



March , 2025 | Issue

*Happy Extension Month*

We create **Real. Life. Solutions.**  
for TN Farmers, Families & Future

Follow any road in Tennessee and you'll find people whose lives have been influenced by Extension's educational programs. The University of Tennessee & Tennessee State University offers researched-based information & education to youth and adults in every county in the State of Tennessee!

We offer programs, camps for youth 4th-12th grade and adult classes including canning, lawn care, gardening, master beef, controlling moles in your yard and more!

CLICK ON PICTURE TO VIEW CALENDAR



## LAWN & LANDSCAPE WEED SCIENCE SESSION

Saturday, March 8th at 9 a.m.

Lane Agri-Park Office Complex - Auditorium  
315 John R. Rice Blvd.

Weeds are probably the most common pest of home lawns and landscapes. They compete with desirable plants for space, water and nutrients and can detract from their appearance.

This free 2-hour session will introduce you to the different types of weeds and tools that will help you identify them and various options for reducing weed populations. The session will conclude with a walk around the outdoor turfgrass demonstration area to identify common weeds if weather permits.

Click this link

<https://forms.gle/grTLbd2wb3gxHzPK7> to register.

## NATIVE PLANTS & THE ECOLOGY OF CEDAR GLADES

This unique series will consist of three in-class sessions and field hikes to local natural areas



**Topics covered will include:**

- Native Plants of Middle Tennessee
- Gardening for Pollinators and Wildlife
- The Cedar Glade Biome
- Field Hikes to Local Natural Areas

**Cost : \$30**

**In-Class Trainings** will be March 26th, April 2nd & 9th from 6pm-7pm at Lane Agri-Park Complex - Community Center bldg. 315 John R. Rice Blvd. Murfreesboro, TN 37129.

**Field Hikes** are April 11th, 19th, and May 5th from 9am- noon.

Pre-Register by calling the office 615-898-7710





## Heirs' Property Workshop

Wednesday, April 22nd from 6pm-8pm at Lane Agri Park Complex - Auditorium, 315 John R. Rice Blvd. in Murfreesboro.

### Overview

- Heirs' Property and its Impacts
- Legal and Cultural Review
- Ownership Challenges

### Prevention

- Estate Planning: Important Terms
- Preventing Heirs' Property
- Clear Title to property
- Wills, Trusts & LLC's
- Working with an Attorney
- An attorney will be present to answer legal questions

### Resolution

- Review Challenges
- How to find Heir's Property
- Working with family members
- Understanding who owns the property

\*Refreshments will be provided\*

Register before April 15th by clicking this link <https://forms.office.com/r/qtvnYKqdce>

## Annual ADVENTURES IN AGRICULTURE

*Explore agriculture's impact on your life!*

Saturday, April 12th  
10am to 2pm  
Lane Agri-Park Complex,  
315 John R. Rice Blvd.  
Murfreesboro  
**FREE Admission**



Join us for Games, Exhibits, Demonstrations, Fun and more.



## 4-H STATE HIPPOLOGY COMPETITION



Congratulations to our 4-H Senior Hippology team who placed 4th at the 4-H State Hippology competition at University of Tennessee Knoxville! Addison Stagner placed 5th Individual Overall at the contest. They also placed 6th in the Horse Bowl tournament. Team members: Addison Stagner, Heaven Avery, Bethany Lancaster, Kennedy Frank. Charity Evans and Tammy Chandler coach the team. For more information about the 4-H Horse Program contact [tchandl9@utk.edu](mailto:tchandl9@utk.edu).



Our Annual vendor meeting will be on Tuesday, April 1st at 9am in the Main Bldg. Registration will begin at 8:30am. Vendor paperwork is available [online](#).

Any questions about being a vendor please contact Anthony Tuggle at 615-898-7710.



Talk to One of Our Agents

Thursday, March 20th in-between  
8:10am - 9:00am

Call WGNS at 615-893-1450 & we will answer your questions about gardening, landscaping, and other Extension events!



## MASTER GARDENERS ANNUAL PLANT SWAP



Saturday, April 26th-9am to 11am  
Lane Agri Park Community Center  
315 John R. Rice Blvd,  
Murfreesboro

Rutherford County Master Gardeners invite you to their 2025 annual plant swap! Please bring healthy, pest-free, and labeled plants rooted in soil.

### Notes

- Bring One, Take One
- Bring Ten, Take Ten
- No Invasive Plants Accepted
- <https://www.tnipc.org/invasive-plants/>

Please bring plants that would excite you to take home.



The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Office of Sustainable Practices is hosting Tennessee's Fourth Annual Food Waste Prevention Week on April 7-13, 2025. This event is part of a national initiative to end food waste. During this week, the state will highlight issues surrounding food waste and inspire people to take action to reduce food waste and increase food recovery and diversion in Tennessee. As part of TFWPW, a statewide food drive is planned during March 31st-April 13th, 2025.

We invite you to join Rutherford County Extension in our annual food waste prevention food drive. All donations will benefit the MTSU student food pantry.

Donations will be accepted April 1st-14th at the Rutherford County Extension Office. Items accepted are below.

- Non-perishable food
- Pre-packaged items
- No homemade foods or canned items
- No expired items or dented cans


For more information or questions, contact FCS Agent, Shay Davis at 615-898-7710 or email [sdavi119@utk.edu](mailto:sdavi119@utk.edu)

## JOIN US FOR SNACKS AT SOAC

Every Tuesday, join the Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center and the UT Ag. Extension for a FREE six-week series that includes a simple cooking and nutrition lesson and a snack! Learn a new recipe each week and enjoy climbing in the Adventure Zones!

**2025 Session Dates:**

- Feb. 11 - Mar. 18
- April 8 - May 13



**Two Sessions Weekly:**

- 4:00 - 4:30 PM
- 4:45 - 5:15 PM

Ages 8+. Registration suggested through Community Pass. Space and snacks are limited. Climbing available for \$2/person. Closed-toed shoes required to climb. Contact [ginger.levinson@townofsmyrna.org](mailto:ginger.levinson@townofsmyrna.org) for more information.





Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center: 100 Sam Ridley Parkway East, Smyrna, TN 37167



Our Rutherford County Master Gardeners will have a Junior Gardener Camp this year. Look for more information in our next newsletter.



Junior 4-H Camp is open to any youth in Rutherford County that are currently in the 4th, 5th or 6th grade. Camp will be June 23rd—27th at William P. Ridley 4-H Center in Columbia.

This five-day resident camp offers excellent youth programming. Activities include ziplining, swimming, shooting sports, group sports and recreation, nature hikes, woodworking, crafts, music and more!

Cost: \$400(includes all meals, lodging, transportation and T-shirt) Registration opens **April 1st** online, if you need to pay with a check, please call the office at 615-898-7710.

[rutherford.tennessee.edu/4-h-camp/](https://rutherford.tennessee.edu/4-h-camp/)

\*Partial Scholarship may be available application can be found on our [website](#).

We are looking for adult volunteers and teen leaders to attend this camp!

Below you will find a list of camps we have available at this time.

#### Other Camps

- Jr High Camp (6th-8th grade) May 26th-30th
- Pioneer Camp (7th-9th) July 1st-4th
- Electric Camp (6th-8th) June 24th-27th
- Culinary Camp (6th-8th) July 8th-10th
- Behind the Scenes Camp (9th-12th) June 24th-26th
- Target Smart Camp (5th-9th) May 26th-30th
- Jr High Academic Conference (6th-8th) June 10th-13th

For more information regarding these camps visit our website by clicking this link:

<https://rutherford.tennessee.edu/4-h-camp/>

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS! ADULTS AND TEENS!

- When : June 23-27, 2025
- Where: Ridley 4-H Camp -Columbia, TN
- Cost: FREE for you if you volunteer!
- Looking for Adult Leaders (19 years and older)
- Looking For Teen Leaders (currently in 9th-12th grades)
- If you are looking for community service hours or leadership experience, this is for you!

**Volunteering for 4-H Camp is a great experience in leadership and most of all FUN!**



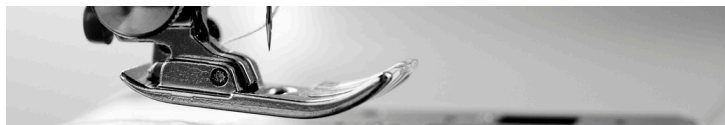
*For Questions and info about volunteering, contact: Raquel Victor [rvictor@utk.edu](mailto:rvictor@utk.edu) or call 615-898-7710.*



## 4-H WESTERN NATIONAL ROUNDUP LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Four Rutherford County 4-H'ers competed at the Western National Roundup Livestock Judging contest in Denver, Colorado this month. This 4-H Team from Oakland High School (Harley Huber, Sarah Wheaton, Emma Millican, Riley Fowler and Coach, Gina Stewart) earned the chance to compete at western National Roundup by placing 2nd at the Tennessee State Contest!





## SEWING CLASSES

In these classes you will learn how sewing with knit fabrics differs from woven fabrics. Each participant will complete 3 small sewing projects using polar fleece and t-shirt weight knits.

**Tuesdays:** March 4th, 11th, & 18th

Class Location: 1700 Irby Lane, Murfreesboro

Fee: \$20

### ADULT CLASSES 2:30pm-4:30pm

- [Register and pay online by Clicking Here.](#)

### HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES 6:00pm-7:30 pm

- [Register and pay online by Clicking Here.](#)

### Additional Adult Classes

#### Thursday, April 3 from 6-8 pm Auditorium,

- **Tote Bag Class**, We will make a versatile tote bag good for so many uses!

[Pre-registration is required. \\$40 Clicking Here.](#)

#### Monday, April 28th from 6-8 pm Auditorium,

- **Sew for Baby**, We will make a bib, burp cloth and basic swaddle blanket for baby.

[Pre-registration is required. \\$40 Clicking Here.](#)

**\*Limited Space available for all sewing classes!\***

If you have questions please contact Janette Walker @ [jwalk143@utk.edu](mailto:jwalk143@utk.edu) or call the office at 615-898-7710.



Tennessee Tree Day 2025 is taking place on Saturday, March 15, 2025! [Click here](#) to order your trees today and pick up at Lane Agri Park - Barn area! Don't delay, you don't want to miss out on your favorite selection. The trees are yours to plant on your own property and will enhance our environment and communities for generations to come!

[Click here for more information!](#)

Follow us on Social Media



The Master Small Ruminant Producer program is designed to service the educational needs of sheep and goat producers in Tennessee. The program gives sheep and goat producers a combination of classroom teaching and hands-on learning experiences.

### Sign up Today for our Master Small Ruminant Multi-County Training

Choose 3 out of 5 Webinars and attend a 1 Day In-Person Training on:

March 31st from 8am-4pm

James E. Ward Agricultural Center,  
Q Barn, Lebanon, TN.

1 Day In-Person Training Topics will be:

- Reproduction
- Forages/Nutrition
- Creative Marketing
- Weed Identification
- Electric Fencing (Hands-On) and More

#### Webinar Information

- Once you have registered and paid the program fee the webinar links will be provided for you to choose from.

To receive certification producers will need to come to the 1 Day In-Person training and participate in 3 Webinars.

Program Fee is \$125. (Includes snacks, and lunch on the In-Person Day)

If you would only like to attend the 1 Day In-Person Training the Fee is \$30

Register and pay by [clicking here](#).

Deadline to register and pay is March 24th.

If you have questions contact

Rebekah Norman: [renorman@utk.edu](mailto:renorman@utk.edu) or call 615-898-7710.