

'News You Can Use' From the Extension Office

UGA Cooperative Extension in Hall County



Hall County Cooperative Extension provides information and assistance in the areas of:

- Agriculture and the Environment
- 4-H and Youth Development
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Radon Education

Inside this issue:

Updated Watering Restrictions	1
Hall 4-H News & Events	2
"So Easy to Preserve"	3
Free Dial Gauge Pressure Canner Testing	3
EFNEP Program News	3
Testing Your Home for Radon	4
GA. Teens Ride with P.R.I.D.E. Never Leave Your Child Alone	4
Master Gardener News	5
July Landscape Tips	5

2008 OUTDOOR WATERING RESTRICTIONS

Hall County continues under a Level 4 drought restriction. Although Level 4 is defined as a total ban on outdoor water use, the following variances are allowed:

Established landscapes can be hand-watered* by any person

- For 25 minutes between 12:00 midnight and 10:00 AM (*hand watering is defined as one person with one garden hose with a spray nozzle that shuts off automatically when it is released)
- Watering is restricted to the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 AM
- Odd-numbered addresses: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays
- Even-numbered addresses: Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays
- No watering is allowed on Fridays

Newly installed landscapes may be watered

By any person who has registered with the Outdoor Water Use Registration Program (www.outdoorwateruse.com)

- Watering is allowed for 30 days during a period of 10 weeks
- Watering is restricted to the hours of 12:00 midnight to 10:00 AM
- 3 days/week for 10 consecutive weeks on an odd/even schedule
 Odd-numbered addresses: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays
 Even-numbered addresses: Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays
 During installation, new landscapes may be watered in at any time of the day

OutdoorWater Use Registration Program is available:

At your county extension office (1-800-ASK-UGA1) - free
 Online at www.urbanagcouncil.com - \$ 4.95 convenience fee
 Landscape companies needs to register for this program (may copy certificate for use at multiple addresses).
 Each landscape company's clients (homeowner/property owner or manager) must also complete this program for each property they own or manage.

Variance updates can be found at www.gawp.org.





Hall County 4-H News & Events

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE – May 26

We all had a great time in the parade. Mrs. Deborah Andrews drove the truck and trailer for us and we had 15 4-H'ers who decorated the truck and rode in the parade. Good times!

Target Sports Program

Our BB Rifle Team did a superior job at the State Target Sports weekend in May. Our experienced team placed 7th out of 21 and the second team placed 9th. GREAT JOB! David French received special awards for standing position.

Also, Dalton Echols placed 2nd in a regional .22 rimfire competition held in Alabama. This was a CMP sanctioned contest. .22 rimfire is one of our new target sports programs for high school shooters. We are very proud of this accomplishment.

Summer Camp

The Junior camper's traveled to Jekyll Island 4-H Center June 2-6. A group of 45 campers from the north-east district met at our Farmers Market and took a charter bus down to Jekyll.

Hall County 5th & 6th graders attended Cloverleaf Camp June 9-13 at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. Approximately 175 campers, chaperones, volunteers, and staff attended. Once again, Hall County was the largest county group at Rock Eagle that week.

State 4-H Horse Show – June 9-14

The State 4-H Horse Show is the highlight of the year for our horse program. Twenty-one riders and horses from Hall County went down to the State 4-H Horse Show in Perry this year.

Georgia 4-H Horse School – June 15 – 19

Horse School is an amazing learning program for riders and horses. We are lucky that two of our club members were selected to attend, Erin McGlone and Monica Scott.

State 4-H Council – June 20-22, Rock Eagle 4-H Center

Current 8th -12th grade 4-H'ers are invited to be part of this year's State 4-H Council program, June 20-22 at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. "Stepping Up With 4-H" will be a fast paced energetic weekend filled with opportunities to explore community service, Georgia 4-H and college life. This is also the official meeting of Georgia 4-H where new state officers will be elected. We are just beginning to recruit participants.

Exchange Trip to Minnesota – June 24 – July 1

We are very excited about the upcoming exchange trip to Minnesota. The group will fly to Minneapolis/St. Paul to meet up with their host 4-H'ers and their families on June 24th. Throughout their week in Minnesota, the 4-H'ers will visit local attractions, learn about the history of the area, go to the Mall of America and visit several local County Fairs and be part of many other interesting and exciting activities.

“So Easy To Preserve”

Now is the time to order the 5th edition of the popular University of Georgia Cooperative Extension book *So Easy To Preserve*. This book contains over 150 USDA tested recipes along with step by step instructions and in-depth information for both the new and experienced food preserver.

New recipes were added along with the latest and safest USDA recommendations. Chapters include Preserving Food, Canning, Pickled Products, Jellied Fruit Products, Freezing and Drying. Several copies of the new book are available in the Extension Office for \$18 or check for the order form online at www.uga.edu/nchfp (National Center Home Food Preservation). This website also has hundreds of food preservation recipes as well as info for beginner and expert food preservers.



Free Dial Gauge Pressure Canner testing through Hall County Extension

If you have a dial type pressure canner it should be tested each year for accuracy. Call Debbie at 770-535-8290 to make an appointment to bring in your canner lid with the gauge attached.

EFNEP Programming News

The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education program (EFNEP), offers free nutrition education plus “hands-on” cooking activities for children, teens and adults.

Area teens took an active part in Spring EFNEP sessions. More than 50 West Hall High School, Flowery Branch High School and Lanier Career Academy students received their official University of Georgia certificates for completing their EFNEP lesson series. During the lessons, they made “Super Shakes” and “Munchy Mix” right in their classrooms.

Pre-K Ninth District Head Start youth started their summer vacation with knowledge about healthier food choices. Students at Tadmore, Wauka Mountain, Sugar Hill and Myers Elementary Schools completed the EFNEP sessions. These sessions covered a variety of topics such as the basic food groups and the importance of exercise. The students received free recipes plus colorful brochures for their parents.

EFNEP, established in 1969, is conducted through Cooperative Extension nationwide. Sessions are available for parents who receive WIC, TANF and free and reduced school lunch. Grandparents who are raising their grandchildren also qualify.



Hall County youth learn the importance of the Food Pyramid and Portion Control.

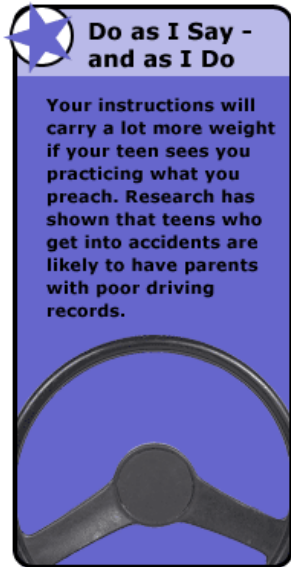
Busy schedule? No problem. Home study lessons are available, too. For more information, contact Sandra Stringer, nutrition educator, at (770) 535-8290 or stringer@uga.edu.

Have You Tested Your Home for Radon?

Testing your home for Radon is easy and FREE. Twenty-two percent of Hall County homes tested through the UGA Radon Education Program have tested over the level set by the EPA. Testing your home is the only way to know if your family is at risk. The U.S. Surgeon General and EPA state that all homes in the U.S. should be tested for radon. Radon is the 2nd leading cause of lung cancer and it now kills more than 800 Georgians each year. It is a silent killer — you can't see, smell or taste it — and doesn't cause any symptoms until cancer has started to develop.

There is a more in-depth source for radon data, an updated web site that shows radon levels by county. AirChek, the company that manufactures and analyzes the complimentary kits provided to Georgia homeowners, has compiled 20-plus years of their test results and provides on-line radon data for states and many counties in the U.S. Their web site is www.radon.com. To access their data for Hall County, click on "Radon Levels in Your Area" and follow the prompts.

What are you waiting for? Test your home today. Test kits are available for FREE at the Hall County Extension office. The kit is user friendly and even provides return postage. If you have a kit that has never been used, it's not too late to use it. If your home has elevated radon level, you can lower the level by having a simple ventilation system installed. Please contact Ginger Bennett, local radon educator, at 770-535-8290 or bennettg@uga.edu.



Georgia Teens Ride With P.R.I.D.E.

If you have a teen between the ages of 14-16 call the Hall County Extension office to sign up for our next **FREE** PRIDE (Parents Reducing the Incidents of Driver Error) class to be held on August 11 from 6:30-8:30 pm at Gainesville State College. This program is sponsored by UGA Extension, Georgia Traffic Injury Prevention Institute, Governor's Office of Highway Safety, Gainesville/Hall County Safe Kids Coalition and Georgia State College. Please call 770-535-8290 and ask for Nancy by July 28 to reserve a space for you and your teen.



Never Leave Your Child Alone in the Car !

- * Never leave a child in an unattended car, even with the windows down.
- * Be sure that all occupants leave the vehicle when unloading. Don't overlook sleeping babies.
- * Always lock your car. If a child is missing, check the car first, including the trunk. Teach your children that vehicles are never to be used as a play area.
- * Keep a stuffed animal in the car seat and when the child is put in the seat place the animal in the front with the driver.
- * Place your purse or briefcase in the back seat as a reminder that you have your child in the car.
- * Make "look before you leave" a routine whenever you get out of the car.
- * Have a plan that your childcare provider will call you if your child does not show up for school.

Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, September 13

Fall Garden Expo—Chicopee Woods AG Center

Wednesday's in September & October

Lunch & Learn Gardening Series at Hall County Library

Sponsored by: Hall County Extension, Hall County Master Gardeners & Hall County Library System



For more information, visit
www.hcmgs.com

July Landscape Tips

- * Root holly, azalea, and camellia cuttings in a sand and peat moss mixture set in a cool, shady location. Ivy and periwinkle can be rooted now to fill in any bare spots in your beds. Be sure not to allow your cuttings to dry out.
- * During hot, July weather, be sure to mow your lawn to the appropriate height. This reduces water loss and helps lower soil temperatures. Leave clippings on the lawn to decompose.
- * Summer is not the time to prune tree limbs. If there is a broken branch, however, remove the limb, including the jagged break or split, with a clean cut.
- * Look for damaging insects on evergreen trees like magnolias and hollies. Scale, spider mites, lacebug, leaf miner, spittlebug, and leaf hoppers are bad in July.
- * Before spraying an insecticide on your vegetables, check the product label. Each insecticide has a time you must wait before you can safely harvest.
- * If azaleas look chlorotic (pale-green to yellow) check soil pH. They need acid soil because alkalinity locks up iron needed for green color. Sulfur reduces soil pH.
- * A brown or grayish cast over lawns can be caused by dull or improperly adjusted mower blades that shred grass rather than cut it.
- * If you have been pinching back your mums this summer, mid-July is the time to stop so they will be able to develop flower buds for the fall.
- * Get a second bloom from faded annuals by cutting them back to approximately half their height, then fertilize them with ½ cup of 5-10-10 fertilizer per square yard of planted area and apply a generous layer of mulch.
- * Tall flowers should be staked to prevent damage by wind. Use stakes that are large enough to support the plant, but not too conspicuous.
- * Prune Bigleaf or French Hydrangeas immediately after flowering.





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in Hall County*

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www.hallcounty.org/extension

**The Hall County Farmers'
Market is Open!
Tuesday 6 AM until sellout
Saturday 7 AM - Noon**

**Enjoy fresh home grown fruits and
veggies as well as cut flowers, potted
plants, local honey & jams & jellies**

- Billy Skaggs, County Extension Coordinator , ANR Agent
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- Debbie Wilburn, County Extension Agent, FACS
dwilburn@uga.edu
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