



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA EXTENSION



NEWS & EVENTS

Up Coming Classes & Events

Bioluminescence! Learn About the World of Glowing Plants and Animals

Think buying glow-in-the-dark plants at the garden center is a story from a space-age cartoon? Think again! Scientists are working on adding genes from bioluminescent insects and mushrooms to plants such as petunias. Lisa Klein takes you on a virtual journey through bioluminescence: which plants, animals and insects have this trait and why? Prepare to be awestruck!

Date: August 15, 2024

Time: 6:00-7:00PM

Join with the following registration link:

<https://extension.uga.edu/calendar/event/22994/bioluminescence-learn-about-the-world-of-glowing-plants-and-animals.html>

What's REALLY Happening in Your Pollinator Garden

By now we've all heard about the importance of attracting pollinators to our home gardens, but what exactly draws those whimsical bees and butterflies to our gardens besides pretty flowers? Lisa Klein takes a deep-dive into this fascinating world and explains what they eat, what draws them to flowers, and what else we can do to make our gardens more hospitable to pollinators.

Date: August 29, 2024

Time: 6:00-7:00pm

Join with the following registration link:

<https://extension.uga.edu/calendar/event/22995/whats-really-happening-in-your-pollinator-garden.html>

THE FOOD INDUSTRY'S LEADING FOOD SAFETY AND SANITATION PROGRAM

ServSafe® Manager Certification 2-Day Class

September 24-25, 2024
9:00am- 5:00pm

PRESENTED BY: MORGAN COUNTY & ELBERT COUNTY EXTENSION
CLASS LOCATION: ROCK EAGLE 4-H CENTER
350 Rock Eagle Rd
Eatonton, GA 31024

For More Info: Contact Ani Powell
phone: 706-342-2214
email: ariathni.powell@uga.edu

\$150 All Inclusive Registration Fee:

- 12 HOURS OF INSTRUCTION
- LUNCH/ LIGHT SNACKS
- STUDY MATERIALS
- CERTIFICATION EXAM
- SERVSAFE MANAGER BOOK 7TH ED REVISED W/ 2022 FOOD CODE

Course topics include food safety at all stages, facilities and pest management, cleaning and sanitizing, and more!

Pre-registration is required no later than Sept 10th
Mail or bring check and Registration Form to:
Morgan County Extension
440 Hancock St
Madison, GA 30650

CERTIFIED ServSafe® INSTRUCTOR & PROCTOR

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University of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Veteran, Disability Institution. If you need a reasonable accommodation or language access services, contact the Morgan County Extension Office at 706-342-2214 or ugex211@uga.edu, at least three weeks prior to the program date.

So Easy to Preserve

Summer crops are being harvested and it is time to preserve the bounty. Elbert County Extension is pleased to have copies of the latest edition of a popular cookbook, *So Easy to Preserve*. Chapters in the 388-page book include Preserving Food, Canning, Pickled Products, Sweet Spreads and Syrups, Freezing and Drying. *So Easy to Preserve* cookbooks are \$40 each and are wonderful tool to guide you. Come by the office to purchase a copy.



AG & NATURAL RESOURCES

Why Are Tips of Tree Branches Turning Brown?

Brian Bradford , Elbert County ANR Agent

A very common question we have gotten the last few weeks in our extension is this: why are the tips of all our trees turning brown and dying! We had so many questions about this topic that I thought it would be a great idea to share what one of our entomologists at UGA has to say about the subject. Here are a few thoughts from Nancy C. Hinkle, PhD, Dept. of Entomology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, on this matter.

Remember back in May when everybody was talking about periodical cicadas? The cicadas have all died, but the last evidence of the Great Southern Brood's 2024 emergence appeared the previous month. Because female periodical cicadas lay their eggs under tree bark near the ends of branches, the damage causes the death of the limb past the bark penetration. Resultant browning of the leaves is called 'flagging.' So now, these branch tips are drying out, turning brown, and falling off. This is not a problem; it is Nature's pruning service, ensuring the limbs are sturdy and healthy enough to survive any winter ice storms. If periodical cicadas did not emerge in your area this year, you will not find flagging in the trees. Another benefit of flagging is that now we know where the baby cicadas are in the ground under the trees showing flagging. When Brood XIX emerges in 13 years (2037), you will know where to look for emerging periodical cicadas from soil under these same trees.



Trees show 'flagging,' which is the browning and death of leaves caused by periodical cicadas laying eggs under the bark.

The flagging seems to be most present in the oak species, but we have also seen it in many other species. No permanent damage should occur to the trees, although it may take an entire season to regrow these new branch tips. Hopefully, the rains will continue through the latter part of our summer and help the trees recover even faster. As always, you can reach us via email at brian.bradford@uga.edu. Or calling our office at 706-283-2037.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

One of Georgia's Many Blessings... Watermelon Christa Campbell, Elbert County FACS Agent

The United States currently ranks 6th in worldwide production of watermelon, with Florida, Texas, California, Georgia and Indiana consistently in the lead. The best time to purchase watermelon is between May and September of the year.

A watermelon's stripes are indicators of variety; with over 1,200 varieties grown in 96 countries worldwide, there are many, many variations. In fact, some watermelons don't even have stripes. Look for a firm, symmetrical watermelon that is free from bruises, cuts or dents. Lift it up - the watermelon should be heavy for its size. Watermelon is 92% water, most of the weight is water. Turn it over- the underside of the watermelon should have a creamy yellow spot from where it sat on the ground and ripened in the sun.

Keep whole watermelons at room temperature for up to 2 weeks. Wash the watermelon before cutting it. Once cut, wrap tightly and refrigerate for up to 3 days. The flesh can be sliced, cubed, or scooped into balls.

In addition to watermelon having a very high water content that can deliver needed fluids and nutrients to the body; it is also high in vitamins A & C. Watermelon is also fat, sodium & cholesterol free. Two cups of cut watermelon has between 80-90 calories. So, enjoy some watermelon before it is no longer in season!

Watermelon Salsa

- 2 cups watermelon
- 1 cup cucumber, peeled, seeded and chopped
- 1/4 cup onion, red or white, chopped)
- 2 tablespoons cilantro or mint, fresh, chopped (optional)
- 1 jalapeño, seeded and finely chopped, or hot sauce to taste
- 1/4 cup lime juice or lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon sugar, white or brown

In a medium size bowl, stir together all ingredients. Taste and season with more lemon or lime juice, sugar if needed. Cover and chill for at least 30 minutes. Serve with grilled or broiled fish or chicken.



Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 1.00 cup(s) (211g)	
Amount Per Serving	
Calories 76	Calories from Fat 22
<hr/>	
Total Fat 2.4g 4 %	
Saturated Fat 0.9g 5 %	
Trans Fat 0.0g	
Cholesterol 4.2mg	1 %
Sodium 120.3mg	5 %
Total Carbohydrate 13.2g	4 %
Dietary Fiber 1.0g	4 %
Sugars 9.6g	
Protein 2.0g	
Vitamin A 16 %	Calcium 5 %
Vitamin C 20 %	Iron 4 %

UGA RADON PRESENTS

THE GEORGIA RADON POSTER CONTEST

FOR 9-14
YEARS
OLD

Teach Georgians the harmful effects of radon through your creativity and knowledge! Winners will receive a cash prize!

Submit artwork with submission form via email rebecca.cantrell@uga.edu or mail Rebecca Cantrell, UGA Radon Program 228 Hoke Smith Annex, 300 Carlton Street, Athens, Ga 30602

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2024



Visit our website www.ugaextension.org/elbert for registration forms and rules.

4-H & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**Save
the
Date**



Project Achievement is one of the BEST activities you can do as a 4-H'er!

Cloverleaf District Project Achievement will be **November 2, 2024** and **Junior Senior District Project Achievement** will happen in the spring **March 7-9, 2025**. More information will be provided during club meetings.

Elbert County 4-H Annual Awards Banquet

Invitations are in the mail! This year's banquet will be held **August 19, 2024 at 6:30PM**. If you have received an invite please RSVP at 706-283-2037. Join us for the **4-H Core Memories Banquet** at Paul J Blackwell Learning Center | 373 Campbell Street, Elberton Georgia.

Come celebrate your 4-H memories!

Georgia 4-H State Congress

Elbert County 4-H had five students competed in Project Achievement at State Congress this year. Students must perform well enough at the district level to advance to the State Contest. Josue Bravo competed in Festive Foods for Health, Stephanie Espinosa in Performing Arts General (2nd Place), Kennedy Ray in Veterinary Science, Samantha Walsky in Dog Care and Training, and Latayron Williams in Performing Arts Vocal (3rd Place). Joining these five competitors were two special event winners from Elbert County. Nate Albertson Masters in the Contest Division of the State Horse Show. Julianna Walsky Mastered as the High Individual in Poultry Judging. Additionally, Madison Brown was recognized at the Leadership Banquet for her service as the lead counselor this summer at Camp Jekyll.



If you need a reasonable accommodation or language access services, contact the Elbert County Extension office at 706-283-2037 or uge1105@uga.edu at least three weeks prior to the program date.

CONTACT US

Christa Campbell

County Extension Coordinator and County Extension Agent, FACS
christaa@uga.edu | 706-283-2037

Brian Bradford

County Extension Agent, ANR | brian.bradford@uga.edu | 706-283-2037

Lauren Dye

County Extension Agent, 4-H | imdye@uga.edu | 706-283-2037

Sophie Walsky

County Extension 4-H Program Educator | emiko.walsky@uga.edu | 706-283-2037

Trisha Willis

County Extension Administrative Assistant | trisha.willis@uga.edu | 706-283-2037

Elbert County Extension

373 Campbell Street
Elberton, GA 30635

Phone: 706-283-2037

Fax: 706-283-2038

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm

Closed 12:00pm-1:00pm

Visit our website at:

www.ugaextension.org/elbert

Follow us on Facebook!

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Elbert County 4-H