

News Around the Knobs

A Newsletter on Bullitt County Agriculture and Natural Resources
from the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension



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View from the field

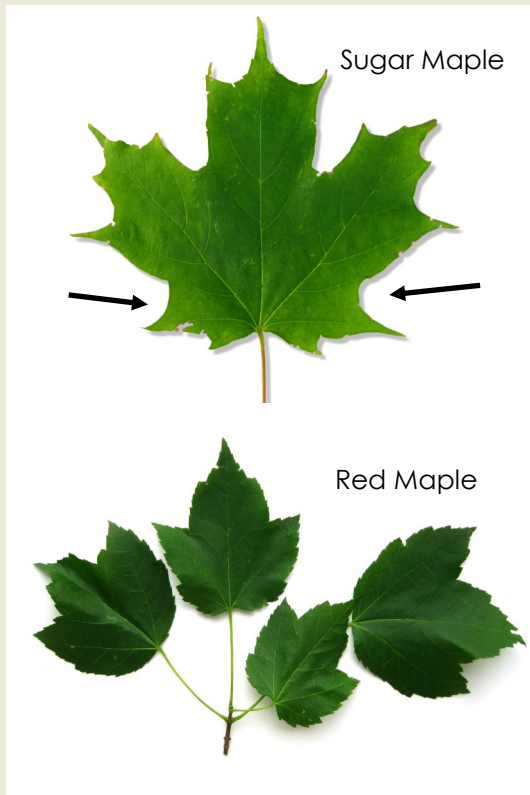
By Nathan Rider

When was the last time you walked through the woods? Whether it's in a park or your own backyard, walking through the forest to relax has been shown to have significant health benefits. Taking deep breaths while walking slowly through a forest can reduce dopamine and cortisol levels which can, in turn, reduce stress, lower blood pressure, and improve sleep!¹ And those aren't the only benefits! If you have some forested areas on your property, take a slow walk and you might just find some interesting birds, native pawpaws, or more likely, some maple trees.

The northeast is known for its Maple Syrup, but did you know you can tap maples for syrup in Kentucky? Right around New Year's Day, maple syrup enthusiasts and entrepreneurs will be tapping thousands of trees across the state! In preparation for tapping this winter, I will be teaching a workshop **on November 3rd on backyard maple tapping**. But, beware; by then, the leaves may have fallen already! So, if you plan to participate, learn to identify maples on the next page, and remember to mark your trees with tape or paint before the leaves fall!

As autumn progresses, consider participating in a beginning farmer class on Oct. 27, updating your Private Applicator License for restricted-use pesticides on Nov. 8, or entering the soybean yield contest. Be safe as you begin the fall harvest and as you plan for next year's crop remember to give thanks! If you get the chance, skip one or two sugary pumpkin-spiced lattes, save up, and go support one of our many local pumpkin patches, vineyards, or orchards to get your fill of fall flavors!





Finding your Sweetest Maple

The sugars that make maple sap uniquely sweet are produced in the summer growing season. Leaves are like solar panels, storing the sun's energy in the form of sugar. The sugar is used to continue the tree's growth in the next year and exchanged with other trees through fungal connections. These nutrients are stored in the roots of trees for the winter. As daylight begins to increase again (after Dec 21) and the sun begins to warm the trees, these sugars begin to flow through the tree with water.

Across Kentucky and each year, the right time to tap can slightly vary. Last year, I had great success tapping trees right around January 1st in Bullitt County. The ideal sap flow happens when nights are cold (20-35° F) and days are warmer (45-55° F). Class will be in November to prepare you for tapping this winter!

Trees with larger canopies have produced more sugar all summer and will store it away for the winter. It's important to select trees with a large canopy and a trunk diameter of at least 10" at your chest height. Forests can be managed to increase sap production, but I don't recommend any forest adjustments for beginner tappers. Just start with one to three trees that are nearby to each other for easy sap hauling.

I can't emphasize enough, **if you plan to tap trees this winter, mark them now** while you can positively identify them and evaluate the canopy size from this summer's growth. And don't worry if you don't have a forest to work with--you might have a maple growing right in your front yard. With no canopy competition, it might be the highest yielding maple around!

Backyard Maple Tapping Demonstration and Workshop Nov 3 at 5:30 PM

Are you ready to have fun in the forest? We will be hosting a maple tapping class at the Bullitt County Cooperative Extension Office on November 3 at 5:30 PM.

Take note of the timing though. If you hope to tap maple trees this winter, please mark potential trees with tape (as shown to the right) or a mark of spray paint before the leaves fall. We will discuss tapping sugar maples, red maples, (see leaves above), box elders, and even black walnuts. **The class will cost \$10 per person and each registrant will take home one tap, tube, and bucket to use at home this winter. Dinner Provided.** RSVP at <https://bit.ly/BC-Maple2022> or call our front office to RSVP with Julie or Chloe at 502-543-2257. More information online at <https://bit.ly/BullittANRevents>.



Acer saccharum- Red Maple leaves

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Acer rubrum - Red Maple leaves

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¹ <https://bit.ly/cornell-forest>



The Variability of the First Fall Freeze

by Tony Edwards - National Weather Service Charleston, WV

With the turning of the calendar to the month of October, Mother Nature typically responds with cooler temperatures and more pleasant weather compared to the heat and humidity of summer. With the cooler temperatures at night, most locations across Kentucky will likely see their first freezing temperatures during the month of October, putting an end to the growing season. However, where you live - and the elevation at which you live - can have a significant impact on when you see those first freezing temperatures of the fall.

Many locations in Kentucky typically see their first freeze during the last week of October. However, rural areas in valleys away from bodies of water can see this occur a week earlier, while locations on ridge tops or near large bodies of water can see this first freeze occur up to a week later, into early November. You may wonder why this variability occurs?

As shown in the illustration below, cold air is heavy and tends to drain into the lower elevation valleys and hollows on clear, calm nights. As this happens, warmer air rises and typically forms what's known as the thermal belt. This thermal belt can keep the ridgetops several degrees warmer than the valleys. In fact, in the extreme terrain of eastern Kentucky, ridgetop locations can quite often be 10 to 20 degrees warmer than the valleys below on calm and clear mornings. Water also holds heat longer and so larger bodies of water such as lakes and rivers can moderate the temperatures for nearby locations.

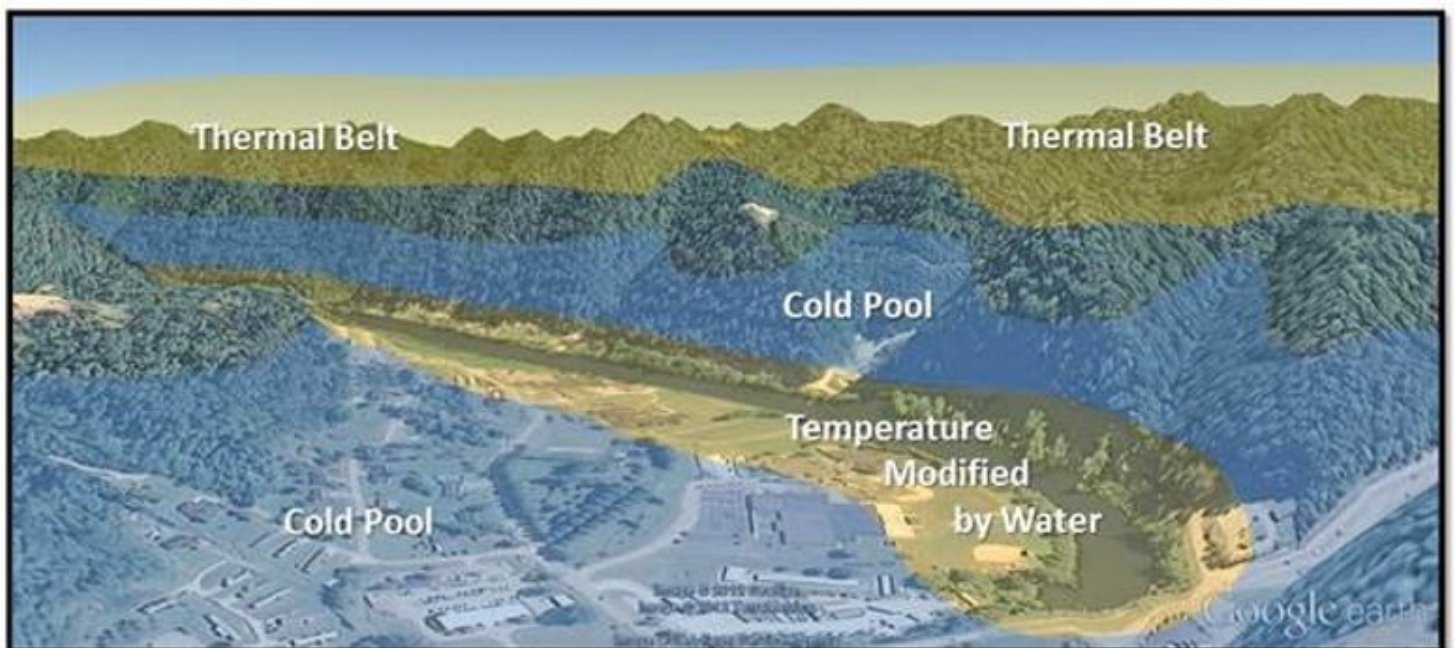
So, while it's pretty much inevitable that our gardens will succumb to the cold at some point during the month, the location of your garden in relation to elevation and proximity to bodies of water can make a big difference in how long those last tomatoes and peppers linger on the vines.

Renew your Private Pesticide Applicator License on Nov 8.

A certified private pesticide applicator can use Restricted Use pesticides to produce any agricultural commodity on property owned or rented by the applicator or an employer, or to the lands of a farmer-neighbor if the application is made without compensation other than trading of personal services between producers of agricultural commodities. Certified private applicators also may train workers to satisfy Worker Protection Standards

Private applicator certification is valid for 3 years and expires on December 31 of the final year. Applicators must go through the county training program to keep a certification effective.

If you need to renew your private pesticide applicator's license, please email me or call the front office to RSVP for the training on **Nov 8, 2022**, from **4-7 PM** before the Bullitt County Cattlemen's Meeting at the Bullitt County Extension Office.



Attracting Bats to your Backyard



As Halloween approaches, it might be getting spooky across Bullitt County, but I hope you're not scared of the bats! Happy National Bat Appreciation Month!

Bats are an integral part of a healthy ecosystem. Making your backyard bat-friendly supports the ecologically essential role bats have in the environment, including pest-control, pollination, and seed dispersal.

Plus, their nightly displays of aerial acrobatics are fascinating to observe.

Check Bat Conservation International's Guide to Gardening for Bats: <https://bit.ly/Bat-Garden-Guide>

4 Ways to be Backyard Bat Friendly

Install a bat house.

Setting up a bat house near your home is a great way to get involved in protecting bats. Plus, it provides you with the opportunity to observe bats' fascinating behavior. Bat Conservation International offers three downloadable designs. Download FREE designs here:



Four-chamber bat house: <https://bit.ly/4-Chamber-Bat-House>

Rocket box bat house: bit.ly/Rocket-Box-Bat-House

Leave that dead tree standing.

For many bat species, dead trees are like a comfy lodge or beach house – a great hangout spot. Some bats like to squeeze between the narrow, rough space between the tree bark and wood, while others seek out tree hollows to roost. If a dead tree does not pose a safety or property concern, consider leaving it standing.

Avoid using pesticides. (Bats are natural pest controllers.)

Avoid the use of pesticides in your garden and the use of remedial timber treatment agents in structures. Both can lead to the poisoning of bats. Consider bats in your backyard and neighborhood as natural pest control. Insectivorous bats devour astonishing quantities of night-flying insects. In fact, pregnant or nursing mothers of some bat species often consume nearly their body weight in insects each night.

Keep cats indoors.

Cats and bats don't mix. Period. Cat attacks are one of the most common causes of bat (and bird) casualties. Keep your cat indoors at night, especially during summer months when bat mothers are feeding their young. Make certain your cat is indoors a half hour *before* sunset and a half hour *after* sunset when bats are most active. If your cat finds a bat, it may learn where the roost is located, which places an entire colony at risk.

Article from Bat Conservation International: <https://bit.ly/BatConAttractingBats>

Don't grow it if you can't sell it:

Marketing for Beginning Farmers, Market Gardeners, and Landowners

Spencer County and Bullitt County are teaming up this fall to continue a three-part class series for beginning farmers of all ages. If you have 10 years or less of landownership or farming experience or are in search of direction after many years, consider joining us for Part 2 in the series on **October 27 at 6 PM at 384 Halls Ln, Shepherdsville, KY.**

Last class we assessed skills and assets and learn to set smart goals for your farm. This month, we will discuss with marketing experts the basics of farm and garden marketing. Spend time with marketing experts in a conversational style class with other beginners.

The October class will be at Bullitt County Cooperative Extension and the November class will be at the Spencer County Cooperative Extension. We encourage new landowners, beginning farmers and market gardeners, hobby farmers, and aspiring growers in Spencer, Bullitt, and surrounding counties to attend. Call to RSVP: 502-543-2257 or register online: <https://bit.ly/BeginningFarmerClass22>.

2022 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

THE AG CENSUS COUNTS

BECAUSE IT GIVES ME A VOICE
IN MY INDUSTRY.

SIGN UP TO BE COUNTED.
nass.usda.gov/AgCensus

YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR OPPORTUNITY.

USDA AGRICULTURE COUNTS #AgCensus

Fall Soil Testing

Before the ground freezes, start thinking about sampling your soil for fertility analysis. Soil fertility analysis is FREE for any Bullitt County resident, and sampling now will allow plenty of time to follow recommendations before the spring. Whether you are a backyard gardener, hobby farmer, or commercial operator, sampling soil in your gardens, fields, and pastures can save you time and money.

Soil testing FAQ

How much soil do I need to bring in?

Two cups for each sample.

How much does it cost?

Soil testing is FREE for Bullitt Co. residents.

How long will it take to get my results? You will receive your results in the mail about 2 weeks after your sample is dropped off.

Where do I submit my sample?

You can bring your sample to our office, 384 Halls Ln. Shepherdsville, and we will ask for some information regarding your sample.

How do I sample soil?

Visit this link or call for more information: <https://bit.ly/HowtoSampleSoilForHorticulture>

Soil probes can be checked out for use, along with bags for samples, at our office from 8am-4:30pm every weekday.

Beware when Grazing after Frost

As it starts to freeze and thaw, beware of dangerous toxins that can form in pastures. Prussic acid (hydrogen cyanide) poisoning can occur when the sorghum species (forage sorghum, sorghum-sudangrass, sudangrass, and **Johnsongrass**) are frosted. Freezing causes plant cells to rupture and the precursors for prussic acid formation are released.

Prussic Acid FAQ

Can I cut sorghum species for hay after frost?

YES. Make sure the hay is properly cured before baling.

Can I make baleage from frosted?

In most cases the answer is YES. Hydrogen cyanide concentrations are reduced during the ensiling process. However, as noted below, if toxin levels are excessively high at ensiling, forage should be tested prior to feeding.

How long do I need to wait to graze freshly frosted sorghum species?

Freshly frosted sorghum species should NOT be grazed until the affected tissue has dried down. This usually occurs 5-7 days after frost. Since fields are often not uniformly frosted and several frost events can occur over several days, make sure and wait until 5-7 days after the last frost event. More info on prussic acid poisoning here: <https://bit.ly/PrussicAcidUKY>

Beef Bash 2022

Recovering and Rebuilding from a natural disaster

Date: Thursday October 20th, 2022

Time: Registration 8:30 AM CT
Program starts at 9 AM CT

Location: The beef unit at the University of Kentucky Research and Education Center.

348 University Dr
Princeton, KY 42445

*Signs will be posted to the beef unit

MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US!

Commercial exhibitors

Educational exhibits and demonstrations

University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture Food & Environment personnel and administrators

No cost to attend
Lunch available to purchase

 University of
Kentucky
Beef Extension

Fall Grazing Conf. Oct. 26 & 27: Profitable Grazing Systems from the Soil Up

Livestock producers have two opportunities this fall to learn more about profitable grazing systems. KFGC and the UK Master Grazer Program will offer the Kentucky Fall Grazing Conference Oct. 26 in Leitchfield and Oct. 27 in Winchester. "This year we are looking forward to excellent speakers from UK, Missouri & even Idaho," said Chris Teutsch. "Profitable ruminant livestock production systems include the soil, plant, and animal. Conference participants are going to hear from experts specializing in all three!"

Ray Archuleta will speak about the living portion of the soil at both events. Archuleta is certified professional soil scientist with the Soil Science Society of America with more than 30 years of experience as a soil conservationist, water quality specialist, and conservation agronomist with the NRCS. After his retirement from the NRCS in 2017, he founded Understanding Ag, LLC, and Soil Health Academy. He also owns and operates a 150-acre farm near Seymour, Missouri with his wife and family.

Jim Gerrish, an independent grazing lands educator, consultant, and writer from Idaho, will speak about the role of extended grazing in profitable ruminant livestock operations. He currently lives in the Pahsimeroi Valley in central Idaho and works with numerous ranchers using both irrigated pastures and native rangeland.

Gerrish also works with livestock farmers in high natural rainfall environments. His experience includes more than 22 years of beef-forage systems research and outreach at the University of Missouri. The University's Forage Systems Research Center rose to national prominence because of his leadership. His research encompassed many aspects of plant-soil-animal interactions and provided a foundation for many of the basic principles of management-intensive grazing.

Kentucky speakers include UK beef specialist Les Anderson, UK agricultural economist Greg Halich, Adair county ANR Agent Nick Roy and Adair County farmer Fred Thomas. Topics include right-sizing cows for profit, grazing myths, and hay feeding strategies to build grazing system fertility.

Events begin at each location with registration at 7:30 AM local time and runs until 3:15 PM. Participants should pre-register for the events. Advance registration is \$35 per person, day-of registration is \$50 per person, and students' registration is \$15. Use the following links to register:

<https://bit.ly/GrazingLeitchfield>

<https://bit.ly/GrazingWinchester>

If you Stockpile, Try Strip Grazing!

Stockpiling forage for late fall and winter grazing has rightfully become a widely accepted practice across the country with some variation in forage crops. To get the full benefit from stockpiled forage, regardless of species used, strip grazing will boost efficiency over grazing the entire pasture. One Missouri research trial found that giving cows enough forage for three days instead of 14 days resulted in a 40% boost in grazing days per acre.

Using strip grazing can result in forage utilization values of over 80%, not counting a 3-inch residual. Achieving such efficiency levels will help reduce use of purchased or produced hay. As a general rule, warm-season grasses or mixed-legume stands need to be strip-grazed first. These forage types tend to lose quality fastest after several killing frosts.

Tall fescue seems to hold up the best, although it will lose some quality through the winter. Similar to summertime strip grazing, the fall strip grazing nearly eliminates animal selectivity.

Strip grazing takes some planning. It works best to start closest to the water source and then work across the field. Set up posts and polywire (or a fence wheel) across the field to allocate enough forage for one to three days. The shorter the time allotment, the higher the forage utilization will be. Nutrient spreading from urine and manure will also be more uniform.

With no additional growth in the winter, most producers do not utilize a back fence to keep cattle off previously grazed areas. This allows animals to utilize a single water source. As many beginning strip grazers have learned by experience, it is a good idea to set a second polywire for the next move ahead of the current one. As one length of polywire comes down, there should already be another one in place.

Given the current fence technology, putting up and taking down a strand of polywire requires a relatively small amount of time. The economic return from more efficient forage utilization and increased grazing time is hard to dispute. It also offers the opportunity to keep a close eye on cattle during the winter months.

Adapted from Mike Rankin, Hay and Forage Grower. Read more at <https://bit.ly/KyForageNews>

Roasted Vegetables

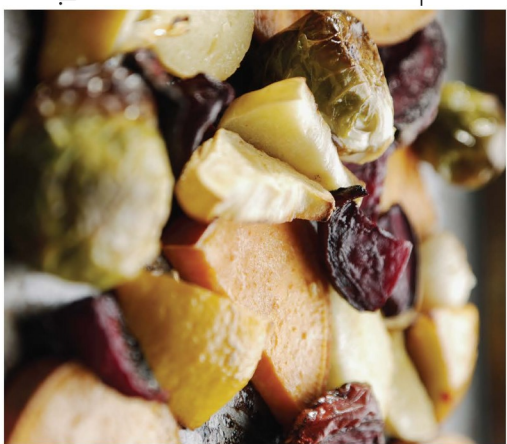
MAKES 8 SERVINGS
SERVING SIZE: ½ cup

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 pounds assorted vegetables, prepared and cut into bite size pieces (See below for seasonal variations.)
- 4 cloves garlic, whole
- Lemon, cut into 1 inch wedges
- Salt and pepper to your liking

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees F.
2. Combine vegetables, garlic, lemon and oil in a bowl. Add salt and pepper to your liking. Toss to coat.
3. Line a baking sheet with foil. Spread vegetables and lemon in a single layer. (If vegetables are stacked, they steam rather than roast and the flavor is not as good. Depending on the amount of vegetables, you might need two pans to ensure all the vegetables are touching the pan.)
4. Place baking sheet on the middle rack. Roast about 20 minutes or until vegetables are tender, yet firm in the center. Stir halfway through to make sure vegetables don't stick or burn. Discard lemon before serving.



Try it with brussels sprouts, butternut squash, apples, beets, turnips, or carrots for enjoyable fall flavors!

Nutrition facts per serving (Spring)
130 calories, 4g total fat, 0.5g saturated fat, 0mg cholesterol, 60mg sodium, 23g carbohydrate, 6g dietary fiber, 7g sugar, 3g protein



This material was funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program — SNAP

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, or physical or mental disability.

October Tips & Tidbits

Winter Blankets

- As the days get shorter in the fall, horses living outside will acclimate to the colder temperatures by growing a heavier hair coat. This hair coat, along with a good winter feeding program, a BCS of 5 or greater, and shelter, will allow the horse to handle most winter conditions.

However, if you decide to blanket a horse kept outside:

- Ensure the blanket fits properly.
- Remove the blanket daily and check the horse.
- Watch for signs of over-heating which may cause the animal to sweat. A wet horse will be a cold horse.

Horses with thin hair coats will benefit from being blanketed during turnout (a couple of hours per day) in the winter.

Hay Feeders

- Hay feeders can reduce feed costs for horse owners by reducing the loss of hay by up to 50 percent.
- Rotate the hay feeder location throughout the field or locate them on a high traffic area pad to help control feed waste and areas of mud.

Forages

- Prepare to use any stockpiled cool-season grass pastures.
- Continue to inventory hay supplies and needs.
- Test new hay supplies for nutrient content if you have not already done so. Knowing the nutrients supplied by the hay will help you to make best use of the hay supplies.



Grouping Horses for Winter Feeding

- Group horses according to nutritional needs.
- Consider exercise requirements, BCS, and general maintenance requirement in how they are grouped.

Stallion Evaluation and Getting Ready for the Breeding Season

- Have a general physical examination to ensure the stallion is in good health and has adequate conformation to mount a mare.
- Make sure that all stallions have a **negative EVA** certificate *prior to* vaccination.
- Examine the external reproductive organs (sheath, penis, and scrotum). Identify any abnormalities such as atrophy, hyperplasia, or degeneration of the scrotum.

Field Borders & Filter Strips

Field borders are strips of trees, shrubs, and/or grasses established around the edges of cropland, hayfields, and/or pastures to reduce erosion, improve water quality, provide turning areas for farm equipment, and create wildlife habitat. They can be quite beneficial by providing a protective screen against high winds and a deterrent to poaching. They also provide valuable travel corridors for wildlife, connecting otherwise isolated patches of habitat.

Filter strips are strips of grasses that lay at the edges of crop fields next to water bodies such as rivers, creeks, streams, drainage ditches, ponds, and lakes. They are designed to intercept sediment and chemicals before they enter the water supply, thereby reducing erosion and protecting water quality.

Another related practice is grassed waterways. Like filter strips, these grass strips are designed to reduce erosion and protect water quality. However, whereas filter strips are located at the edges of crop fields, grassed waterways lay within crop fields along both sides of shallow drainages. They are particularly good at preventing gully erosion.

Filter strips and grassed waterways are very effective at preventing erosion and improving water quality in several ways. First, they soften raindrop impact and minimize the breakup of soil. Second, they slow runoff water and filter sediments from it. Finally, they remove nutrients and chemicals from runoff water through their uptake by actively growing vegetation.



Figure 1. Native warm season grasses make excellent cover for filter strips such as this one, which lays between a crop field and a wooded stream drainage.



Figure 2. Grassed waterways save soil from eroding, filter pollutants from runoff water, and provide important food and cover for wildlife.



Field borders are strips of trees, shrubs, and/or grasses established around the edges of cropland, hayfields, and/or pastures.



Figure 3. Borders of clover should be established around native warm season grass fields that will be managed with prescribed burning; the clover border (the bright green cover above) serves as a firebreak as well as a wildlife feeding area.

The width of these buffer strips can vary, but in general they should probably be at least 15-25 feet wide and preferably wide enough so as to accommodate the turning of farm equipment. In fact, if wide enough, it may be possible to use such strips as sources of hay, thereby complementing crop operations on the farm.

A variety of trees and shrubs* can be used in developing field borders. On well-drained sites, white pine is often a good choice due to its long needles and natural tendency to keep its lower branches. In fact, 2-3 offset rows make an excellent screen. Pines should be planted on a spacing

of 10 feet by 10 feet (436 trees/acre). Shrubs such as Chinese chestnut, wild plum, redbud, crabapples, and dogwoods are also good choices for developing field borders. They should generally be planted on a spacing of 6 feet by 6 feet (1210 shrubs/acre). Spring (March-April) is usually the best time to plant trees and shrubs, although fall (October-November) planting may also be feasible. Refer to the corresponding *Habitat How-To* for details regarding species suitability on various sites as well as general planting guidelines.

Bicolor lespedeza is another shrub that is suitable for use in field borders. It can be planted either as seed or seedlings. Seed should be broadcast at a rate of 5-10 pounds per acre onto a well-tilled seedbed in spring (February-May). Seedlings should also be planted in spring, at a spacing of 3 feet between rows and 18 inches between plants within rows. Bicolor lespedeza needs to be mowed every 5 years or so to keep it vigorously producing seed.

A variety of grasses and legumes can be planted in field borders, filter strips, and grassed waterways. Native warm season grasses* such as switchgrass, big bluestem, and Indiangrass provide the best nesting cover for small game such as rabbits and quail. Switchgrass is particularly suited for such uses due to its thick growth form and deep, extensive root system. In fact, its thick growth form makes it an excellent choice as habitat for rabbits. However, only Kanlow or Blackwell varieties should be used on wet sites. Big bluestem and Indiangrass, which tend to remain more open, are better for quail. Although generally upland in nature, they can tolerate short periods of moderate wetness. Warm season grasses are usually planted in spring (May-June).

Wildlife-friendly cool season grasses* such as orchardgrass, timothy, and redtop are also an option for revegetating buffer strips and provide very good wildlife habitat.

In fact, redtop is an excellent soil binder and is quite tolerant of wetness. These grasses can be planted in spring (March-April) or fall (September).

Usually the two types of grasses are not intermixed within the same stand. Since soil conservation and water quality are main objectives for these types of plantings, relatively high seeding rates should be used. Consult the respective *Habitat How-To's* for details on establishing these grasses. Some legumes, such as clover, Korean/Kobe lespedeza, or partridge pea, should be included with each type of grass as appropriate.

If desired, pure stands of legumes* could be planted in these buffer strips instead of grass/legume mixtures. Such plantings may not provide the filtering capacity or nesting cover of grass/legume mixtures. However, they would furnish excellent foraging and brood-rearing habitat for wildlife. In fact, for fields planted to native warm season grasses, establishing a buffer strip of clover around the perimeter is a good idea. It will serve not only as a food plot for wildlife, but also as a built-in fire lane for periodic burning of the native grasses.

Field borders, filter strips, and grassed waterways should be protected from livestock by using adequate fencing*. In the absence of haying, the strips of grasses should be maintained simply by mowing* them annually to encourage dense vegetative growth. Mowing should be done outside of the primary nesting season for wildlife, which generally runs from about mid-May through mid-July. The best times to mow are during March or late August. Do not mow the grasses below 6-8 inches so as to leave some cover for wildlife. If protected and managed properly, these narrow buffer strips can produce significant results in terms of wildlife populations on farms.

Filter strips are strips of grasses established at the edges of crop fields to intercept sediment and chemicals before they enter adjacent water bodies.



Grassed waterways are strips of grasses established within crop fields along both sides of shallow drainages to prevent erosion and protect water quality.



Figures 4. Shrub rows (left) or native season grasses (right) make excellent cover for field borders adjacent to croplands, pastures, or hay fields.

SUMMARY OF OPTIONS:

Type of Planting:

- Field Border
- Filter Strip
- Grassed Waterway

Species of Trees and/or Shrubs (if applicable):

Varies depending on site

Type of Grasses:

- Native Warm Season Grasses
- Cool Season Grasses

Time of Planting:

- Spring
- Fall

Location of Planting:

- Around Edges of Field
- Within Field

Management of Planting:

- Fencing
- Mowing

*Related Habitat How-To references:

- Streamside Management
- Wildlife Corridors
- Edge Feathering
- Natural Revegetation
- Trees and Shrubs
- Fescue Eradication
- Soil Amendments
- Native Warm Season Grasses
- Cool Season Grasses
- Legumes
- Mowing
- Cropland Management
- Fencing

Call Nathan Rider
Bullitt County Extension Agent
for access to any of these related
reference sheets!

Leave those Leaves!

Leaves are changing colors and beginning to fall but that doesn't mean you have to get to work. Consider leaving your leaves in the yard, raking them into your garden, or at least a compost pile on your property (see last October's newsletter for a compost idea). Leaving those leaves not only saves you time and energy, it saves your neighbors from noisy and polluting leaf blowers and it benefits wildlife and your soil!

- Many backyard neighbors use leaf litter as their primary habitat including chipmunks, salamanders, wood frogs, box turtles, toads, shrews, earthworms, millipedes, and thousands of insect species.
- Some of those creatures appreciate the leaves as their wintertime meal. Earthworms, pill bugs, millipedes, and more decompose leaves. They also become food themselves for birds, reptiles and amphibians, and more.
- As the leaves decompose, they add nutrients to your yard and gardens, and leave behind organic matter that increases water and nutrient holding capacity in the next growing season.

While you're at it, consider leaving behind those pithy stems from perennials for next winter's habitat. There are 4000 species of native bees in the U.S. and 30% of them nest in the pithy or woody stems of plants from the previous year's growth. So if you leave stems in your garden this winter, bees will start drilling into them next spring and summer to pupate young, then next winter the stems will be used for overwintering! This is obviously not how we were taught to keep a "clean" garden. If it makes you uncomfortable try at least carving out a small section of your garden to plant natives, leave stems and leaves, and create a mini wildlife preserve in your backyard--or as Doug Tallamy calls it: "Homegrown National Park".

Adapted from articles including

"Why you should leave the leaves" - <https://bit.ly/NWF-leaves>

"Gardening for life" - https://bit.ly/HGNP_Tallamy

"Gardening with ecology in mind" - https://bit.ly/FallEcology_Tallamy



The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities.

If you feel you have been discriminated against by this department, contact the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Commissioner's Office, #1 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.

A portion of this publication was underwritten by the Forest Stewardship Program in cooperation with the Kentucky Division of Forestry.

TRIPLE TREE WEEK

OCTOBER 8-16, 2022

It's Tree Week!

Celebrate Tree Week 2022 with UK Forestry & Natural Resources Extension for these virtual events via Zoom:

Monday, Oct. 10	12pm ET 2pm ET	How Not to Kill a Tree The Fabulous World of Fungi!
Tuesday, Oct. 11	12pm ET	Identifying Kentucky's Trees
Wednesday, Oct. 12	11am ET	Why are Urban Trees Important?
Thursday, Oct. 13	9am ET 12pm ET	Small Trees for Small Spaces The Kentucky Maple Syrup Project
Friday, Oct. 14	1pm ET	Invasive Plants and Native Alternatives

Look for more local events happening in these counties:

Boyd, Christian, Davies, Fayette, Hardin, Jefferson, Madison, McCracken, Perry, Pulaski, Scott, Warren, and Woodford

UFI.CA.UKY.EDU/TREEWEEK

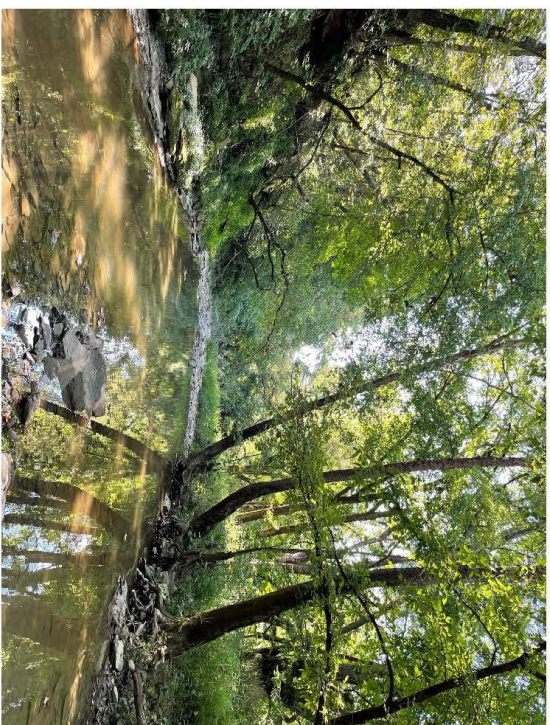
Pre-register at:

<https://uky.zoom.us/j/6166494914>

www.uky.edu/forestry



College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Forestry and Natural Resources Extension



FOREST STEWARDSHIP FIELD DAY

FRIDAY OCTOBER 14, 2022 10AM-2PM

Crooked Creek Farm, Bullitt Co, KY
869 Pioneer Dr., Lebanon Junction, KY

(27 miles south of Louisville, 3.5 miles west of Bernheim Forest)

Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/zKBDqdhddaNCVN8gg6>

Register online at

<https://forms.gle/VYCo26qPCGOMJTFGg> or contact
Amanda Gumbert @ amanda.gumbert@uky.edu

Registration is FREE but required.

Lunch provided

Field Day Topics

- Forest harvesting BMPs to protect soil and water
- Forested stream buffers for water quality protection
- Stream habitat assessment and water quality monitoring
- Historic impact of iron furnaces on KY forest stands

Partners: Greg Kuhns (landowner), Larry and Larry Kitterman, UK Cooperative Extension, KY Woodland Owners Association, KY Division of Forestry, Salt River Watershed Watch



College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service



Kentucky
Woodland
Owners
Association

*This project funded in part by a grant from the U.S. EPA under cooperative agreement
MX-00D87719 and \$390k of the Clean Water Act.*

Bullitt County Events

Beginning Farmer Class Series - Spencer County and Bullitt County will be working together this fall to bring a three-part class series for beginning farmers of all ages. Part Two will cover the basics of farm and garden marketing. Spend time with marketing experts in a conversational style class with other beginners. See Page 4 for more information or RSVP online: <https://bit.ly/BeginningFarmerClass22>
Thur. Oct 27, 2022 – 6:00 PM – Bullitt County Cooperative Extension, 384 Halls Lane, Shepherdsville, KY



Scan this code with your phone's camera to access this list of events online!

Backyard Maple Tapping Demonstration and Workshop - Are you ready to have fun in the forest? We will be hosting a maple tapping class at the Bullitt County Cooperative Extension Office. We will discuss tapping sugar maples, red maples, (see leaves above), box elders, and even black walnuts. The class will cost \$10 per person and each registrant will take home one tap, tube, and bucket to use at home this winter. RSVP at <https://bit.ly/BC-Maple2022> or call our front office to RSVP with Julie or Chloe at 502-543-2257.
Thurs. Nov 3, 2022 – 5:30 PM-8:00 PM – Bullitt County Extension, 384 Halls Lane, Shepherdsville, KY

Private Applicators' License Renewal - Are you spraying restricted-use pesticides? Is your private applicator's license up-to-date? Come renew your license before the Cattlemen's Meeting in November!
Tues. Nov 8, 2022 – 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Bullitt County Extension, 384 Halls Lane, Shepherdsville, KY

BC Cattlemen's Association Monthly Meeting - Join local beef producers every second Tuesday of the month to learn new techniques in herd management and earn educational credits to meet KY Ag Development Fund and Beef Quality and Care Assurance requirements. No October Meeting
Tues. Nov 8, 2022 – 7:00 PM - Bullitt County Extension, 384 Halls Lane, Shepherdsville, KY

Regional and Online Events

Kentucky Tree Week – The University of Kentucky's fifth annual Tree Week is Oct. 8-16. The event gives citizens a chance to learn about and appreciate the state's green spaces. People of all ages may participate in various activities, including tree plantings, tours and hikes, tree walks, educational programs, art, yoga and more. See Page 12 or online for more details: <https://bit.ly/2022TreeWeek>
October 8-16, 2022 – Statewide, KY

Wilderness Louisville Forest Adventure Campout - Join Jefferson Memorial Forest staff for a family-friendly fall exploration and campout at the Forest. Afternoon activities include archery, climbing wall, guided hikes, pumpkin decorating, hay rides, and nature play. Nighttime activities include spooky hike, stargazing, and s'mores by the bonfire. Program meets in the Horine Reservation. FEE for camping: \$25 platform tent or \$15 field, festival-style camping. All ages. A parent/legal guardian must accompany anyone under the age of 18. Space is limited for camping. Reserve your spot today by calling 502-368-5404.
Sat. Oct 15 – 2:00 PM-8:00 PM - Environmental Education Center 12400 Holsclaw Hill Rd, Fairdale, KY

Third Thursday Thing: Small Ruminants - Join Kentucky State for the Third Thursday Thing sustainable agriculture workshop. October's topic is Small Ruminants. Visit the farm to listen to seminars, network with other producers, and meet experts. Register online: <https://bit.ly/KSU-Events>
Thurs. Oct 20, 2022 - 10:00 AM – H.R. Benson Research & Demo Farm, 1525 Mills Lane, Frankfort KY

Beef Bash 2022 – This event highlights resiliency and rebuilding from the 2021 tornado. Still recovering from the December 2021 tornadoes, Beef Bash 2022 will take place at the University of Kentucky Research and Education Center in Princeton.
Thurs. Oct 20, 2022 - 8:30 AM CT – UK Research and Education Center, 348 University Dr, Princeton, KY

Fall Grazing Conferences: Profitable Grazing Systems from the Soil Up - Livestock producers have two opportunities this fall to learn more about profitable grazing systems. KFGC and the UK Master Grazer Program will offer the Kentucky Fall Grazing Conference Oct. 26 in Leitchfield and Oct. 27 in Winchester. Read more on Page 6. Register online: <https://bit.ly/GrazingLeitchfield> or <https://bit.ly/GrazingWinchester>
Oct 26 & 27, 2022 – Leitchfield and Winchester, KY

Making Your Own Feed – Small and Backyard Flocks Extension Webinar
Tues. Nov 1, 2022 – 3:00 PM – ONLINE: <https://bit.ly/PoultryExtEvents>

2022 Kentucky Fencing Schools - This fall, the University of Kentucky will host two regional fencing schools to help livestock producers learn about the newest and most sound techniques to build fences. The schools are Nov. 1 at the Marion County Cooperative Extension Office in Lebanon and Nov. 3 at the Clay County Cooperative Extension office in Manchester. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. EDT. Classes

Regional and Online Events

throughout the day include fencing construction basics, fencing types, costs, fencing laws and more. More information: <https://bit.ly/KyFencing2022>

Nov 1 & 3, 2022 – Marion County and Clay County, KY

Missouri Forage & Grassland Council Annual Forage/Heart of America Grazing Conference – More information online: <https://bit.ly/22MFGC>

Nov 2 & 3, 2022 – Springfield, MO

North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE) - The NAILE is the largest all-breed, purebred livestock event in the world, with 10 divisions and nearly 30000 entries from 48 states. Attend one of the many shows, support Bullitt County Exhibitors, or go to the Rodeo! <https://bit.ly/NAILE-Louisville>

Nov 3-17, 2022 – Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, KY

University of Kentucky Forestry 2022 Virtual Maple School - The School allows for maple syrup producers to learn about current topics in maple production and allows producers to network and share ideas. If you can't make it to class in person, be sure to register to join the Department of Forestry online. Pre-registration is required. <https://bit.ly/UKY-2022FallMapleSchool>

Sat. Nov 5, 2022 – 9:00 AM-12:00 PM – ONLINE

Wilderness Louisville Event - Gnomes & Trolls - Enter a magical, hidden world in the Forest, where creatures of the imagination live. Be on the look-out for our Forest Troll, guarding a bridge along the trail. Perhaps he will let us pass if you offer him many of the edible foods in the Forest. While in the woods, you build shelters of sticks and leaves and enjoy a woodland treat around a campfire. Program meets in the Horine Reservation's Environmental Education Center. FEE: \$10/person Ages 4 and older. A parent/legal guardian must accompany anyone under the age of 18. Preregistration required by calling 502-368-5404 or register online here: <https://bit.ly/WildLouEvents>

Sat. Nov 5, 2022 - 10:00 AM-12:00 PM - Environmental Ed Center 12400 Holsclaw Hill Rd, Fairdale, KY

Heirs Property Rights Workshop - Kentucky State University's Community Resource Development team presents Heirs Property Rights Workshop. Learn how to: protect your family property, clear clouded titles, apply for farm numbers, sign up to create last will and testament, apply for USDA Heirs Property Relending Program, and petition state legislators to pass the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act. Register online: <https://bit.ly/KSU-Events>

Sat. Nov 5, 2022 - 10:00 AM-12:30 PM - KSU Extension Building, 400 East Main Street, Frankfort, KY

Bernheim's Colorfest - Fall beauty is on full display at Bernheim's ColorFest held annually in November. The colorful autumn landscape provides the backdrop for a weekend full of fun, family-friendly activities including the pumpkin launch, hay maze, mud pies, and hayrides. Visitors also can enjoy live music, hands-on nature activities, local foods, and Kentucky arts and craft vendors. Register online: <https://bit.ly/BernheimForest>

Nov 5-6, 2022 – Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, Clermont, KY

Estate Planning 101 - Kentucky State University's Community Resource Development team presents Estate Planning 101. Don't put it off another day, protect your loved ones and make sure your final wishes are followed. During this workshop learn how to create a will, the difference between a will and a trust, and how to avoid probate expenses. Register online: <https://bit.ly/KSU-Events>

Sat. Nov 12, 2022 10:00 AM-12:30 PM - KSU Extension Building, 400 East Main Street, Frankfort, KY

Kentucky Small, Limited-Resource, Minority Farmers Conference - This year's theme is "Plowing and Planting: New Strategies for the New Norm." The conference provides a forum for underserved farmers to interact with USDA, state, research, Extension, and other professionals, to learn about their programs and opportunities and how to assess these programs and opportunities. The conference provides an opportunity for farmers across Kentucky to meet each other and to network across the state. Because of this, the conference has become the largest gathering of African American farmers in Kentucky. The third purpose is to provide education and opportunities to network with KSU employees. Register online: <https://bit.ly/KSU-Events>. \$100+

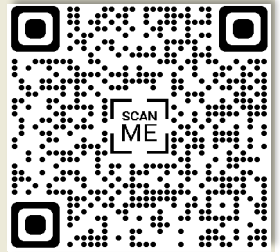
Tue. Nov 15, 2022, 12:00 PM-5:00 PM - Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY

Soil Conservation Annual Conservation Writing and Jim Claypool Art Contest - Each year the contest educates students on one of the following topics: soil, water, forestry or wildlife conservation. Students may take the knowledge that they have gained from the study guide for the current year and turn it into artwork for grades 1-5 or a writing essay for grades 6-12. Entries are judged with prize money for the winners at the school, county, and state levels. Teachers are eligible for an award, also. The theme for the 2022 contest is soil. Read more here: <https://www.bullittcountysoilconservation.com/art-writing-contest.html>. The deadline for entries will be November 18, 2022.

Fall Festivities - Visit a pumpkin patch, trunk-or-treat, or fall festival! Check out Bullitt County Events at <https://bit.ly/VisitBullitt>

Update Your Contact Information

Help us help you! Please fill out the contact information and check as many boxes for topics that you are interested in!



[Scan or click here to fill out online!](#)

Your First Name: _____ Your Last Name: _____

Your Spouse/Partner's First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Business/Farm Name: _____

Street: _____ Apartment/Unit Number: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address(es): _____

Preferred Phone Number: _____ Alternate Phone Number: _____

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture - General | <input type="checkbox"/> Wine/Vineyards | <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical Handling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources - General | <input type="checkbox"/> Forage Crops/Pasture | <input type="checkbox"/> Beginning Farmer/Landowner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chickens and Other Poultry | <input type="checkbox"/> Hemp | <input type="checkbox"/> Young Farmer/Landowner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goats | <input type="checkbox"/> Aquaculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Minority Farmer/Landowner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydroponics | <input type="checkbox"/> Women in Ag Farmer/Landowner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbits | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Production | <input type="checkbox"/> Farm Diversification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swine | <input type="checkbox"/> High Tunnel Production | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Resources for Youth/Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equine | <input type="checkbox"/> Flowers and Landscape Plants | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources/Conservation Resources for Youth/Children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beef | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut Flowers | <input type="checkbox"/> Waterway Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy | <input type="checkbox"/> Composting | <input type="checkbox"/> Master Naturalist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beekeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Products/Forest Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior Master Naturalist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Small Animals | <input type="checkbox"/> Maple Syrup | <input type="checkbox"/> Master Gardener |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grains/Soybeans/Commodities | <input type="checkbox"/> Birding/Birdwatching | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco Production | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Recursos en Español |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farmers Markets | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife/Habitat Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources in another language (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit/Vegetables | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting/Fishing/Cooking w/game | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Pollinators | |

Interests (Check all that apply):

Are there any other topics you would like to learn more about? We will be happy to follow up with you about anything written here.

Fill out and bring this page to our office or place in a stamped envelope and mail to:
Nathan Rider, Bullitt County Extension Office, 384 Halls Lane, Shepherdsville, KY 40165
Then stop by the office to pick up your FREE VEGETABLE SEEDS!



**BULLITT
COUNTY**
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**AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES**



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@BullittCountyAg

Nathan.Rider@uky.edu

502-543-2257



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Cooperative Extension Service

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University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
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Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Read this newsletter and
more online at:

[https://bit.ly/BC-ANR-
Newsletters](https://bit.ly/BC-ANR-Newsletters)



**Bullitt County Agriculture
and Natural Resources
October Newsletter 2022**