

Horticulture Happenings

Fall 2022

(st)

**Cooperative
Extension Service**
Warren County
5162 Russellville Road
Bowling Green, KY 42101
(270) 842-1681
<http://warren.ca.uky.edu>

Kristin's Corner

The reoccurring theme for this edition of the Fall Newsletter is TREES! After the storm damage received in December 2021 and January 2022, I wanted to include information on tree planting as well as tree care that homeowners could use for rebuilding the tree population in our community. To begin the tree journey, read pages 2 and 3 to get an overview on tree selection, tree location, planting, and tree care. An added bonus on page 3 shares a great resource for helping to identify Kentucky's Forest trees. Make sure to stop in at the Warren County Extension Office to pick up this free guide.

Bowling Green is participating in Tree Week (October 8th — October 16th) to celebrate trees and greenspaces around us with our friends, neighbors, and communities. To share in the celebration, the Horticulture Webinar Wednesdays program is offering tree inspired educational programs throughout the month of October. Turn to page 4 to see the classes offered and how to register for each!

Warren County Extension Master Gardeners are leading garden tours of their certified Monarch Waystation to the general public during tree week too! During this time, master gardeners will showcase their butterfly garden and share successes for attracting more pollinators to the garden. At the end of tours, interested participants will receive one free tree per family. Find garden tour dates and times listed on page 5 to see how to join in on the fun!

Read page 6 to find the fall garden checklist of other garden chores and activities to perform this season. Also at the bottom of page 6, read over the top 8 tips for planting trees this fall.

Lastly, the Warren County Extension Office is hosting a special program on Thursday, November 3rd to honor and celebrate our hard working farmers and their families. For more information about this event, check page 7.



Enjoy the harvest of the season with an apple spinach salad from the Plate it up! Kentucky Proud program! The recipe is included on the back page for your enjoyment.

Make sure to stay connected with horticulture news on Facebook, Instagram, and The Sunshine Gardening Podcast!

Happy Gardening!

Kristin G. Hildabrand

Kristin G. Hildabrand
Warren County Extension Agent
for Horticulture



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Trees are Made for Hugging

Written by Maggie Shelton, Warren County Extension Master Gardener

The severe storms this past winter took their toll on many of us, including our trees. Have you been thinking about replacing a beloved timber you lost or about adding trees to your landscape? Well, now is the best time to plant trees! A fall planting provides new trees time to focus on establishing their roots underground this winter and be ready to grow above ground when warm weather returns.

If you've made the decision to add a new tree, you've got a number of things to do to determine the best tree to plant in the best location to meet your need. Perhaps you want to shade your house or patio, get privacy from the road, or just add beauty to your yard. In any case, before you buy a tree and begin digging, make sure the purpose, the location, and the size of the tree all align. Also, check to see if your city or neighborhood has any restrictions that might limit what and where you can plant.

Selecting a Tree

- Identify how high and wide you want your tree to be able to grow as it matures so that you can pick the right tree and the right location and not be tempted to top off a tall tree. **TOPPING IS NOT HEALTHY FOR THE TREES!**
- Think seriously about selecting a native tree that will thrive in your growing region: USDA Hardiness Zone 6. Native trees will grow well and last. Non native plants can be invasive, cause a decline in native plants, and negatively impact wildlife habitats. Great news is that you've got lots of native trees to pick from! Explore videos on 69 trees native to Kentucky: https://forestry.ca.uky.edu/common_ky_trees
- Research your tree options to make sure they won't become a problem for you later on. For example, black walnut trees' roots, decaying leaves, and fruit exude a chemical that can kill many plants. Some trees, like Arborvitae, are like candy to the deer. **DON'T plant a Bradford Pear!** These trees have weak wood and a branching

pattern that cause their branches to break easily in the wind or from the weight of snow or ice. They also have flowers that smell like dead fish! By the way, the fruit of the female Ginkgo tree smells horrible, too!

Selecting the Location

- A common rule is to plant trees at least three feet from a sidewalk or road, 15 feet from any structure, and 25 feet away from power lines, though that may vary some depending on your tree's mature size.
- Plan ahead to give your tree the distance and space it will need as it reaches maturity so it doesn't rub against the house, block a walkway, grow into the powerlines, or shade other plants that need full sun.
- Identify your tree's needs so that you can plant it where it will thrive. For example, River Birch trees need consistently moist soil, Crepe Myrtles need good drainage, and Dogwoods do well in the partial shade of a larger tree or at least some shade during the hottest part of the day.

Planting

- Before you dig, call 811 or contact <http://kentucky811.org> to ensure there are no utilities underneath where you want to plant.
- Since Kentucky has a lot of rock in the soil, make sure you have enough soil and depth for your tree to spread its roots.



- Follow instructions on how to plant your tree. Instructions will be based on whether your new tree is in a pot, has its roots in a burlap ball, or has roots that are bare. Planting your tree correctly will give it the best chance at survival.
- Backfill the tree hole with the soil you removed when you dug the hole so that the roots can establish more quickly. Make sure you remove any rock or foreign debris.
- For additional information on planting, check out https://forestry.ca.uky.edu/sites/forestry.ca.uky.edu/files/forfs_17-08_planting_trees_inlandscapes.pdf and [Tree Care: The Planting Hole | Urban Forest Initiative \(uky.edu\)](https://www.ca.uky.edu/urbanforest/Tree_Care:_The_Planting_Hole_|_Urban_Forest_Initiative_(uky.edu))

Caring for Your Tree

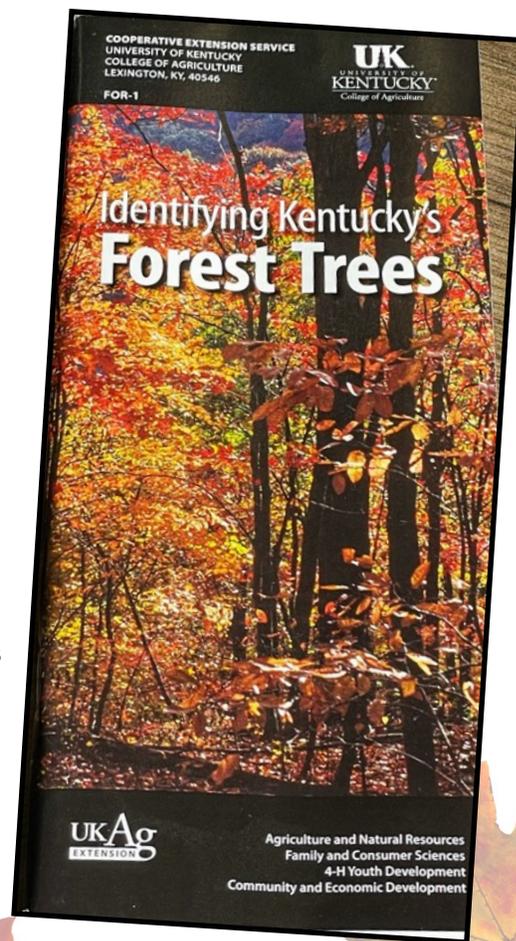
- After planting, spread mulch a few inches deep beneath the tree. Keep the mulch a few inches away from the trunk and keep the layer of mulch flat all the way to the tree line (as far as the branches spread). Make a little higher lip all the way around that outside edge of the mulch layer. This will help hold moisture in the soil, keep the roots cool, and stop the grass from growing near the tree and competing for nutrients. DON'T make a volcano of mulch close to the tree trunk. This does not help the tree and can even cause the tree to rot at the base of the trunk.
- Remember to water your tree once a week if it does not receive at least an inch from Mother Nature.
- Pruning can help you maintain the health of your tree. Check out this resource for instructions on why and how to prune and the right tools to use. <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/agcomm/pubs/ho/ho101/ho101.pdf>
- There is a lot information available from your local extension center and online at the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Department of Forestry and Natural Resources. www.forestry.ca.uky.edu.
- Good luck, and give your tree a hug!



Identifying Kentucky's Forest Trees

Trees in general are a very interesting point of discussion in our society. We find trees in our everyday life in literature, in art and in nature. All of us have a general knowledge and awareness of several tree species usually as a result of a tree growing close to our homes or places that we frequent. Few of us, unless we have a deep interest in the natural sciences, can identify more than a handful of trees. In Kentucky, we have over 120 naturally occurring species found in our woodlands and nearly fifty that are commercially important to the valuable wood industry that is found throughout our state.

To discover more about identifying the many species of Kentucky trees, stop by the Warren County Extension Office at 5162 Russellville Road to pick up this free resource! This guide would come in handy if putting together a leaf collection for school or if doing a tree identification nature walk this fall!





October Classes

12:30 p.m. ET/11:30 a.m. CT

October 5

Small Trees for Small Lots

October 12

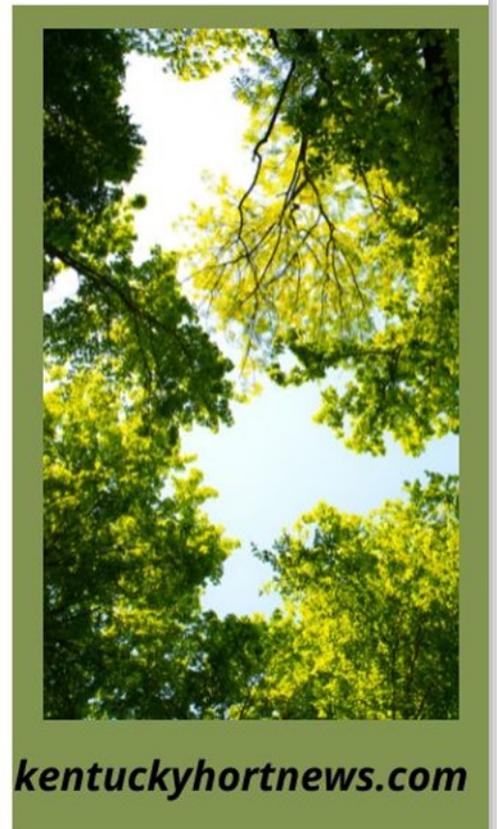
How to Help Your Trees Thrive

October 19

Tree Risk Assessment

October 26

Great Native Alternatives to Invasive Trees



Register here:

<https://tinyurl.com/22octHWW>

kentuckyhortnews.com



Kentucky Extension
Master Gardener

Warren Co. Extension Master Gardener Certified Monarch Waystation



Garden Tours:

Tuesday, October 11th (3 - 5 PM)

Thursday, October 13th (12 Noon - 2 PM)

Friday, October 14th (11 AM - 12:30 PM)

**At the end of the tour, one free tree per family
will be distributed along with the
Bowling Green Tree Week Celebration.**



**Warren County Extension Office
5162 Russellville Road
Bowling Green, KY 42101**



College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service



***To register, please contact the WCEO at (270) 842-1681
to secure your tour date and time or by using the QR code.***

Fall Garden Checklist

October

- Fall is a good time for planting perennial flowers. Make sure that plants can be grown in Zone 6 which grows best in Kentucky. Contact your Extension Office for recommendations on the best perennial flowers for sunny and shady conditions.
- Divide perennial plants that bloom in late spring and summer. Apply 2 inches of fresh mulch around newly plants to help keep soil moist and to keep the soil from drying out.
- Purchase spring blooming bulbs early to guarantee the best quality and selection. Store them in a cool location until the ground is ready for planting. Prepare the soil and plant spring-blooming bulbs in October to November
- Fertilize cool season grass lawns in October and November. To know how much nitrogen and fertilizer to apply, make sure to conduct a soil test.
- Plant trees and shrubs in the home landscape. Refer to the graphic below for the top 8 tips for planting trees.
- As temperatures begin to cool, plants require less water. Make sure to adjust your watering routines for the lawn and the landscape.
- Plant garlic in the Kentucky vegetable garden.

- Apply a pre-emergent herbicide to help control winter annual weeds in the landscape or garden beds. This herbicide prevents weed seeds from germinating which means less weeding in the spring.
- When the first fall frost is announced, make sure to harvest the last tomatoes of the season in the garden or pick them green to further ripen indoors.
- If you had houseplants outside, bring them indoors before night temperatures dip into the 50's.

Late October/November

- Clean up garden beds. Clean up any dried leaves, stems and twigs around the garden. Avoid using the compost pile if you suspect plant disease.
- Rake up and compost leaves into a compost pile. Turn and add water to the compost pile to start the composting process.
- Apply 2 inches of mulch around existing perennial plants to keep them from heaving in and out of the soil during winter.
- Perform the last mowing of the season when grasses begin to slow their growth and do any end-of-the-season maintenance that is needed.
- Empty the garden hose and store it away during the cold winter months.

1 Select a planting site away from overhead power lines and underground utilities. Call 811 before you dig. Think about the mature size of your tree and allow space.

2 Dig your planting hole 2 to 3 times wider than the tree's rootball but only as deep as the rootball. The planting hole should be saucer-shaped.

3 Gently remove the tree from the container and loosen the rootball.

4 Place the tree in the planting hole. Make sure it is upright and straight and that the rootball is 1 to 2 inches above the soil line.

5 Fill the planting hole with the same soil you dug out. Gently tamp down the soil or water the soil to remove air pockets.

6 For taller trees, you may need to tie the tree to a bamboo stake or tobacco stick for the first season.

7 Add 3-4 inches of mulch around the tree to help moderate soil temperatures and moisture.

8 Continue watering your tree, even in winter, if we are not receiving rainfall and the ground is not frozen. One inch of water per week is the goal. Continue watering for 1 or 2 seasons.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

Trees Provided By
Highlandbrook NURSERY LLC

CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG
SAFE DIGGING PRACTICES

WATCH OUR TREE PLANTING VIDEO FOR MORE TIPS



College of Agriculture,
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Cooperative Extension Service

HARVEST

Festival

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD

WARREN COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
5162 RUSSELLVILLE RD BOWLING GREEN, KY 42101

ACTIVITIES BEGIN AT 5:00PM, MEAL AT 6:00PM

RSVP by October 27th to the Warren County Extension Office at
(270) 842-1681

*Join us for a farm family celebration of harvest, health
and community! Free health screenings and activities for
the entire family!*



Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Kristie Guffey,
Assistant Professor
of Agriculture Science at
Murray State University

HARVEST | HEALTH | COMMUNITY

Apple Spinach Salad



Ingredients:

- 1 (10-ounce) bag baby spinach
- 1 large apple, diced
- 1/2 small red onion, thinly sliced
- 2 medium carrots, shredded
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries

Dressing:

- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon honey
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions: Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds. Gently scrub apple, red onion, and carrots with a clean vegetable brush under cool running water before preparing them. Add all salad ingredients to a large bowl. Add all dressing ingredients to a small jar with a lid. Shake well to combine. Pour the dressing over the salad and toss well to combine. Serve immediately, and store leftovers in the refrigerator within 2 hours.

Yield: 6 servings

Nutritional Analysis: 250 calories, 19g fat, 2g sat fat, 2g protein, 20g carbohydrate, 0mg cholesterol, 110 mg sodium, 4g fiber, 13g total sugar, 4% daily value of calcium and potassium, 10% daily value of iron



Looking for more fall gardening information? Don't forget to check out The Sunshine Gardening Podcast available wherever you get your podcasts!

- Episode 16- Caring for Fall Mums in the Garden**
- Episode 17- Emerald Ash Borer Damage**
- Episode 18- Tips for the Best Pumpkin**
- Episode 19- Planting Peonies in the Garden**
- Episode 20- Clean Up Garden Now for a More Productive Garden Next Spring**

Catch "Get the Scoop" for advice and tips on gardening

Tune in each weekday morning at 5:00am for "Get the Scoop" on Goober 95.1 FM.

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