

AUGUST 2025

Agriculture & Natural Resources Events

Magoffin County
15 Rockhouse Fork Rd
Salyersville, KY 41465
(606) 349-1236
magoffin.ca.uky.edu

A Message From Your ANR Agent:

Summer's in full swing, and so is the growing season!

As gardens and fields start bursting with fresh produce, now's the perfect time to pick, preserve, and enjoy the fruits of your labor. Remember to harvest early in the morning for peak flavor, keep your tools clean to prevent disease spread, and don't forget to share those extra zucchinis with a neighbor.

While you're soaking up the sunshine, stay tuned—**Livestock Club dates are just around the corner**, and we can't wait to get things moo-ving again with our young ag enthusiasts.

Join us for Customer Appreciation Day at the Farmers Market on August 22 from 3–6 PM! We'll have local goodies, friendly faces, and a whole lot of gratitude for the folks who help our ag community thrive. Come say hi, grab a treat, and let us thank you for your support!

Follow us on Facebook or check out our website at <https://magoffin.ca.uky.edu> for more information about up coming events.



Kristen Stumbo

Kristen Stumbo
County Extension Agent for
Agriculture & Natural Resources
and 4-H Youth Development

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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 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
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Ten or more farmed or forested acres in Kentucky? Summer is a good time to update your agriculture water quality plan

Source: Amanda Gumbert, UK water quality extension specialist

The Agriculture Water Quality Act was passed by the Kentucky Legislature in 1994, mandating that landowners with 10 or more acres in agricultural production must develop a water quality plan. Ten or more acres of crops, livestock or trees that will be harvested qualify for a plan and implementation by law.

This plan documents the best management practices you're using to protect water resources. These best management practices could include planned grazing systems, rotational grazing for livestock, filter or buffer strips around crop fields, animal waste manure storage structures and nutrient management plans. It should also include plans to limit livestock access to streams. Additionally, the document should include information on the proper handling of herbicides and pesticides, as well as the maintenance of septic systems.

To implement a water quality plan, first look at the activities in your operation. You can use a web-based planning tool (<https://soilandwater.ca.uky.edu/awq>) to answer questions about the operation. By answering these questions, you can identify the appropriate best management practices needed. Then, you document that these practices are being used and properly maintained.

In many cases, proper practices are already in place, and creating an agriculture water quality plan provides a document stating that you are following proper procedures to protect the water quality on your farm.

However, keep in mind that an agriculture water quality plan is not a voluntary document; it is a mandatory document required by the Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act. Periodically review and update your plans to reflect changes in farming and forestry practices or land ownership. Additionally, a water quality plan is required by the local Soil and Water Conservation District if you plan to apply for state cost-share programs.

By implementing an agriculture water quality plan, you help protect both surface and groundwater from agricultural contaminants. Keeping the state's water resources clean protects human and animal health and reduces the cost of treating drinking water.

For more information on the Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act, please contact the Magoffin County Cooperative Extension Service.

Related resources:

Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act and Planning -
<https://soilandwater.ca.uky.edu/awq>

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The University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment news and communications team provides monthly Extension Exclusives in the categories of Horticulture, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 4-H and Family & Consumer Sciences. To see more exclusives, visit <https://exclusives.ca.uky.edu>.

Water wisely this summer

Source: Rick Durham, horticulture extension professor

Kentucky summers can feel like living inside a greenhouse — high heat, thick air and the occasional thunderstorm that somehow misses your yard entirely. When the thermometer sticks in the 90s with little rain, plants need help. The trick is watering smart, not nonstop. Watering your yard in the early morning lets water sink in while the sun's still low, so less of it evaporates into thin air. Lawns built on tall fescue or Kentucky bluegrass want roughly an inch to an inch and a half of moisture each week. Pay attention to color and timing: when blades turn a tired gray-green, your footprints linger a bit too long or it hasn't rained in a week or so, it's time to run the sprinklers. Remember that watering thoroughly as opposed to frequently will promote deep root systems that help grass withstand dry periods.

Trees and shrubs run on a different clock. New saplings crave approximately 10 gallons of water weekly for each inch of trunk thickness. It may even help to build a small berm or raised area that surrounds newly planted trees to concentrate applied water around the root zone where it is needed most. Established woody plants settle for an inch of rain every week or so, and many native species can usually go two weeks without suffering harm. Stick a finger in the dirt — if those top two inches feel damp, hold off on watering. Roots that are too wet cause problems as well.

Veggies can be picky. Tomatoes, peppers, beans — once they decide to bloom and the fruit or pods bulk up — will wilt at the first hint of drought. Aim for an inch of water a week, but break it into two sessions if your soil drains fast. Drip lines or soaker hoses help keep leaves dry and disease at bay; if you're hand-watering, hit the soil, not the foliage, and do it early in the day. Also remove weeds and grass nearby that will compete with your food crops for moisture.

Soil texture matters. Bluegrass clay retains moisture like a sponge, so fewer, longer waterings are most effective. Sandy pockets in central or western parts of the state drain like a sieve, demanding shorter, more frequent pours. Either way, spread a three-inch mulch blanket — shredded bark, straw, even last fall's leaves. Mulch cuts surface evaporation, evens out soil temperature and prolongs soil moisture which saves you from constant hose duty. Keep mulch two to three inches from the base of plants to allow air movement and drying — prolonged moisture in these areas may promote disease.

It could also be very helpful to keep a rain gauge staked in the yard. When a summer storm dumps an inch, skip the next watering cycle and let nature foot the bill. And before cranking irrigation up during a dry stretch, glance at city notices. Some counties post watering advisories once reservoir levels start to look shallow.

Contact your local Magoffin County Extension office for more information on watering your plants.



Make your home garden thrive! The five benefits of plant diversity

Source: Rick Durham, University of Kentucky Department of Horticulture professor the Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

A home garden filled with a variety of plants is not just beautiful—it's smart! Having different types of plants growing together can help gardeners enjoy fresh food much of the year, help manage pests, promote pollinators and even improve the soil.

Let's explore why a diverse garden is a great idea.

Seasonal Harvests: Fresh Food for Much of the Year

One of the best reasons to plant a mix of vegetables, fruits and herbs is that different plants grow best in different seasons. Some plants, like lettuce and spinach, thrive in cool weather and can be harvested in spring and fall. Others, like tomatoes and peppers, love the heat and grow best in summer. By planting a variety of crops, gardeners can enjoy fresh food throughout the year instead of just one season.

Intercropping: Making the Most of Space

Intercropping involves planting different vegetables side by side to take advantage of the different times of maturity, heights, spread or rooting depths. A classic example of intercropping involves corn, beans and squash. A few weeks after sowing corn seeds, you plant pole beans close to the corn rows to use the corn stalks for support. The squash is a vining plant and will spread between the rows of corn and beans. As another example, you can set tomato transplants between lettuce plants; the lettuce matures and is harvested before the tomato plants grow very large.

Natural Disease and Pest Control: Creating Healthier Plants

A diverse garden can also help keep insect pests under control. When a garden has only one type of plant, insects that like that plant can quickly take over. But when there are many different plants, pests have a harder time finding their favorite food. Beneficial insects such as natural pest predators may be attracted to different plants in the garden.

Just like insects, plant diseases spread more easily when there is only one type of plant in a garden. If a disease attacks one plant, it can quickly spread to all the others of the same kind. But in a diverse garden, diseases have a harder time spreading because different plants have different levels of resistance. This helps keep the garden healthy and productive.

Gardeners should also consider rearranging the placement of similar plants from year to year to prevent insect and disease build-up in the soil.

More Pollinators: Helping Bees and Butterflies

A garden with many types of flowers and vegetables attracts helpful insects like bees and butterflies. These pollinators help plants produce fruit and seeds by spreading pollen from flower to flower. Without pollinators, many fruits and vegetables wouldn't grow well. By planting a mix of flowers and food plants, gardeners can support pollinators and enjoy bigger harvests.

Better Soil Health: Building Stronger Plants

Different plants use different nutrients from the soil. If a garden only has one type of plant, the soil can lose important nutrients quickly. However, when a variety of plants grow together, they help balance the nutrients they take from the soil. Some plants, like beans and peas, even add nitrogen back into the soil, making it healthier for future crops.

A home garden with a variety of plants is stronger, healthier and more productive. By planting different crops, gardeners can enjoy fresh food much of the year, reduce pests naturally, improve soil health, attract pollinators, and prevent diseases. Whether growing vegetables, herbs or flowers, diversity makes a garden better in every way.

So, next time you plan your garden, think about adding a mix of plants—it's a simple way to make your garden thrive!

Contact your local Magoffin County Extension office for more information on garden planning, crop rotation, and suggested vegetables to plant together.

Resource: ID-128: Home Vegetable Gardening in Kentucky

Hydroponics Workshop



At the Magoffin County Extension Office
August 26th at 5 pm

Call 606-349-1236 to register,
space is limited!

Participants will go home with their own
hydroponic kit!

Customer
Appreciation
Day
August 22nd

 Cooperative
Extension Service

Magoffin County Farmer's Market

Open Now through October

**OPEN
EVERY
TUESDAY &
FRIDAY**

3 PM– 6 PM

241 WEST MAPLE STREET
SALYERSVILLE, KY 41465

- ✓ FRESH PRODUCTS
- ✓ LOCALLY MADE CRAFTS
- ✓ LOCALLY GROWN PRODUCE



For more information call the
Magoffin County Extension
Office at
(606) 349-3216



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MAGOFFIN COUNTY HONEY BEE ASSOCIATION MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 25TH

 **6 PM**

 **MAGOFFIN COUNTY
EXTENSION OFFICE**
15 Rockhouse fork Road
Salyersville, KY 41465

 **Cooperative
Extension Service**



MEMBERS BRING DESSERT!

**PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE AT 606-349-1236
OR
VISIT OUR WEBSITE MAGOFFIN.CA.UKY.EDU
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LICKING RIVER CATTLE ASSOCIATION

Join us for the first L.R.C.A Meeting

Help shape the future of our local cattle community!

**We're gathering to discuss speaker ideas,
topics of interest, and more for the upcoming year.**

Your voice matters—come share it!



Date: August 21st



Location: Magoffin County Extension Office



Dues: \$15 per person | \$20 per family

Bring a neighbor and your ideas!

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Easy Peach Cobbler

½ cup whole wheat flour	1½ cups sugar (divided)	1 tablespoon lemon juice
½ cup all purpose flour	1 cup skim milk	
1½ teaspoons baking powder	½ cup unsalted butter	1 teaspoon ground nutmeg or cinnamon
1 pinch salt	4 cups fresh peeled peaches	

- 1. Preheat** the oven to 375° F. **Combine** the flour, baking powder, salt and $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar in a large mixing bowl. **Add** the milk and mix only until the dry ingredients are wet.
- 2. Melt** the butter and **pour** into a 13 x 9 inch baking dish or pan. **Add** the flour mixture on top of the butter. Do not stir.
- 3. In** a saucepan, **heat** the peaches, $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar and lemon juice until the sugar is dissolved and the peaches are coated. **Pour** evenly over the flour mixture. Do not stir. **Sprinkle** with nutmeg or cinnamon.
- 4. Bake** for 40 minutes or until crust is golden brown. **Remove** from oven and serve warm.

Yield: 12 servings.

Nutritional Analysis: : 190 calories, 8g fat, 5g saturated fat, 80 mg sodium, 20mg cholesterol, 32g carbohydrate, 1g fiber, 24g sugar, 2g protein.

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

