



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
EXTENSION

**Follow us on
Facebook**

February 2024

<https://extension.uga.edu>

*An Equal Opportunity, Affirmative
Action, Veteran, Disability Institution*

University of Georgia Cooperative
Extension DeKalb County Office

Growing Indoor Plants with Success

Much of the scenic beauty of nature has been replaced by densely populated areas that sprawl for miles from urban centers. This visual pollution affects us all and leaves us with a longing for a closer connection with nature. We spend about 90 percent of our time indoors. Interior plants are an ideal way to create attractive and restful settings while enhancing our sense of well being. In addition, houseplants can be a satisfying hobby and can help purify the air in our homes. Indoor plants not only convert carbon dioxide to oxygen, but they also trap and absorb many pollutants. Many of these chemical compounds, which are released into our air through a process called “off-gassing,” come from everyday items present in our homes and offices.

To be a successful indoor gardener, you need to understand how the interior environment affects plant growth and how cultivation differs from growing plants outdoors.




SMALL FARM BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

You don't want to miss!

 Fri, March 15 & Sat, March 16, 2024

 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

 **UGA Griffin campus**
1109 Experiment St,
Griffin, GA 30223

To register scan the
QR code or visit
<https://08pku52v5q7.typeform.com/to/lonVncNH>

CONTACT US

 662-426-6879

 inershoesinc.org



Department of Horticulture
College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



United States Department of Agriculture

SMALL FARM BUSINESS TRAINING CONFERENCE

Time

Presenter

Friday, March 15, 2024

Room 104

| | |
|----------|--|
| 9:00 am | Welcome Dr. Bodie Pennisi, UGA |
| 9:15 am | Poultry Production Technical Analysis Dr. Brian Fairchild, UGA |
| 10:15 am | High Tunnel Production Andrew Ogden, UGA |
| 11:15 am | USDA Programs Overview USDA Representative |
| 1:15 pm | Marketing Analysis Vanessa Shonkwiler, UGA |
| 2:15 pm | Sustainable Organic Farming Practice Jessica Kelton, Soil Health Institute |
| 3:15 pm | Greenhouse IPM and Scouting Dr. Erich Schoeller, UGA |

Room 115

| | |
|----------|--|
| 9:15 am | Forming a Farmers' Co-Op LA Simon, GA Cooperative Consulting |
| 10:15 am | Market Research Vanessa Shonkwiler, UGA |
| 11:15 am | Organic Grape Production Dr. Sarah Lowder, UGA |
| 1:15 pm | Mushrooms- Hands-On David Berle, UGA |
| 2:15 pm | Pricing Raised Beds Production (hands-on) Bob Westerfield, UGA |
| 3:15 pm | Building Small Farm Business Credit Todd Anduze, UGA SBDC |

Room 116

| | |
|----------|---|
| 10:15 am | USDA Programs Overview USDA Representative |
| 11:15 am | Organic Approaches to Small Scale Farming Dr. Timothy Coolong, UGA |
| 1:15 pm | Identifying and Reaching Your Target Audience Todd Anduze, UGA SBDC |
| 2:15 pm | Pricing Dr. Ben Campbell, UGA |

Saturday, March 16, 2024

Room 104

9:15 am Beekeeping Dan Long, Master Beekeeper 10:15 am Better Yields Conservation of Bees and Insects Dr. Jason Schmidt, UGA 11:15 am Crop Insurance for Small Farm Businesses Dr. Ford Ramsey ,UGA 12:15 pm Lunch/Networking

1:15 pm Organic Soil Supplement Practices Erdeen Britt, MCSG 2:15 pm Transitioning to Two Cropping Farm Plan Robert Chappelle, MCSG

3:15 pm Closing/Adjourn



It's a new year, and it's time to mix it up! This year, UGA SNAP-Ed's Recipe Calendar theme is "Mix it up with color and flavor to fill your day!" Each month, the calendar will feature a new recipe with suggestions of ingredients to spice up your recipes with different flavors and nutrients.



January was National Soup Month, so we are featuring Minestrone Soup. Minestrone soup originated in Italy as a dish to reduce food waste and use leftovers. In fact, there is no exact recipe for Minestrone soup because Italians would use what they have on hand to make it. The best part about Minestrone Soup is that you can add or take out an ingredient depending on what's in your pantry or your budget. With beans and veggies being the star of this recipe, this makes it the perfect easy, cheap, nutritious soup to kick start your year.



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
EXTENSION

February 2024
<https://extension.uga.edu>

What's New?

DeKalb County ANR now has a blog! [Check it out!](#)



Georgia Native Plant Society Annual Symposium

We are excited to announce our 29th GNPS Native Plant Annual Symposium theme: DIY Native Habitats – Building Your Stewardship Toolkit. Our suite of talks will focus on getting the right plants into your garden to support your local ecosystem. This includes guidance on how to research them, how to identify what you already have, understanding your plant community, and considerations for local habitat restoration.

Our speakers will help you build a toolkit of purposeful choices and tools that help you at home, in designed landscapes, and when restoring habitat in the wild. Researching appropriate native plants and choosing to incorporate a major of native plants in our properties and projects makes a difference to the other inhabitants of our ecosystems: birds, butterflies, and bees. Our purposeful selection of plants makes a difference to these creatures.

The 2024 Symposium is virtual. We are happy to partner with Birds Georgia to present this program. Presentations are spread across two days and each session will be recorded for future playback.

[Click here to read more about each speaker and the event.](#)



Gardening Calendar

February

- Plant seed boxes. Peppers and eggplants will take 8 weeks to grow from seed to transplant size, while tomatoes will take 6 weeks. When the seedlings form their third set of true leaves, transplant them to individual containers.
- Prepare land for planting—winter and early spring plantings belong on a ridge (raised bed) for better drainage and earlier soil warm-up.
- If nematodes were a problem last year, make plans to plant another crop less susceptible to nematodes in the infected area.
- Make early plantings of your choice from the following: carrots, collards, lettuce, mustard, English peas, Irish potatoes, radishes, spinach, and turnips.
- Use "starter" fertilizer solution around transplanted crops such as cabbage.
- Replenish the mulch on strawberries.
- Seed herbs for April planting. Make a list of the ones that are best to buy rather than seed, such as French tarragon and rosemary (See your county agent about [Herbs in Southern Gardens](#)).



DeKalb County FACS agent had a cooking demonstration and chat with Centerwell patients in DeKalb. They talked about lowering their salt intake and small way they can implement that change into their lives. The lower sodium minestrone soup from the Food Talk 2024 calendar was on the menu.



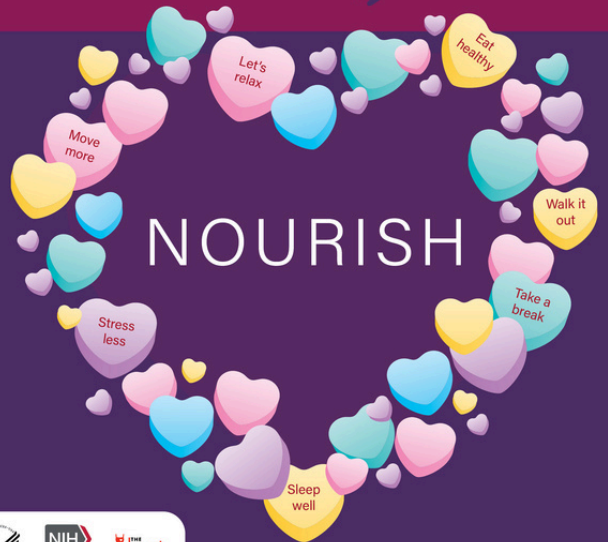
#OurHearts



**Self-care
for your heart
is really self-care
for your whole self.**



A message for all **#OurHearts**



**my heart
MY VOICE**



High blood pressure is often called the silent killer. You might not have symptoms, but it's a leading risk factor for heart disease and stroke. Monitoring your own blood pressure at home can help you keep your blood pressure under control. #HeartMonth



FEBRUARY

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

CLASSES

12TH
February

What Are We?
Understanding Nutrition **11:30 AM**
Facts Labels
<https://bit.ly/4bgh0eg>

This class will learn how to read and use the nutrition facts label to make healthy food choices

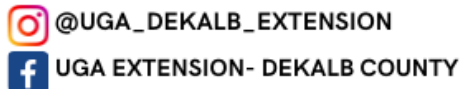
22ND
February

Love Don't Cost a Thing: **11:30 AM**
The Basics of Financial Planning
<https://bit.ly/3Si0FNI>

This class will discuss basic financial planning, different types of budgets and tips on saving.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, VETERAN, DISABILITY INSTITUTION

IF YOU ARE AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY WHO MAY REQUIRE ASSISTANCE OR ACCOMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN OR RECIEVE THE BENEFIT OF A SERVICE, PROGRAM, OR ACTIVITY OF UGA, OR IF YOU DESIRE MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT US





Upcoming Learning Opportunities

Feb 3 at 10am - E.M.B.A.R.C. Community Youth Farm. Get ready to roll up your sleeves and volunteer in the garden! We will work in the pollinator garden, start the cut flower garden bed layout, and more.

Feb 24 at 9am - Arbor Day Tree Planting - E.M.B.A.R.C. Community Youth Farm. Participants will learn how to plant a tree correctly and understand the basics of tree I.D.

Feb 24 at 10am - Native Plants and Edibles - Flat Shoals Library. Learn how to add variety and color to your landscape and your dinner plate. We will discuss how to add edible plants into your garden beds, when and how to plant, and even a little bit of history on the use of some native plants. We will also cover how to identify, prepare, and use edible wild plants.



Have an idea for a class or program?
[Click here to let us know!](#)



Tips on asking for advice from your Extension Service

Take pictures – clear pictures of the whole plant, the affected leaves (top and bottom), stems, fruit, and of any bugs or eggs you see

Have information ready – When was it planted? How long has the problem been present? Have you tried any kind of treatment already? Are other plants having the same issues?

Bring in a sample – We are happy to try and diagnose problems in our office (Free). However, for some problems, samples are sent to the UGA Plant Pathology Lab (\$14)

Samples should be in an enclosed bag or container, with a paper towel, and include leaves, stems, roots, flowers/fruit, and any insects that were found on it.

Email us at UGE1089@uga.edu

Call us at 404-298-4080

OR

[Fill out the help request form](#)

An Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Veteran, Disability Institution
If you are an individual with a disability who may require assistance or accommodation in order to participate in or receive the benefit of a service, program, or activity of UGA, or if you desire more information, please contact us.