The 39th Season of the Rutherford County Farmers Market kicks off this Friday, May 9. Market hours are 7am - noon every Tuesday and Friday until the end of October.

There will be many returning favorite vendors, plus many new faces with products to sell. This week, look for strawberries, lettuce, kale, onions, goat cheese, asparagus, herbs, local honey, fresh eggs, soaps and bath products, jams & jellies, and lots of plants for sale. Fresh beef and pork will also be available.

What makes our market so special is that all the produce and products sold are locally grown or produced. You can be assured of the freshest local produce and goods provided by farmer or person that grew or prepared them.

Rutherford County Master Gardeners will be back again to help you with your gardening questions. If you are hungry - they will also be selling coffee and other drinks for you to enjoy with a fresh baked items from one of our vendors. Proceeds from the concession sales go towards funding 4-H Camp Scholarships for Rutherford County youth and supporting Master Gardener programs.

Don’t miss the RCFM educational series which also starts May 9th. This were very popular last year and we’ve brought back several favorite instructors and many new ones to present a variety of topics. The first class will be on solar aquaponics - using fish to create a nutrient rich watering system for your plants! Find out more and see our complete class listing at our website: https://extension.tennessee.edu/Rutherford/Pages/Farmers-Market.aspx

You can also “like” the RutherfordCountyFarmers’Market Facebook page to get the latest updates on what is available at the market. (See Page 5 for a list of May-June classes)
SUMMER CAMP SIGN UP
SPACES STILL AVAILABLE

Registration forms and more camp information are on our website!

Registration for these camps is now OPEN:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camp Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Cost**</th>
<th>Grades*</th>
<th>Deadline to register</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electric Camp</td>
<td>UT Knoxville</td>
<td>6/24-27</td>
<td>$235</td>
<td>(6-7th)</td>
<td>5/31/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target Smart Camp</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>6/30-7/3</td>
<td>$240</td>
<td>(5th—12th)</td>
<td>5/31/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Camp</td>
<td>Crossville</td>
<td>6/24-27</td>
<td>$275</td>
<td>(4th-6th)</td>
<td>until full</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design Camp / TN</td>
<td>Cookeville</td>
<td>7/ 8-10</td>
<td>$110</td>
<td>(6th-8th)</td>
<td>June 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discover Day Camp</td>
<td>Lane Agri-Park</td>
<td>7/14-18</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>(4th-12th)</td>
<td>until full</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Grade as of Jan 1, 2014

** Price for Check or Cash. Credit Card payments will have service charge fees

JUNE DAIRY DAY!
FUN FOR ALL AGES

June 11, 2014
9am to 1:00pm

* Sample FREE dairy products including milk, yogurt & ice-cream.
* Educational Exhibits will include live dairy cows.
* Hay Rides!
* Learn to make your own butter
* Games and lots of prizes!

Watch the Police vs. Fire Department milking contest at 12:30.

Fermenting Foods
Thursday, May 15th 10am - 12:30 pm
Cost $20.00

Learn to make your own yogurt, sauerkraut, kefir or ginger ale!

Natural fermentation is one of the oldest means of food preservation. Learn the science behind these products and the importance of probiotics.

Class includes making a jar of sauerkraut to ferment at home. Call 898-7710 or register on line: [https://extension.tennessee.edu/Rutherford/Pages/Canning-Basics-Registration.aspx](https://extension.tennessee.edu/Rutherford/Pages/Canning-Basics-Registration.aspx)

Tiffany Malapanes from Positifitea Demonstrating how to make kombucha tea at last years’ fermenting class.
Plant and Seed Swap was a Huge Success for All!

On April 26th, the Master Gardeners of Rutherford held a free event for the community that was packed with fun activities. Along with swapping plants, seeds, trees and more, there were a variety of demonstrations, a rock-bottom priced gardening book & magazine sale, and a fantastic silent auction. Throughout the event, Certified Master Gardeners were on hand to answer gardening questions.

The Master Gardener Association wants to thank all of the local businesses that donated items to our silent auctions. The proceeds from this event will make it possible to host other events.

This year, we encouraged community members who had no plants to swap to bring canned fruits & vegetables to swap for plants. Journey Home Community Café received over 400 cans of food to help feed people in need. Over 400 new plants went to new homes to encourage “budding” gardeners.

Thanks to everyone who came out & had fun with us! Mark your calendars for next year’s swap on April 18th.
Lawn, Garden and Landscape Tips for May

By: Mitchell Mote, Extension Agent III

**Lawns:**

*Warm season turf grasses* are slowly coming out of dormancy and finally beginning to grow. If you haven’t fertilized your warm season turf this year because you were waiting on it to break dormancy, a May application should help make it pop. It’s not a bad idea to use a complete fertilizer for that initial application as the P and K (Potassium and Phosphorus) will be beneficial to the winter stressed, hot weather turf. Apply at a rate that will provide about 1 pound of nitrogen per thousand feet of turf.

Depending on when your initial application went out, late May to the first half of June will be the right time for many people to make a second application of preemergent herbicide to keep crabgrass populations low. Remember, if you maintain a cool season turf, UT Extension doesn’t recommend applying nitrogen between the middle of April until the first of September, so try to use a no or low nitrogen content material if using a preemerge and fertilizer combination product for the second application on cool season turfgrass.

**Be ready to spot treat warm season broadleaf weed outbreaks** while they’re young to improve control (if a weed free lawn is your goal). If you’re not bothered by a bit of diversity (i.e. weeds) in your turf population, then you’ll be good to go with no additional work. Even weeds are green and can look fairly uniform when mown on a regular basis. The money saved by not treating lawn weeds can be used to help purchase a new high torque cam for your racing lawn mower project.

**Vegetable Gardens:**

*It’s warm season vegetable time!* While you’re enjoying the cool season vegetables harvested from your early garden, you can plant all those warm season crops you’ve been looking forward to all winter. For the ambitious gardeners who got an early planting of sweet corn out in April, you probably have young corn plants up and growing. A little more heat will make it really jump. May is a good time to make a second planting of corn to extend that fresh corn goodness later into the summer. Don’t forget to side dress your warm season vegetables with supplemental nitrogen when they are at the correct stage of development. If you had a soil test for your vegetable garden the soil test report reminds you when to side dress. If you don’t have a soil test report, a good rule of thumb for side dressing is: tomatoes and peppers when first fruits are about an inch in diameter; squash, pumpkins and melons when vines are 12 inches long; okra after the first picking and corn when stalks are about a foot tall.

**Use mulches to suppress weed growth** in middles and between wide spaced plants such as squash and tomatoes. Most any organic material can be used to include straw, newspaper, cardboard, etc.

Scout for insects and diseases early and often and deal with problems while they’re small. If you need assistance or recommendations regarding insect or disease pest control, contact us at the Extension office.

**Landscapes:**

Many insect pests will build populations in May. It’s not uncommon for spider mite, scale, lace bug, aphid, eastern tent caterpillar, rose slug and other pest populations to really increase this month. Applications of soil applied systemic insecticides containing imidacloprid prior to outbreaks will keep many pest populations from building. Scout your landscape plants often and address any problems you find while they’re small and easier managed. Again if you need assistance or advice regarding pest management, don’t hesitate to give us a call. It’s much better to get an accurate identification of the pest and choose an appropriate control measure the first time, than to try two or three things before stumbling on the right one!

The selection of annual bedding plants for great color is probably as good now as it will be all year. Take advantage of the selection and colorize and beautify your little piece of the world.

**Roses will be loaded with blooms soon,** and many irises are already showing their beauty. Take advantage of those and other pretty blooms by cutting a few for arrangements in your home. They last such a relatively short time, it’s almost a shame not to enjoy them at every opportunity.

**Don’t forget to water newly transplanted trees and shrubs during the coming (probably) hot, dry spells of summer.**

Continued on Page 6
**New Class!!**

**Girl Talk**

4 Week Workshop
Tuesdays June 3, 10, 17, 24
5:30—7:30

**Girl Talk** is designed to bring mothers and daughters (9-12 year old) together in a fun and relaxed environment to encourage healthy discussion about sexuality, values and decision making.

This class will help Mom’s & daughters foster open communication and foster bonding that will hopefully last a lifetime.

Misty Layne-Watkins, Extension Agent & LaShan Mathews (Rutherford County Health Department) will be leading the program using mini-lectures and videos.

Cost is $40 for each parent/child combination. This covers class materials, refreshments and door prizes.

Class size is limited to 24 (12 parent/child combinations.

Check our website for more information!

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**Rutherford County Farmers Market Classes May –June**

Classes start at 9:00am

FREE—no registration required!

- **May 9** David Goolsby of Agro Project Advisories will show you how to set up a home system for growing fish and vegetables in harmony.
- **May 13** Carol Reese, Certified Master Gardener will teach basic techniques for growing mushrooms at home.
- **May 16** Extension Agent, Mitchell Mote will talk about home pest control remedies. Are they safe and do they work?
- **May 20** Master Gardener, Mark Murphy will talk about using corn you grow (or buy) and how to convert it to meal for making corn bread, grits or polenta.
- **May 23** Jim & Peggy Hunt from Epicurean Olive Oil Co. will talk about the differences in olive oils and how to use.
- **May 27** Pat Whitaker, Ext. Agent will present a seasonal cooking demonstration. Taste test some new foods and take home recipes.
- **May 30** David Adams from Stones River Battlefield will teach you how to choose environmentally responsible and wildlife friendly plants for your home landscaping.
- **June 3** Mitchell Mote will be showing you how to determine if landscape or plant problems are caused by insects, diseases or humans. Learn why the difference is important in choosing the correct method for treating the damage.
- **June 6** Reggie Reeves, Certified Master Gardener will help you learn organic pest control and fertilization options that are safe and effective.
- **June 10** Richard Lee, Master Gardener will offer tips to extend your vegetable growing season with succession planting.
- **June 13** Mitchell Mote, Ext. Agent will talk about “what to expect when you hire a lawn service”.
- **June 17** Stephen Camilo, Revolution Wellness, will teach you how & why you should make your own yogurt and kefir (fermented dairy products)
- **June 20** Justin Stefanski, Ext Agent / Wilson County will present options for watering and conserving water in your home landscape and garden.
- **June 24** Sidney Bounsavath, Thai Pattaya Chef, will prepare some new, delicious dishes for you to try.
- **June 27** Mitchell Mote, Ext. Agent will be here to offer information on organic pest control options for lawns and landscapes.
Time to get your soil tested!!

Don’t waste time, effort and money on applying the wrong soil amendments to your lawn or garden.

Submitting a soil sample is simple.

Collect small portions of soil from approximately 10 random locations that represent the average soil in the area to be tested.

Samples should be collected at a depth of about 6 inches. (No rocks, roots or plant parts, please)
Mix the small portions together. If the soil is wet, allow it to dry naturally.

Bring enough of the resulting mixture to fill a quart baggie to the extension office.

There is a fee to cover the cost of the testing, the cost depends on which test you are having done.
It takes 1-2 weeks to get your results back by mail.

Why soil test? Less fertilizer and amendment cost/waste, healthier lawns, fewer weeds, improved vegetable yields and flowers!

May Garden Tips, from Page 4

For those with arborvitae, Leyland cypress, juniper and other needle and scale leaf evergreens in their landscapes, remember that bagworms generally appear in early June, but might sometimes appear in late May, so be on the lookout and be ready.

Japanese beetles normally emerge in late May to early June, so be ready if you’ve been bothered by them in the past. You can’t do much to stop this year’s emerging adults, but a May-June application of some grub control products can reduce next year’s crop. Check product labels for correct application timing.

Avoid spraying or dusting insecticides when plants are in bloom if at all possible to protect vulnerable pollinators such as honeybees and bumblebees. If you can’t avoid treating while plants are in bloom, do it in the evening when bees aren’t active and use the least toxic, shortest residual product available.

Contact us at the Extension office if you have questions about insecticide applications and bee safety.