Elberton 12-County Fair

The Elberton 12-County Fair is right around the corner! This year’s fair will be held October 12-21.

In addition to traditional opportunities, two pumpkin classes will be added to the line-up this year! One class will be for the largest pumpkin grown and the other will be a painted pumpkin contest. This is a great opportunity to get your family involved with the Elberton 12-County Fair.

Don’t forget you can enter rabbits, swine, goats, lambs and cattle for exhibition in the 4-H Barn too!

Look for more information coming on animal shows during the week. The annual Scarecrow Contest will be returning this year as well; individuals or businesses are welcome to participate. Start making your plans now for 10 fun-filled days with Elbert County 4-H and the Elberton 12-County Fair!

Winter Weed Control in Forage Systems

Join us at our next Cattlemen’s Meeting September 11th at 7:00pm taking place at the Elbert County Extension Office. Clay Williams with Dow Chemical will be the presenter. Earn 1 credit hour for Pesticide License in Category 21 and 10. There is a $10 charge at the door for the meal of non-members.

Please RSVP to Patrick Marcellino at the Elbert County Extension Office 706-283-2037

A USDA Rural Health & Safety Education Grant is Sponsoring

Cancer Prevention Cooking Schools in Elbert County.

The cooking school is called Cooking for a Lifetime or C4L:

* Each cooking school is 2-3 hours long
* Open to males & females age 21 & older
* Need 10-25 attendees to make a class
* Cookbooks, Door Prizes & Recipe Tasting

Call Christa Campbell at 706-283-2037 to schedule a free cancer prevention cooking school with your local group or church!
What are those spider webs in the trees? Will they kill the tree? Why are they so prolific this year? These are some questions that I have been receiving quite often these days. I too have noticed an abundance of webs this fall. They are actually not spiders. They are the Fall Webworm. We actually have them every year. However, for some reason they seem to flourish about every ten years. Is this one of those ten? It’s hard to say, but they do seem to be much more prolific this year than any that I have ever seen.

Fall webworms are leaf eating caterpillars that don’t seriously hurt the tree. They tend to be especially prolific in wild cherry trees. But, they can be found in up to 100 different species of deciduous trees from oaks to pecans to maples and apples trees too. I have seen them especially dense in sourwoods this year.

The newly hatched larvae spin a web over the foliage on which they feed for protection against predators. On heavily infested trees, webs may be found on several branches. The webs they build in the trees stay around long after the worms leave.

The best control method is to cut the web out of the tree, with the worms in it, and destroy it. Several chemicals will control webworms but may not be practical due to problems related to applications in larger trees. If you do spray to control the caterpillars, it is best to get good coverage, spraying the insecticide inside the webs to kill the pests. Knocking holes in the web also exposes them to predators like birds. However, this is not always practical and I do not recommend trying to reach these bugs by using a ladder.

A bacterial insecticide like Bt (Bacillus thuringiensis) is quite effective against fall webworms. Apply it to the nest and thoroughly cover leaves next to the nest. When worms eat the sprayed leaves, they ingest the Bt and should perish.

Do not confuse these with Bagworms which can be very harmful to evergreens. They construct and live inside a 1- to 2-inch long tough, tear-shaped portable silken case. These bags are the insects most easily seen and identifiable feature. Outside, the silken texture of the bag is somewhat concealed with layers of leaf, twig and bark fragments. The bag has an opening at the larger end that allows the worm to partially crawl out to make repairs to its bag and eat. Bagworms can be particularly difficult to control. Systemic insecticides applied early in the spring may prove helpful. If you can physically, and safely, remove the “bags”, burn them or place them in a plastic bag to be discarded.

For further information regarding these pests, or any other issue, please do not hesitate to call the Elbert County Extension office at 706-283-2037.
This September – Pledge to Prepare Safe and Healthy Family Meals
By Christa Campbell, Elbert County FACS Agent

Multiple studies show that home-cooked meals nourish the spirit, brain and health of all family members. Preparing healthy and safe meals at home is made easy with new resources from the non-profit Partnership for Food Safety Education and the Food Marketing Institute Foundation brought to you by UGA EXTENSION - Elbert County.

To mark September, which is both National Food Safety Education Month and National Family Meals Month™, the Partnership for Food Safety Education has released four easy recipes that include food safety instructions and will support families in preparing family meals at home. Recipes for Rosemary Turkey Meatloaf; Roasted Garlic Cauliflower; Maple Syrup Pork Chops; and Tex-Mex Potato Skins can be found at fightbac.org. Each recipe includes food safety instructions built right in. Other resources at fightbac.org can get you started with family meal planning and with modeling for all family members important safe food handling and preparation behaviors.

According to the Food Marketing Institute Foundation, there are many benefits to families in making and sharing meals at home:

- The more meals families share, the better their nutrition.
- Kids and teens who eat meals with their families 4+ times per week earn better test scores and succeed in school.
- Frequent family meals increase self-esteem, sense of wellbeing, positive social behaviors and stronger family connections.
- The more families share meals the less likely their kids are to drink alcohol, smoke or use marijuana.

Elbert County Extension urges families in Elbert County to pledge to prepare one additional family meal per week. Programming is available to groups who are interested in learning more about planning safe and healthy meals. UGA Cooperative Extension Family and Consumer Sciences provides research-based information you can trust on money, home, health, food and family. Please contact Christa Campbell at 706-283-2037 or via email at christaa@uga.edu if you have questions or would like to schedule a program for a local group.

For more information on National Family Meals Month™ and research on the benefits of family meals go to https://www.nationalfamilymealsmonth.org/.
4-H & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Cloverleaf Dance
September 15th
6:00 - 8:00pm

“Challenge Bowl”
Challenge Bowl Teams will be practicing every Wednesday and Friday after school till 5:00pm. Preparing for their upcoming competition October 15th.

“Community Service Project”
4-H is collecting items for Elbert Life Pregnancy Center. The following items are need: Wipes, Formula, baby food, diapers sizes 1-4, lotion, baby shampoo.

“Archery Sign-Ups”
at the IV Hulme 4-H Center
(10 Cloverleaf Drive)
Sept. 17th from 2:00-4:00pm

“Archery”

“Become a 4-H Volunteer! “
Do you want to make a difference in your community? Become a 4-H Volunteer! Volunteers throughout Georgia support our mission of assisting youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing citizens. From serving as a chaperone at 4-H Summer Camp to leading a special interest team, 4-H offers a variety of opportunities for volunteer service in youth development programming. We hope you’ll find your niche with us and share your time and talents in building our next generation of leaders! For more information, call 706-283-2037, email lmdye@uga.edu or stop by the 4-H Office.

“Volunteer Supper”
September 12th  from 6 to 8 pm

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1088 Ruckersville Rd.
Elberton, GA 30635

Phone: 706-283-2037
Fax: 762-388-8593

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm
Closed 12:00pm-1:00pm

Visit our website at:
www.ugaextension.org/elbert

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UGA Extension - Elbert County

Elbert County Extension Newsletter
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