



# UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA EXTENSION



## NEWS & EVENTS

### 2024 Rabies Clinic

Did you know that pet owners in Georgia are required to have their pets vaccinated against rabies? Rabies is a horrible virus which may affect any mammal and is fatal for all animals, potentially humans too! Each year the 4-H Office works with veterinarians to host the Rabies Clinic. The Rabies Clinic will be held across Elbert County on **Saturday, April 27th**. Rabies Clinic Schedule shows the location and times our teams will be available. Add this community event to your calendar!

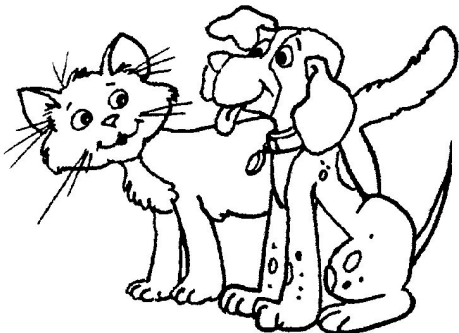
#### **RABIES CLINIC SCHEDULE**

**Team #1:** Bowman Fire Dept 9:00am - 12:00pm  
Deep Creek Fire Dept 1:30pm - 3:30pm

**Team #2:** Centerville Fire Dept 9:00am - 12:00pm  
Rock Branch Fire Dept 1:30pm - 3:30pm

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

**Team #4:** Elbert County Farm Bureau  
**Office at 893 Elbert Street**  
**9:00am - 12:00pm & 1:30pm - 3:30pm**



### Lunch and Learn: Container Gardening

Join Pike County Extension in 2024 dive into Homestead Skills with monthly, virtual Lunch and Learns hosted on the second Wednesday of each month (with the exception of holidays). Each month will discover a new topic with experts leading the way. Simply email **Brooklyne.Wassel@uga.edu** to receive the Zoom link or catch the recordings on our YouTube channel.

"Container Gardening" will be led by UGA Extension Agent Kim Toal

**Date:** Apr 10, 2024

**Time:** 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

### Gardening Lunch and Learn Series Making a Hanging Basket

Join Hart County Extension for the fourth session of our Gardening Lunch and Learn Series. During this session, we will be making hanging baskets together that you will be able to take home with you!

**Pre-registration is required.** There will be a \$25 charge to cover the cost of materials. Spots are limited for this session. Your spot will be secured once payment is made to the Extension Office.

Please complete the survey to register for courses in this series. Just a reminder for the fourth session \$25 payment will need to be submitted to the Hart Extension Office to reserve your spot.

#### **Registration:**

[https://ugeorgia.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_agkf50Wi5cRy7...](https://ugeorgia.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_agkf50Wi5cRy7...)

#### **Contact Information:**

Sierra Burke | 706-376-3134  
|Sierra.Cannon@uga.edu

---

# AG & NATURAL RESOURCES

---

## **Master Gardener Program Brian Bradford , Elbert County ANR Agent**

---

Many extension offices in our state have a Master Gardener Program that they implement in their counties. Some of you may or may not know what the Master Gardener Program is about, so here are a few details. Master gardeners do various things and participate in multiple ways in their counties. Master Gardeners are *volunteer educators*. Typical volunteer activities include answering plant questions over the phone, in person, or by e-mail; conducting environmental gardening demonstrations or presentations; staffing plant clinics; maintaining compost and gardening demonstration sites; writing newsletters or newspapers; youth gardening activities; and other community gardening projects. As you can see, master gardeners don't just do one thing or another; they are involved in many different ways with the extension office and the community. This leads us to the next question if interested how does someone become a master gardener.

Georgia residents may have the opportunity to become a Georgia Master Gardener Extension Volunteer in their home county. Classes usually form either in the spring or fall. Interested volunteer candidates should contact their local county Cooperative Extension office to see if an active program exists and when the next class will be taught. Upon acceptance into the program, volunteers will be required to complete a 42-hour (usually once or twice a week) classroom training program covering topics ranging from landscape design, plant propagation, and turf to different programs such as nuisance wildlife control. Again, the program intends to train volunteers in subjects that will prepare them to assist the local county Extension Staff. Participants take a mid-term exam and will be required to pass a final exam on the material covered. Master Gardeners are recruited and trained to assist Extension with extending consumer horticulture information and education to the public.

The Georgia Master Gardener Program continues to grow across the state. Over 3,000 active Master Gardeners volunteer their time across the state each year, contributing more than one hundred seventy-thousand hours of volunteer service. This translates to almost 4 million dollars in service donated annually by volunteers. Helping our county agents with phone calls continues to be a widespread use of volunteer time, but Master Gardeners also serve in many other capacities. Some Master Gardeners make home garden visits in place of the county agent, saving the agent's time to work on other matters. In addition, they plant and maintain school and community gardens, conduct classes, and lead many other educational activities.

As a result of educational activities offered by Master Gardeners, Georgians can make environmentally sound gardening decisions. Because Master Gardeners work with Georgians to answer questions and solve problems, insects and diseases can be treated with appropriate controls, plant choices can be made to enhance landscapes and property values, individuals can grow their fruits and vegetables, and youth gain exposure to the joy and wonder of gardening. As a result of master gardeners' efforts, agents can devote time to developing targeted educational programs that address local issues and needs. MGEVs ultimately help Extension achieve its mission of assisting Georgians to become healthier, more productive, financially independent, and environmentally responsible.

If this program sounds interesting to you, please call the Elbert County Extension office at 706 283 2037. Happy gardening!

---

# FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

---

## What Georgia Commodity is Celebrated on April 14? Christa Campbell, Elbert County FACS Agent

---

Do you know what is celebrated on April 14 each year? Let me give you a hint...it is one of Georgia's commodities. Still stumped...it grows on trees in a shell! You may have guessed by now that April 14 is National Pecan Day! It was first celebrated in 1996, when the National Pecan Shellers Association establishes National Pecan Day to honor the native nut of America. Pecans are the only tree nut native to the United States. Pecans are part of the Hickory family.

Did you know, America is credited for 75%-80% of the world's total pecan production? There are fourteen states that grow pecans. However, Georgia is the nation's top producer of pecans, producing an estimated 100 million pounds of pecans annually. Pecans add between \$200 million and \$300 million each year to the state's gross domestic product. The Georgia Pecan Commission was founded in 1995 by Georgia pecan growers. The commission was established to raise awareness of the nutritional, health and economic benefits of pecans as a regular part of the American diet, in order to increase sales and trade opportunities for pecan growers in Georgia. The Georgia Pecan commission can be found at <https://georgiapekans.org/about-us/> with information about the latest research and some delicious recipes. The Four Cheese Georgia Pimiento Cheese Spread recipe sounds delicious and can be found at :  
<https://georgiapekans.org/think-beyond-the-pie/recipes/four-cheese-georgia-pecan-pimiento-spread/>

Pecans are an excellent source of copper, iron, magnesium, manganese, phosphorus, zinc, and vitamin E. Pecans are also recognized by the American Heart Association as heart-healthy because they can help reduce LDL cholesterol and increase HDL cholesterol levels in the blood. They are also rich in dietary fiber. One ounce of pecans provides 10 percent of the Recommended Daily Value (RDV) for fiber. For more nutrition facts about pecans visit :  
<https://georgiapekans.org/science-nutrition/pecan-nutrition-fact-sheet/>

According to National Day Calendar (<https://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/national-day/national-pecan-day-april-14>), here are some ways to observe National Pecan Day:

1. Enjoy your favorite pecan recipes. There are so many to choose from so we have a couple of delicious recipes for you to try. Pecan Snack Sugar Coated Pecans
2. Snack on roasted pecans or you can make baked goods such as pies or cookies.
3. Top your salad with pecans.
4. Learn about pecan production.
5. Plant a pecan tree.
6. Use #NationalPecanDay to post on social media.

Enjoy America's favorite nut as a snack or part of a meal any day but join the fun on April 14 and celebrate National Pecan Day!



# 4-H & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## ELEVATE Afterschool Club



Spend your afternoon with us learning a variety of topics, completing projects, and enjoying fun activities! You are sure to love this engaging and interactive

time in the 4-H Clover Room (ECMS auditorium lobby) and BEYOND! Meetings are held monthly afterschool until 5:00pm. The next meeting is **Monday, April 15th.**

## Young Riders Horse Club

If you like horses, make plans to join the Young Riders Horse Club! You do NOT have to own or ride a Horse to participate in this Club! Meet the Clover Room at the ECMS (auditorium lobby), **3:00-5:00pm on Wednesday, April 24th.**

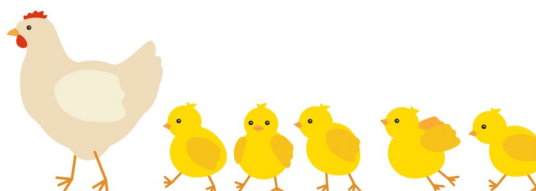


## “Earthies” Science Club

6TH GRADE ONLY. If you love earth science, then this activity is for you! Join us after school in the Clover Room as we expand on our knowledge of earth science in fun, engaging activities. We will meet again on **Thursday, April 25th.** A ride must pick you up at 5:00pm at the ECMS auditorium and you must be a 6th grade student to attend.

## Poultry Judging Team

We are wishing our Poultry Judging Team good luck as they head to competition later this month. Good luck Ms. Sophie as you lead Josue Bravo, Stephanie Espinosa, Shannon Freeman, Emily Hobbs, Gracie Kidd, Allie Stephens, Julianna Walsky, & Samantha Walsky.



## Vidalia Onion Fundraiser

Elbert County 4-H is doing our annual Vidalia Onion fundraiser! A 10 pound bag is **\$10.00.** Orders and money must be turned in at the **4-H Center (Blackwell)** by **5:00pm, on Monday, April 15th.** You will be notified of delivery date as soon as it confirmed by the farmer.



## 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 | lmdye@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](http://www.ugaextension.org/elbert)

### **Follow us on Facebook!**

UGA Extension - Elbert County