NEWS & EVENTS

CLOVERBUDS EXPLORE FLOWERS
On March 25th, Madison Brown, a Senior 4-H Elbert County Board Member, Northeast District Board Member, and Master 4-H’er, stopped by to talk to the Cloverbuds about healthy living for her Leadership in Action project. She also provided a variety of fresh fruits (apples, bananas, grapes, berries, and carrot chips) and other round foods (mini cookies and crackers), which the Cloverbuds used to make flowers.

ATHENS AREA MASTER GARDENER

SPRING PLANT SALE
April 27, 2019 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
The annual spring plant sale by the AAMGA features plants from members’ gardens. Offerings will include herbs, vegetable plants, annuals, perennials, trees, shrubs, ferns, ground covers, seedlings, and bulbs. Proceeds support Plant a Row for the Hungry gardens and scholarships for UGA horticulture students. The sale will be held rain or shine, payments must be cash or check (no credit cards). Parking is available in the Longhorn Steakhouse parking lot next door to the Extension office.

Location
2152 W. Broad ST, Athens, GA 30606
front lawn of Extension office

Contact Information
Athens-Clarke Extension office
706-613-3640
uge1059@uga.edu

Rabies Clinic
Saturday April 27th | $8 per Animal
In addition to rabies vaccinations, feline and canine distemper vaccinations will be offered for $12 each. Cooperating agencies include the following: All Creatures Animal Hospital; Dr. Sarah Ward-Navarro, Elbert County 4-H, and the Elbert County Board of Commissioners.

Team #1
Bowman Fire Department 9:00am – 12pm
Deep Creek Fire Department 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Team #2
Centerville Fire Department 9:00am – 12pm
Rock Branch Fire Department 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Team #3
Fortsonia Fire Department 9:00am – 10:45am
Wyche Fire Department 11am – 12pm
Longstreet Fire Department 1:30pm – 2:30pm
Petersburg Fire Department 2:45pm – 3:30pm

Team #4
4-H Center (Beaverdam) 9:00am – 12pm
4-H Center (Beaverdam) 1:30pm – 3:30pm
Spring time in Elbert County: A time of year when many things come back to life. Light green leaves flutter in the wind. Dogwood trees cast masses of white throughout the forest. Azaleas dot the landscape with multiple shades of pinks, reds, and purples, and . . . fire ants build little volcanos all over our yards. I guess we must accept some bad with the good.

I recently mowed my lawn for the first time. It’s not uncommon for me to be a little behind schedule. The plumes of dust billowed throughout the neighborhood as I flattened those little volcanos. You see, spring time, specifically the months of April and May, typically signify the awakening of what many see as our most tenacious enemy: the Red Imported Fire Ant. In fact, many would label it as the most detested insect around.

The good news is that this time of year is a great time to treat for their presence. One very effective treatment, if done properly, is to spread “Bait.” Fire ant bait is a product that ants believe is food. As they forage throughout your yard, they collect the bait, and carry it back to the mound where they deliver it to the queen. The “done properly” part of this process will determine success or failure. Baits should be spread at a rate of 1 to 1.5 lbs. per acre, although some products are applied at higher rates. The Bait should be fresh. Spread it soon after opening the package. It is important to spread granules in the afternoon when temperatures are warm and the ground is dry. The ants also need to be actively foraging. To test for activity, place a few potato chips around the lawn. If ants are attracted to those chips within 30 minutes they are active. Make sure you use the “good” greasy chips. Fat free products are not appealing to ants either. Try to apply when no rain is expected for a few days and never disturb the mounds prior to treatments. Disturbance will disrupt the ants feeding process. Some commonly recommended “Bait” products are: Amdro, Ascend or Varsity, Spectracide-Once ‘n’ Done, and Extinguish.

After two to three weeks, very large or persistent mounds may need to be treated individually. Acephate and Carbaryl are two products that are recommended for this process. However, these two products are NOT labeled for use in hay or livestock grazing operations. There are ONLY a few Bait products LEGALLY labeled for use in hay and grazing situations. These products contain hydramethylnon, pyriproxifen, and methoprene. They are sold as Amdro Pro, Extinguish, Esteem, and Extinguish Plus. These products are applied at very low rates of .75lbs. to 1.5lbs. per acre and typically require specialized application equipment.

Elbert County Extension has purchased a HERD GT-77 spreader for just this purpose. Please contact Patrick Marcellino for details.

As with any pesticide, read and follow the label. THE LABEL IS THE LAW. If you need further assistance, please call the local Extension office at 706-283-2037.
Here they come again—the privacy notices your bank and other financial institutions are required to send every year. Before you throw them away, take a closer look. The disclosures describe the kinds of personal information these institutions collect about customers or share with other companies.

Allowing your information to be shared is optional. Unless you opt out, however, it is also automatic. Financial institutions must provide an opportunity to opt out of information sharing. The yearly notices explain your rights to opt out or say no to certain types of information sharing practices.

**To protect your privacy, consider these tips:**

* Watch for privacy notices. They are often included with another mailing from your financial institutions, such as your statement, and not as a separate, distinct piece of mail.

* Read the information carefully. Your financial data is among the most sensitive information about you. Take the time to understand how your institution protects your personal information and what more you can do.

* If you previously told an institution you want to opt out of information sharing, you do not have to renew your wishes. Instructions remain in effect until you revoke them in writing. However, if you previously opted out but the institution is expanding its information sharing into new areas where you have a right to say no, you would have to opt out again to cover the new practices.

* If you did not previously opt out (and the vast majority of consumers did not), you can do so at any time. Follow the instructions provided by the financial institution to make sure your request is honored.

* Be sure to opt-out of information-sharing by Credit Reporting Agencies. Visit https://www.optoutprescreen.com/ or call any of the Credit Reporting Agencies. Transunion (1-800-888-4213), Equifax (1-800-685-1111), and Experian (1-888-397-3742) routinely provide your personal information to various financial institutions for marketing purposes. While you have them on the line, request a free copy of your credit report.

* Keep good records. Note when you wrote or called an institution to opt out. When providing your instructions to someone over the phone, note the name of the person you talked with and the time of your call. Good records can save you from submitting duplicate opt-out instructions or help protect you in case of a dispute about whether you asked to opt out.

Opting out helps to cut down on the quantity of junk mail and telemarketing calls you receive and gives you more control over who has access to information about you. Opting out does require action on your part, but is well worth the time and effort involved.
**Cloverleaf Dance**

Friday April 26th | 6:00-8:00pm | 4-H Office
$5 with membership card | Drinks & pizza: $1

The class with the highest percentage of participation will win an ice-cream party! You don’t want to miss it! Plus, you’ll earn 10 Clover Points for yourself and your class. Come Dance!

**Vidalia Onion 4-H Fundraiser**

$10 per 10 lb. bag of mixed sizes
The deadline for orders and payment is Friday April 12th. To place an order, please contact our office or an Elbert County 4-H'er. Onions will be available only after the Georgia Department of Agriculture opens the market, but that is anticipated to be the first week of May.

**Elbert County Krispy Kreme Fundraiser.** Get in touch with a 4-H student or come by the office to order your donuts. Orders and payment need to be turned in to our office by Monday, April 15th before 5:00pm. Donuts can be picked up on April 18th after 11:00am.

**CONTACT US**

Christa Campbell  
County Extension Coordinator and County Extension Agent, FACS  
christaa@uga.edu | 706-283-2037 | Direct Line 762-847-3861

Patrick Marcellino  
County Extension Agent, ANR | patmar@uga.edu | 706-283-2037  
Direct Line 762-847-3734

Lauren Macias-Dye  
County Extension Agent, 4-H | lmdye@uga.edu | 706-283-2037  
Direct Line 762-847-3839

Sophie Walsky  
County Extension 4-H Program Assistant | emiko.walsky@uga.edu | 706-283-2037  
Direct Line 762-847-3857

Trisha Willis  
County Extension Administrative Secretary | trisha.willis@uga.edu | 706-283-2037