The same fungal, bacteria and viral diseases that affect vegetable farmers can have the same detrimental impact on backyard gardeners’ spring and fall gardens.

Whether it’s a disease like phytophthora that strikes in wet years or a virus like tomato yellow leaf curl that thrives during warmer conditions, these common pests can undermine months of hard work. To avoid these culprits, University of Georgia Extension vegetable horticulturist Timothy Coolong encourages gardeners to select vegetable varieties that are resistant to common diseases and to look for signs of disease early in the season.

“There are some chemicals available to the homeowner, but they are generally not nearly as effective as those available to commercial growers,” Coolong said. “Because of that and (because) of the extreme insect and disease pressure we have, homeowners are probably going to want to combine a resistant variety with a spray program.”

Tomato varieties with resistance to nematodes or fusarium and verticillium wilt are commonly available for home gardens. Most plants or seeds will have a disease resistance labeling that includes code letters for certain diseases. This can be a useful tool to help gardeners grow a more successful crop.

Viral diseases tend to be more prevalent in the fall because of increased populations of insects that transmit plant diseases such as thrips, whiteflies and aphids. But these diseases can also damage tomatoes and many other popular garden vegetables like squash and cucumbers, Coolong said.

“Once you get these viruses in a plant, there’s not much you can do about them,” he said. “Really the best way to manage those viruses is to control the insect vector, or to incorporate resistance to those viruses into the crop.”

(Continued on page 6.)
A
zelea lacebugs overwinter as eggs and hatch in the spring. Early spring is a good time to control them before they become too numerous.

Azalea lacebug attacks azaleas and some rhododendrons. Azalea lace bugs mainly feed on the undersides of the leaves, leaving the top of the leaf with white to yellow stippling or flecking. Heavy lace bug feeding on azalea can reduce plant vigor and flowering and affects the overall look of the plant.

Adult azalea lace bugs are 1/8 inch long. The transparent wings are held flat on the back. Their wings are lacy with two grayish-brown cross-bands connected in the middle. Nymphs begin life clear but quickly turn black and spiny. The flask-shaped eggs are partially embedded in leaf tissue, usually on the bottom of the leaf, and often are covered with a black tar-like secretion.

Look for the first signs of damage on plants in full sun or in protected areas beginning in March and continuing throughout the summer. Lace bugs overwinter as eggs. There are four generations a year. Lace bug adults and nymphs live and feed on the underside of leaves. Look for white stippling on older leaves. Look under leaves to find lace bug life stages and black fecal spots. On azaleas with a lot of damage, the top of the leaf can become grey or silvery.

Azaleas can withstand a lot of lace bug injury without much reduction in growth or bloom. The damage however on the leaves is unsightly. Control is generally recommended for the spring when insects are few in numbers. Treating early also protects the new leaves from damage from these insects. Once a leaf is damaged, the injury will be visible until the leaf falls off the plant.

Spring is a good time to manage azalea lace bugs
By Will Hudson and Kris Braman

Time spring insecticide applications for the presence of the first generation nymphs, usually with the early warm weather in late February in south Georgia through March and April in central and north Georgia.

Late summer insecticide applications are also helpful.
Lacebugs overwinter as eggs and managing adults now reduces the number of eggs on plants and the number of lacebugs you will see next spring. Once lacebugs are in the egg stage, insecticides will not effectively manage them.

Cultural controls for azalea lace bugs
♦ Plant azaleas only in partial shade. Too much sun stresses the plant and can make lace bug injury worse.

♦ Keep plants healthy with proper planting, fertilizing and watering.

♦ One of the best things you can do is scout azaleas (particularly early in the season) to identify and control infestations before numbers increase and leaf damage is severe.

Chemical controls
♦ Contact insecticides include the pyrethroids (bifenthrin, cyfluthrin, cypermethrin, permethrin, etc.) and carbaryl (Sevin and others) as well as other insecticides.

♦ The biggest concern with contact insecticides is getting full coverage. The chemical must be applied to the underside of the leaves. This is difficult with larger, fuller plants.

♦ You may need to make more than one application for full control. Check plants three to four weeks

A

(Continued on page 7)
April is the month of warmer temperatures, thunderstorms and springtime blooms. It is also when you might encounter an armadillo. The nine-banded armadillo is considered a nuisance pest, often searching for food in residential lawns and plant beds. Signs of armadillo include dirt mounds and inverted, cone-shaped holes that are three to four inches deep and one to two inches in diameter.

Currently there are no registered repellants or poisons for armadillo control. So if you have an armadillo on your property, what can you do?

Exclusion
If you have a small area that you would like to protect, you can try using chicken wire to enclose the space. Bury the chicken wire approximately six to twelve inches into the ground. The visible wire should stand at least two feet tall.

Trapping
UGA Extension wildlife specialist Mike Mengak suggests using a wooden box trap for armadillo. Wooden box traps have a much higher success rate than wire cage traps according to this study conducted by Mississippi State University in 2009.

If you decide to invest in a wooden box trap, keep in mind that in most cases, it is illegal to remove a wildlife animal from your property and release it in another location. Transporting the animal from one location to another is treating the symptom rather than addressing the problem. Furthermore, studies indicate that the animal often will not survive the stress of being placed in a new habitat. Before relocating any wildlife, contact your local Georgia Department of Natural Resources conservation officer for regulations specific to your area: http://www.georgiawildlife.org/RangerContact.

Using a Firearm
Currently not protected by the Georgia Department of Natura Resources, the armadillo is legal to hunt or shoot unless illegal in your city or county or prohibited by local ordinance. Shooting an armadillo is generally not a viable option in urban areas, and the homeowner is responsible for following all local laws and ordinances. If you have a question regarding shooting regulations, contact your local county government.

Other resources
http://www.thearmadillotrap.com/
(Lis Lohmueller is a Program Assistant for Athens-Clarke County Extension.)
The muggy heat makes working in the landscape less appealing, but insect, disease and other plant problems need attending to. To keep your landscape looking its best, be a Sherlock Holmes in your yard. Frequent visits to keep an eye on things is often all you need to detect problems before they get too big. **A trowel, a white index card and perhaps a hand pruner will help you with your landscape detective work.**

First, visit your annuals or herbaceous perennials. These plants usually need the most immediate attention. Are they healthy, green and strong or spindly, yellow and weak? Perhaps they need a little fertilizer. Annuals, in particular, benefit from light, frequent applications. Be careful, though. Look closely. Yellowing of these plants can also mean too much water, and recent rains have kept the soil very wet. Dig down a little to see how wet the soil is and how well it is draining. Heavy, wet soils can play havoc on many landscape plants and may be hard to remedy without renovating the bed.

Look at the blooms of these plants. Deadheading, or removing spent flowers, will help to keep plants blooming practically all summer. Check the blooms, too, for signs of insects or disease. Look carefully at the foliage on all plants. Are the leaves spotted or riddled with holes? Are they speckled, bronze-colored or different from the way you remembered? Remember that leaf spots can be caused by insects or disease. Usually, if it is a disease, a yellow or purple halo will be around the dark spot. You may need to use a fungicide. Sometimes, improving the air circulation by lightly pruning will improve a plant's health too.

Insect damage may appear as solid, blackish-brown spots, chewed areas or speckled leaves. Be sure to look at the undersides of the leaves. Many insects will feed and hide there. Properly identifying the insect is the key in selecting the correct control. Remember, there are far more beneficial insects out there than bad guys. Beneficials do an outstanding job of keeping damaging insects at bay on their own. Buy a good insect-ID book and learn how to tell the ‘good’ bugs from the ‘bad’ bugs. Treat plants only when pests are causing more damage than you can live with.

Some insects are so tiny they're hard to see. This is where your white index card can help. If you see speckled or off-colored foliage and suspect insects but can't see any, shake the leaves briskly over the index card. You may see tiny red specks called spider mites. Spider mites can build up heavy infestations quickly if conditions are right. To control these pests, use a product labeled for mite control.

Check azaleas for off-colored foliage, too. A common summer problem is lace bugs, which feed on the undersides of the leaves of azaleas, cotoneasters and other plants. They have many generations of offspring, so keep a watch and control this particular pest all summer.

Chewing damage on leaves often indicates another type of insect damage. This can be caused by many insects, including Japanese beetles, leaf beetles, snails and slugs. Once you know which culprit is munching on your plants, select the appropriate control. Insects are usually easier to kill when they're young than when they're mature.

(“Randy Drinkard is a retired technical writer for the UGA Center for Urban Agriculture and part-time ANR Agent for Troup Cooperative Extension.”)

**UGA Extension References for Managing Landscape Diseases:**

- Common Landscape Diseases in Georgia (B 1238)
- Disease Management in the Home Vegetable Garden (C 862)
- Control of Common Pests of Landscape Plants (B 1074)
- Plant Disease Library
University of Georgia entomologist is asking Georgians to help track an insect that loves to stowaway in homes and has the potential to hurt the state’s cotton and blueberry crops.

The brown marmorated stink bug, a native of Asia, was first spotted in Allentown, Pennsylvania, in 1998 and has since been found in 42 states and two Canadian provinces, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. To date, it is classified as a nuisance pest in Georgia, but could quickly become an agricultural pest, too.

Paul Guillebeau, an entomologist with the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, decided to find out how many Georgians are unwillingly hosting the pest. He thought of the project after lying in bed at night and counting the number of stink bugs crawling on his Athens, Georgia, ceiling.

“On any given day, there are at least five or six on the ceiling and at least 20 throughout the rest of the house,” he said. “You could spray them, but then you’d have dead stink bugs to deal with. It really becomes tedious. They only stink if you handle them, and they don’t do any damage, but they are annoying.”

Guillebeau likens the pest to lady beetles and kudzu bugs, which also torment homeowners by slipping through the tiniest crack to find a warm spot indoors. The stink bugs are first attracted to light and then to the warmer, indoor temperatures.

“I think my house is fairly well sealed, but they are awfully good at getting inside,” he said.

As temperatures begin to rise, the bugs are coming out of their winter slumber and searching for food and water. “Now they are flying to the windows, searching for a way to get out,” he said.

CAES research professional Brian Little began tracking the brown marmorated stink bugs’ movement in January as part of a collaborative project with scientist Jim Walgenbach at North Carolina State University. Little set up stink bug stations at Guillebeau’s house, where he monitors the temperature at which the bugs come out of hibernation.

(Continued on page 6.)
Viruses aren’t as much of a problem during the spring because cooler weather keeps insects less active. But gardeners should plan ahead to control aphids, thrips and white flies or plant resistant varieties. For some crops, like yellow squash, there are several good virus resistant varieties available.

Before buying seeds or transplants, visit the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences publication website at caes.uga.edu/publications to find varieties recommended for each part of the state and see which diseases to guard against. Search by vegetable to find the proper publication.

For more gardening help, call your local UGA Extension office at 1-800-ASKUGA1.

(Clint Thompson is a news editor with the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences based in Tifton.)

Select tomato varieties with resistance to nematodes or fusarium and verticillium wilt. Image credit: Brad Haire

“Scientists seek public’s help tracking new stink bug, continued...”

“This location is the most southern latitude for this study,” said Little.

He collects live and dead brown marmorated stink bugs and measures the pronotum (the plate-like structure that covers all or part of the insect’s thorax), the width of each insect and the weight of the live insects. Little will continue monitoring the bug stations through June.

Little recently received his master’s degree from UGA’s campus in Tifton, Georgia, where he studied how southern green and brown stink bugs affect cotton crops.

“These stink bugs target the quarter-sized cotton bolls, and pesticide applications are applied when the plants are loading bolls at that stage,” he said. “When the bolls become larger and harder, (the southern green and brown stink bugs) stop attacking the cotton plants.”

Unfortunately, this is when the brown marmorated stink bug takes over. It attacks the larger-sized, hardened cotton bolls.

“They are more of an issue in apples, tomatoes and other fruit in the North, and they have just recently moved into Georgia. We do not want them to become an issue in Georgia cotton production or get into our blueberries,” Little said.

Once the brown marmorated stink bugs return to the outdoors, UGA entomologist Kris Braman hopes home gardeners will take a close, identifying look before killing them.

“The brown marmorated stink bug damages a host of plants, from ornamentals to trees to food crops,” she said. “But there are many other look-alike stink bugs and some of these are predators (that feed on harmful garden pests).”

Brown marmorated stink bugs have striped antennae, smooth shoulders and small mouthparts. Beneficial, predator stink bugs have solid antennae, spines or indentations on their shoulders and a “much stouter” mouth.

“You may need a hand lens to get a close look, but it will be worth it because they eat harmful garden insects like the Mexican bean beetle,” Braman said.

To participate in Guillebeau’s tracking survey, go to surveymonkey.com/s/FCLPJLX.

To date, more than 8,000 Georgians have responded. The three-question survey will remain open until responses begin to dwindle and the state has been represented.

“I think they are everywhere across the state, but we will just have to wait and see,” Guillebeau said. “I just hope of one of my colleagues develops a trap to catch them before they come in my house next year.”

(Sharon Dowdy is a news editor with the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.)
I've been wanting to start a compost pile for some time, but I live in a subdivision and have close neighbors, so I don't think I can get away with a pile that is not in a container. How do I get started and what do I need to purchase? Also, I always thought a compost pile was an ongoing project, but lately I've read that I add all of the ingredients and then just stir occasionally until the materials have decomposed. Does this mean I can't continue to add items such as kitchen waste (coffee grounds, egg shells) and plant clippings?

— Juanita B., Athens

You can purchase a compost bin through local plant nurseries and also from Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful. Once you have purchased your bin you will begin layering compostable materials inside. It is recommended to have one third “greens” (kitchen scraps, grass clippings, and other nitrogen sources) and two thirds “browns” (dead leaves, sticks, pine needles and other sources of carbon). Make sure to mix your layers of “greens” among your layers of “browns”. You do not need to purchase any additional materials. The smallest optimum size for a compost pile is three feet wide as well as three feet tall. This size is needed to keep the pile hot enough to compost within a few months.

It is also crucial to keep your pile moist by wetting the pile as you build it. Moisture is also important when you are turning the pile. The preferred wetness for a compost pile is ‘as wet as a wrung out sponge.’ You are correct about a compost pile being an ongoing project since you are constantly adding ingredients and sometimes water as well. Turn your pile every one to two weeks to maintain high temperatures and keep compost critters working. Some gardeners begin a second compost pile while the first pile is finishing or cooling down. Other gardeners steal compost from the bottom of their pile before adding additional ingredients and doing the weekly turning.

This is a great question and very timely since International Compost Awareness week is May 3-9. ACC Extension, ACC Recycling Division, Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful and The State Botanical Garden of Georgia are coordinating events throughout the week including a compost bin sale, kids’ activities, giveaways and other great educational activities. For additional information on the local schedule for International Compost Awareness week, please visit: https://athensclarkecounty.com/4616/International-Compost-Awareness-Week or view the schedule on page 10.

(Amanda Tedrow is the Agriculture & Natural Resources agent for Athens-Clarke County Extension.)

Spring is a good time to manage azalea lace bugs, continued...

♦ after the first application to see if they need another treatment. Knocking the branches over a white piece of paper should dislodge the lace bugs and make them easier to see.

♦ Systemic insecticides may be used as soil applications (liquid drenches and granular treatments) as well as sprays. Soil applied insecticides enter through the root system and then travel into the leaves.

♦ Foliar sprays of systemic insecticides tend to work more quickly than soil application but soil applications give a longer residual control – up to several months.

♦ Even though some soil applied systemic insecticides may take two weeks or longer to become active in the leaves of large plants, this is not a problem if plants are small or if application is made early enough in the season to provide protection for the first flush of new leaves.

♦ Read and follow all label directions since systemic insecticides differ in the way they work in the plant.

For more information:
For pest management information see the Pest Management Handbook—Homeowner Edition (follow all label recommendations when using any pesticide).

Contact your local Extension Agent at (800) ASK-UGA1 or locate your local Extension Office.

Refer to the UGA Extension bulletin Control of Lace Bugs on Ornamental Plants (B 1102).

(Will Hudson and Kris Braman are UGA Extension Entomologists.)
Happy Earth Day everyone! Or as we like to say, “Earth Day, every day!” This is a month to celebrate all things earth friendly! During April, we look for ways to be more environmentally conscious. We strive to contribute to the environmental movement through education, public policy and consumer campaigns. As we celebrate Earth Day this year, I thought it would be fitting to share stories of worm success. Our Wonder Worms have been hard at work, and they should be celebrated this Earth Day!

For our Earth Day article, I will be highlighting a few exciting school programs and groups that are helping our environment. Typically I use this column to discuss vermicomposting “how-tos,” but today we will focus on special success stories!

Over the past few months, I have been working with different types of groups such as schools, community groups, community gardens and businesses to set up a Green Plan of Action. Each group’s plan is different, as their needs are different. Some already have a type of action plan in place, while others are starting from scratch. The exciting thing, though, is that they all want to make a difference. I remind them of SAMAD – Small Actions Make a Difference – the mantra for our groups! Are you ready for some wonderful stories of people making a difference? I hope this article will inspire you!

Benefits of Composting in Schools
Composting in a school environment, just like with any environment, has tremendous benefits. Let us look at a few of these.

1. Educational factor
The first major benefit to composting in schools is the educational factor. As I travel to different schools and speak to children of all ages, I recognize the opportunity to teach the next generation about being good stewards on this earth. We discuss the impact that even a small action can make. Consequently, they begin to recognize how they can have an impact now and in the future. They learn than through composting, they can turn an item and make something even better from it.

2. Diverting food scraps from the landfill
Another major benefit to composting is the diversion of food scrap items from the landfill. The mission of Green Gurlz is 100% diversion of food materials from landfills. Of course, this is a mission that cannot be achieved by one person. I have often heard the phrase, “It takes a village to raise a child.” Well, that is also true in a green movement! It takes the entire village to divert 100% of food scraps from the landfill. Working with schools that generate a good amount of food scraps from their daily

(Continued on page 9.)
lunch service is a great way to 1) partner with the school and 2) get those food scraps out of the landfill and into an environment where they can be put to good use.

**Challenges to Composting in Schools**
As we proceed along our path, we may encounter a few rocks that are in the way. We have to determine ways around them or over them if we plan to proceed. This is true of any path, including the path to 100% of food scraps being diverted. In the schooling system, some rocks may include:

1. **School buy in**
   In schools I have found champions that want to see these programs succeed. This makes the journey a whole lot easier, as now we have a team of people working together toward a common goal.

2. **Costs involved**
   I believe most people want to do good things, but one concern that I receive is, “How much will this cost?” This is understandable as schools have tight budgets they must stick to. Luckily, there are many grant programs available to help cover costs involved. Secondly, these composting programs require minimal investments – after all, the basic costs involve buying worms, bins and supplies to get them going.

**How to Compost in Schools:**
**Cherokee Charter Academy**
The next thing to decide is how the school will compost. For example, will they keep worm bins, and if so, where will they be placed? Will they opt for a pile of compost that will be handled outside on the school grounds? These are things that need to be worked out so you can proceed in the planning and implementation of the composting programs.

In late 2014 I was introduced to Cherokee Charter Academy located in Canton, GA. Through working at the local farmers market in Canton, I met the director of the school’s science program. She mentioned they had started an organic garden and wanted some of their students to participate in vermicomposting. Of course, that was right up my ally! We set up a time for me to come by the school.

**Meeting 1: Planning, goal setting**
At this first meeting I was able to look at their gardens and speak with over 100 third graders! It was decided that this group of third graders would be the first group to participate in this composting program. We discussed composting, its advantages and how it can be beneficial for their gardens. They told me their garden goals, how they planned to use the food scraps at the farmers market and how they planned to use the food scraps from their daily cafeteria lunches.

We also spoke specifically about vermicomposting. Their goal was to have a worm bin in each of their classes and monitor the composting indoors. I was so impressed with their level of understanding, their desire to learn, and most importantly, their yearning to make a difference. I could tell this group was going to do great things! Follow-up meetings would be scheduled to create the worm bins and begin the composting process.

**Meeting 2: Making the bins**
The second meeting arrived! And it was at this session that we made the worm bins. It was an exciting day for all of us. We planned to visit four classes and create bins for each one. In each class, we drilled holes, glued on the netting and made sure the bins were ready for their new residents. While we completed the bins, we also continued to discuss with the students how the bins would fit into their overall garden plan and food scrap diversion plan. Then they added the worms to their new homes!

**Composting in Action**
After our two meetings, I am happy to report that Cherokee Charter Academy now has a mini vermicomposting program in place! They have worm bins in each of the third grade classrooms, and the students feed the worms food scraps generated from the cafeteria. This is a great example of how this one school is doing their part to make a difference!

Well readers, in line with Earth Day, we share a wonderful story of one school setting a tremendous example of food scrap diversion! We send much love and appreciation to every single person and group working to make a difference this Earth month! And of course, let us not forget our hard working Wonder Worms! Let’s take a moment to remember that you, your Worm Helpers and your bin are making a difference. Even on a small scale, your contributions are having an impact and will positively affect your community as a whole.
This year I encourage you to take advantage of International Compost Awareness Week (ICAW). Held May 3-9, ICAW the largest and most comprehensive education initiative of the compost industry. We are fortunate to have so many local sponsors in Athens! The following organizations are participating in ICAW by holding workshops, compost facility tours, compost sales and more: ACC Recycling Division, Keep-Athens Clarke County Beautiful (KACCB), Let Us Compost, The State Botanical Garden of Georgia and ACC Extension.

The schedule below includes the week’s activities for Athens-Clarke County. Click here to view the schedule online. I hope you take part!

- Amanda

West Broad Farmers Market - Composting Basics

Date: Sat, May 2, 10 AM - 2 PM
Location: 1573 W. Broad St. Athens, GA 30606
Master Composters will be on hand at the West Broad Farmers Market to answer all your tough composting questions. ACC Extension, ACC Recycling Division, KACCB and The State Botanical Gardens will be on site with composting resources. Additionally, KACCB will have backyard bins for sale.

Compost Sale at the ACC Landfill (5700 Lexington Road) - all week long!

Date: Mon, May 4 - Sat, May 9
Loading Hours: M-F and Sat. 9 AM - 3 PM
Cost: $6/cubic yard (a savings of over $6/cubic yard!)
Tis’ the season for spring planting! Enjoy this compost discount and start your flower beds, plant your shrubs, and replenish the soils in your yard. The compost at the ACC Landfill is made from leaf and limb and bio-solids (processed waste water). Need more information? Contact the ACC Landfill at (706) 613-3508.

Compost Story Times - Casey’s Compost

Date: Mo, May 4, 7 PM (all ages); Tues, May 5, 9:30 & 10:30 AM (age 2-5); Wed, May 6, 9:30 AM & 10:30 AM (age 2-5); Thurs, May 7, 4:30 PM Book Jammers (age 6-10)
Location: ACC Main Library, 2025 Baxter St. Contact: ACC Library (706) 613-3650, ext. 314
All children’s story time programs this week at the library will focus on the benefits of composting. Visit for wormy stories, crafts, and lots of fun!

Vermi-Composting Workshop

Date: Tues, May 5, 6:30 PM - 8 PM
Location: State Botanical Gardens of Georgia, Visitor Center, Classroom 2
Presenter: Kristen Baskin, Let Us Compost, Owner
Cost: $45
During the Vermiculture Workshop, you’ll build a worm bin yourself, with all of the provided materials and hands-on instruction. Leave knowing all you ever wanted to know about worm composting! Fee includes instruction, bin materials to make in workshop and worms.

Compost Bin Sale

Date: Thurs, May 7, 5 PM - 7 PM
Location: ACC Solid Waste Department, 725 Hancock Industrial Way Athens, GA 30605
Contact: Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful (706) 613-3501, ext. 312
Cost: $50 each, all proceeds to benefit KACCB
Are you interested in taking waste reduction to the next level? If so, come and purchase a compost bin and recycle - Mother Nature Style. Master Composters will be on site to answer any compost questions.

Lunch and Learn/ Make and Take: Build a Compost Screener

Date: Fri, May 8, 12 PM - 1:30 PM
Location: ACC Solid Waste Training Room, 725 Hancock Industrial Way, Athens, GA 30605
Limited space (max 30 participants); to register contact the ACC Recycling Division at (706) 613-3512 or e-mail recycle@athensclarkecounty.com. Join Chris McDowell as he builds a compost screener for use in your backyard composting operation. Bring a lunch and we will provide a sweet composting treat!

ACC Commercial Compost Facility Tour

Date: Sat, May 9 10 AM - 11 AM
Location: ACC Landfill, 5700 Lexington Road
ACC Solid Waste/ Recycling are hosting a commercial composting facility tour. For more information visit www.athensclarkecounty.com/recycling or call (706) 613-3512.

Athens Farmers Market - Composting Basics

Date: Sat, May 9, 8 AM - 12 PM
Location: Bishop Park
Master Composters will answer all your questions. KACCB will have backyard bins for sale and other ICAW sponsors will be on site with additional resources.

Compost Story Time, Casey’s Compost at Avid Bookshop

Date: Sat, May 9, 10:30 AM
Location: 493 Prince Ave. Athens, GA 30601
The story time will focus on the benefits of composting.
All About Composting

Attend this free workshop to learn the ins and outs of composting. Topics will include how compost works, composting methods suited for the backyard or the apartment, proper equipment, uses of compost, troubleshooting problems and more. Beginner and experienced composters are welcome!

WHEN:
Wed., May 20 · 6-7:30 p.m.

WHERE:
Athens-Clarke County Library
2025 Baxter Street
Athens, GA 30606

TO REGISTER:
Register by contacting ACC Extension at 706-613-3640 or atedrow@uga.edu.
The Athens Area Master Gardener Plant Sale will be on Saturday, April 25 from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Athens-Clarke County Extension office at 2152 West Broad Street. The sale will feature herbs, vegetable plants, annuals, perennials, trees, shrubs, ferns, ground covers and seedlings. All plants are grown by local Master Gardeners! For more information, contact Athens-Clarke County Extension at 706-613-3640.

The Seniors Garden Club hosted by the Athens Community Council on Aging meets on the first and third Thursday of the month from 10-11 a.m. Meetings are FREE. Contact 706-549-4850 for more information.

The Athens Farmers Market takes place each Saturday from 8 a.m.-noon at Bishop Park. Saturday market events include live music, chef demos and kids’ activities. A downtown market is held each Wednesday from 4-7 p.m. at Creature Comforts Brewing Co.

On Thursdays, UGarden holds its weekly produce stand from 4:30-6 p.m. during the spring semester. The student-run stand is located at 2500 S. Milledge Avenue by the big tan barn. Offerings include vegetables, shiitake mushrooms (in season), herbs and mixed herb teas. For more information, visit www.ugarden.uga.edu.

On Friday, May 1 at 2 p.m., the 2015 All Bugs Good and Bad Series will present the webinar, “Beneficial Garden Helpers.” This one-hour free webinar will discuss the good bugs you want to keep in your garden. The link for the webinar opens at 1:45 p.m. Please enter as a “Guest.” A recording of the webinar will be posted after May 1.

Starting Saturday, May 2, the West Broad Farmers Market will be held each Saturday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 1573 West Broad Street in Athens. The market features fresh produce and other foods, crafts, music and educational activities for youth and families. Starting Tuesday, April 28, a produce stand will also take place each Tuesday from 4-7 p.m. at the same location.

On Saturday, May 2, Beech Hollow Wildflower Farm is holding a guided walk through their late spring wildflowers and butterfly plants. The walk will begin at noon. Beech Hollow Wildflower Farm is located at 1575 Elberton Road in Lexington. For more information, please visit www.beechhollowfarms.com.

The Watkinsville Garden Club is holding its annual plant sale on Saturday, May 2 from 8 a.m.-noon. The sale will feature plants and gardening goodies. Free seed packets will be distributed to the first 50 customers. The sale will be located in the parking lot between Oconee State Bank and the Wells Building. For more information, call 706-338-0204.

On Saturday, May 9, Piccadilly Farm Nursery and Gardens is holding a Mother’s Day Celebration event at 10:30 a.m.. Attendees will be able to decorate clay pots for herbs and/or botanical themed wood trays just in time for Mother’s Day. Children are welcome, and cost is $30. To register, contact 706-765-4444 or email piccadillyfarm@att.net.

On Wednesday, May 20, Athens-Clarke County Extension will present the free gardening workshop “All About Composting.” Held from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Athens-Clarke County Library, the workshop will discuss composting basics, equipment and various methods. Registration is required. To register, please call 706-613-3640 or email atedrow@uga.edu.
## Non-Drought Outdoor Water Use Schedule*

**Effective August 8, 2013**

### allowed daily

**Between 4:00 pm and 10:00 am**

- Automated irrigation systems
- Hand watering (without a shut-off nozzle)
- Lawn sprinklers

### odd/even schedule

**No hourly restrictions**

*Even*: Mon • Wed • Sat  
*Odd*: Tues • Thurs • Sun

- Car washing at home
- Charity car washes
- Hosing driveways
- Outdoor cleaning
- Pressure washing by homeowner
- Topping-off pools

### allowed anytime

**By anyone**

- Commercial pressure washing
- Drip irrigation or soaker hose
- Watering of food gardens
- Hand watering (with a shut-off nozzle)
- Hydroseeding
- Installation and maintenance of an irrigation system
- Irrigation of newly installed turf (for the first 30 days)
- Irrigation of public recreational turf areas
- Irrigation of plants for sale
- Irrigation of sports fields
- Water from a private well
- Water from an alternate source
  - grey water, rain water, condensate

*Please note: The odd/even schedule still applies to non-landscape outdoor water use.*

---

*This Non-Drought Outdoor Water Use Schedule is consistent with the Outdoor Water Use Rules set forth in the Georgia Water Stewardship Act that went into effect statewide on June 2, 2010.*

---

* Athens-Clarke County Water Conservation Office  
  706-613-3729 / savewater@athensclarkecounty.com
**Outdoor Water Restrictions:**

**Barrow, Oconee & Jackson Counties**

Outdoor water use for Barrow, Oconee, and Jackson Counties is now limited to three days per week with even number addresses allowed to water on Saturday, Monday, and Wednesday and odd number addresses allowed to water on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday. The ban on watering between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM remains in effect for all scheduled watering days. No outdoor watering is allowed on Fridays other than exemptions below.

**THE FOLLOWING USES ARE EXEMPT FROM ALL HOURLY/DAY OF THE WEEK RESTRICTIONS:**

- Drip Irrigation
- Soaker Hoses
- Hand Watering
- Food Gardens
- New installations of plants and turf (with a permit)
- Grey Water, Rainwater and AC Condensation Reuse
- Golf Course - Tee and Green Irrigation
- Plants for sale, resale, or installation

*Please be aware that water restrictions are subject to change.*

For more information and additional exemptions please contact your county’s water conservation department.

---

**Helpful information online:**

- Find My Local Extension Office
- Georgia Turf
- Pesticide Applicator Info
- SE Ornamental Horticulture
- Georgia Certified Landscape
- Production & IPM Blog
- Professional
- Landscape Alerts Online
- Upcoming Trainings
- Free Online Webinars
- Bugwood – Pest Images
- Georgia Certified Plant Professional
- Extension Publications

---

**Mission Statement**

The UGA Athens-Clarke County Extension’s mission is to respond to the people’s needs and interest in Agriculture, the Environment, Families, and 4-H/Youth in Athens-Clarke County with unbiased, research-based education and information.

**Athens-Clarke County Extension**

2152 West Broad Street
Athens, GA 30606
Phone: (706) 613-3640
Fax: (706) 613-3643
E-mail: atedrow@uga.edu