results.



What does a soil test check?

Your soil sample will be tested for levels of basic nutrients and important qualities like pH. Your test results can only tell you what the levels were at the time of sampling. Fertilizers and other soil conditioners can change these levels to help plants grow stronger. Remember to wait for your test results before adding anything to your garden.

Soil PH

The soil pH tells you how acidic or alkaline your soil is at the time of sampling. The pH scale ranges from 1 to 14. Neutral is 7. Acidic is below 7, and basic or alkaline is above 7.

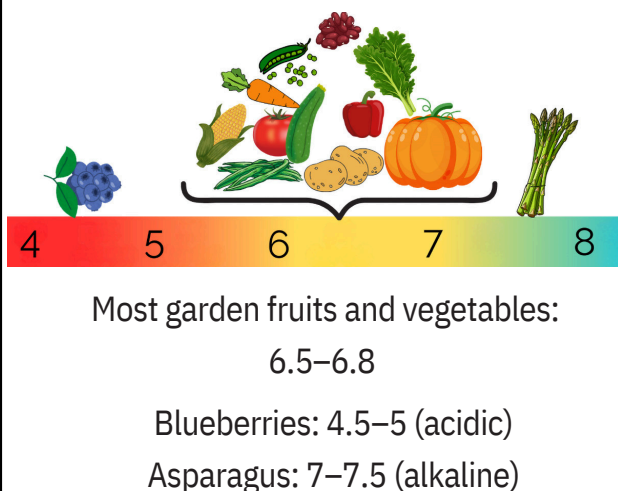
The test results will tell you if you need to adjust your soil pH. Soil pH can only be adjusted by a limited amount each year. If pH is a problem, test soil each year and continue to adjust.

Soil nutrients

Most nutrients that plants need come from the soil. Plants use larger amounts of these three nutrients: nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K). Fertilizer packages will list this as the N-P-K ratio.

- **Nitrogen** makes plants green and helps them grow. Expect to add nitrogen regularly, either with compost or fertilizer. The soil test results will recommend how much nitrogen to add, depending on what you plan to grow.
- **Phosphorus** helps plants grow flowers and fruits. In Kentucky, our soils often have plenty of phosphorus. Only add more if your soil test says you need to.

Soil pH Levels for Garden Plants

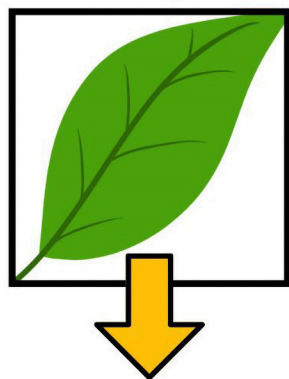


- **Potassium** helps the plant move water from the roots to the leaves and makes plant stems strong. Potassium is sometimes needed. Check your soil test results.

Lead and toxins in soil

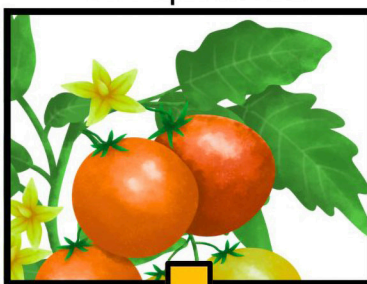
Soil samples can also test for lead and other toxins. If you are concerned about lead or other toxins in your soil, talk to your local Extension office. The county office may recommend other tests to check for these toxins. There may be an additional cost. Your county Extension agent can help with this process.

N
Nitrogen



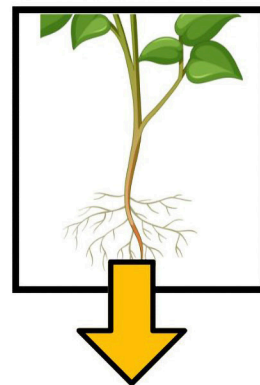
Green Leaves

P
Phosphorus



Flowers and Fruits

K
Potassium



Strong Stems

Nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium are important nutrients that each support plant growth in different ways.

Kissing Bugs & Chagas in Kentucky?

Fast Facts



- KY has a local "kissing bug" called the **eastern bloodsucking conenose** (pictured above)
- This insect is **not good** at transmitting the parasites that cause Chagas disease
- There is **low risk** for contracting Chagas in KY
- For more tips and tricks

<https://entomology.ca.uky.edu/ef655>

Look alike

Wheel bugs



Pointy "wheel" on their thorax

Flattened legs like an oar or paddle

Western conifer seed bugs



Brown marmorated stink bugs



Lighter brown color than conenoses

The eastern bloodsucking conenose can and will bite humans and they sometimes test positive for the pathogen responsible for Chagas disease. However, they are not commonly considered to be competent vectors for Chagas.

This is because, unlike their relatives, they tend to not defecate while engaged in feeding or soon after feeding. Without the infected feces near the bite, it is relatively less likely Chagas will be acquired. If you find a conenose in your home, it is extremely unlikely you will end up with Chagas disease. Of course, if you feel concerned or ill, please consult with a medical professional.



SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Checklist for Residents

Help keep spotted lanternfly from spreading. Before you travel or move any items stored outdoors within or out of areas known to have the spotted lanternfly, check for and remove all stages of this harmful pest. Here's what to look for.

LIFE STAGES

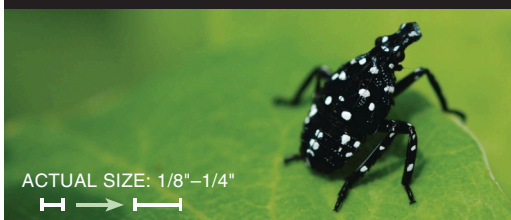
EGG MASS

FOUND SEPT-JUNE



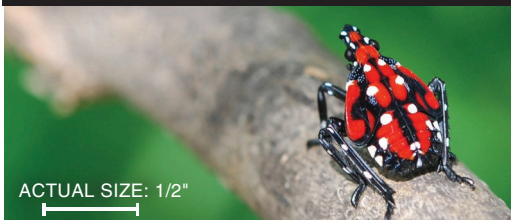
EARLY STAGE NYMPH

FOUND LATE APRIL-JULY



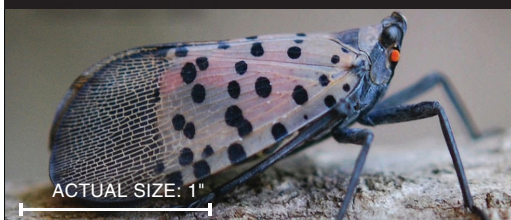
LATE STAGE NYMPH

FOUND JULY-SEPT



ADULT

FOUND JULY-DEC



Above images by Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

COMMON EGG MASS LOCATIONS

Spotted lanternfly egg masses can be laid on any surface and need a careful eye for inspection! Below are some examples of egg masses on outdoor objects.



Brandon Zimmerman



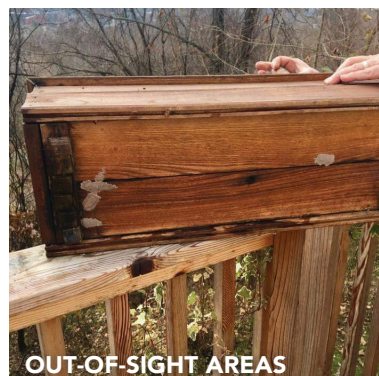
Jenny Armstrong Powell



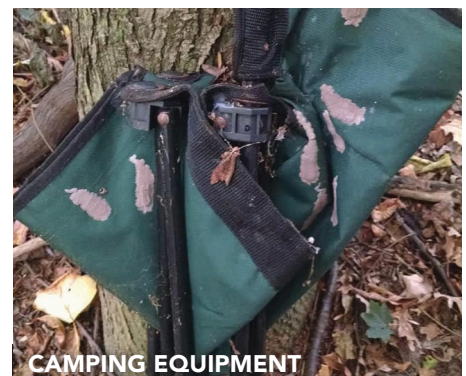
Heather Leach



Zil Fessler



Lori LaCava Beatrice



Liz Willow

Venison Stew

Servings: 6

Serving Size: 2 cups

Ingredients

- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 pound venison, cubed
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 3 cups water
- 1 onion, chopped
- 4 potatoes, cubed
- 3 carrots, sliced
- 3 stalks celery, chopped
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 tablespoon dried parsley

Directions

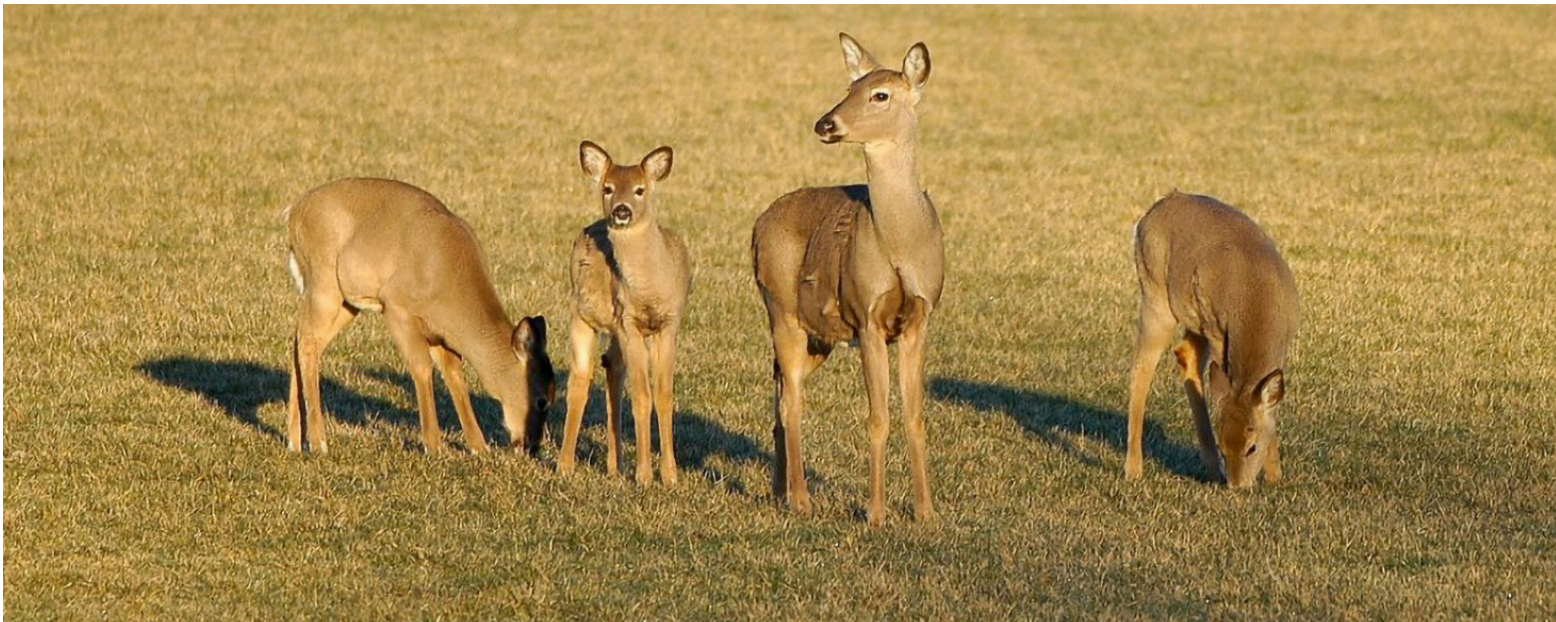
1. Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds, especially after handling raw meat.
2. Combine pepper, salt, garlic powder, and flour in a plastic bag or large bowl.
3. Add cubed venison and shake bag or toss to coat meat.

4. Brown meat in hot oil, in a large, heavy saucepan.
5. Stir in water. Add remaining ingredients and cook on high until it begins to boil.
6. Reduce heat and simmer for approximately 1 hour.
7. To thicken, in a small mixing bowl, stir 1/2 cup warm water into 2 tablespoons of flour. Add mixture into stew. Stir until thickened and bubbly. Cook another 30 minutes or until vegetables and meat are tender.
8. Store leftovers in the refrigerator within 2 hours. Divide leftovers into smaller containers to allow quick cooling

Tips

As an alternative to stove-top cooking, use a slow cooker set on low for 8 hours.

Nutrition facts per serving:
270 calories; 4.5g total fat; 1g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 65mg cholesterol; 490mg sodium; 36g carbohydrate; 5g fiber; 5g total sugars; 0g added sugars; 22g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 6% Daily Value of calcium; 20% Daily Value of iron; 25% Daily Value of potassium.



(Photo by Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources)

