So! You Want to be a Farmer?!?

Are you thinking about getting into “agricultural adventures” or are you already up & growing, but would like to try something new?

This 2 day workshop will help you learn how to get started, and provide resources and information to help you make decisions about what you want to do.

Friday August 28 6-9 pm
Saturday August 29 9am—3:30pm

Cost: $40 (includes class materials, lunch & refreshments.

Topics will include:
• Farm Self Assessments
• Potential Enterprises
  ◊ Livestock
  ◊ Produce
  ◊ Nursery Stock
  ◊ Value Added Products
• USDA and TN Department of Agriculture resources
• Marketing Considerations
• Real life, local, Case Studies

Don’t wait to sign up, space is limited.
Call 615-898-7710 to reserve your place.

The Rutherford County Extension Farmers’ Market has been providing fresh fruits and vegetables, farm raised meats, plants and home-made treats for 40 years.

We’ve made lots of changes over those years, but one thing that hasn’t changed is the RCFM being a place where city and country come together to celebrate fresh foods, learning, and friendships.

It’ll be peak summer produce season this month so the market will be full of vendors bringing their best locally grown or produced items for you to choose from.

In addition, on June 26 to celebrate our anniversary we’ll have some special visitors and activities:
• Eva Berg will be demonstrating how to work with wool (carding, felting, etc)
• Catie Beth Thomas will show how to weave on a loom
• Discovery Center Steam Bus will have “gardening in a glove” with their portable classroom
• Tn Pork Producers will have food demonstrations
• Bee Keeping Demonstrations
• MTSU Storm Water information
• Master Gardeners will have special demonstrations

...and more surprises being added every day!

Don’t forget to mark your calendar for this one day, very special event!
“Canning College” coming soon!
Ready to learn to preserve fresh, wholesome, food? We are preparing now for “Canning College”
We are still working out the details, but if would like to be added to our “interested” list,
Call 615-898-7710 if you want to be put on the list for more information.

Just in case you missed June Dairy Day—here are a few photos of the fun!

This family won free Chick-Fil-A for a year!

Enjoying yummy chocolate milk from MTSU dairy

Wagon rides!

2015 Annual Quilt Trail Tour

We are now accepting reservations for the popular quilt trail tour which will be held this year on Friday August 14th.

Departure will be 9:00 a.m. from Lane Agri-Park. Reserve your place now as there is limited seating available on our small bus and we expect it to fill up quickly. Cost is $30 which includes the tour and lunch.

We will visit several locations in Rutherford County with time for shopping and visiting at some of them. Lunch will be catered by Miss Carolyn at the Cripple Creek Church.

http://rutherfordquilts.org/
After the tour, visit Quilt’s in the Boro quilt show at the Farmers Market Building. (Admission is NOT included in Quilt Trail tour fee) to see some outstanding examples of quilting, visit with vendors and learn quilting techniques.

www.quiltingbees.org
Announcing the 2015…

Grass Masters Lawn Care Academy

There’s a really good chance you’ll learn way more than you bargained for about turf grass and lawn care if you complete our lawn care course slated for August 17-20, 2015.

⇒ You’ll learn about the different kinds of turf grasses we can (and can’t) grow here and how to manage them,
⇒ options for establishing a new lawn
⇒ renovation tips for existing lawns
⇒ weed control
⇒ fertilization
⇒ organic lawn care options and more!
Shoot, you may even learn what it is that makes those holes in your lawn!

Class time is from 6:00-8:00 p.m. nightly August 17—20. All sessions will be held in the Lane Agri-Park Office Complex auditorium located at 315 John R. Rice Blvd in Murfreesboro.

The course is free for everyone interested in learning more about home lawncare. We’ll even reduce the price by 50% for anyone over the age of 55!

Space is limited and you must register by Friday, August 7 to guarantee that course materials will be available for you! You can register by calling the Extension office at 898-7710 from 7:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday or email Mitchell Mote at mmote1@utk.edu

Grass Masters Lawn Care Academy

Pledge:
"We won’t promise you’ll have the nicest lawn on your block after completing this course, but if you don’t, odds are good you’ll have a good idea why not."

Jr Camp Parent Meeting

If your child (4th—6th grade) has been registered for Jr. Camp June 22-26th. Don’t forget the parents meeting Monday, June 8th 6pm Community Center (Farmers Mkt Building) Campers are welcome to attend.
HAY TESTING PRICE REDUCED FOR JUNE!

Hay tests are normally $17 but will be reduced to $10 during June. Please call 615-898-7710 to be placed on the testing list. Rebekah Norman will call individuals on the list to arrange a farm visit during June. This visit will include weighing bales and taking hay samples for testing. After the results are received, Rebekah will also be available to explain hay test results.

Why Hay Test?

1. It can save you $$$.
   Feeding the cowherd is the largest component of cow cost. Testing hay informs if supplementation is needed and if so, how much. No more wasted supplements = $ saved!

2. Helps you plan ahead.
   Reconsider # 1 and now consider that you will have months to plan for supplementation (if needed). It is a great way to shop options and once again: Save $

3. You can match the right hay, to the right animals.
   Now you will know the nutrient value of the hay. Assuming you can separate the hay crops by their hay test results, you can match hay to the nutrient needs of your animals (for example, first-calf heifer’s need more nutrition (better hay) than mature cows).

4. The test predicts intake. If you know how much your animals weigh, you will know what each animal will eat on a daily basis—all because of the %NDF number on your hay test. Now you will know how to plan your hay inventory for winter feeding.

5. It is needed to accurately compare hays.

6. If you sell hay, it is a marketing tool.

7. And if all of the above isn’t enough, here is a question for you: What other feed would you consider feeding to your cowherd if you didn’t have a label describing its nutrient content?

RCFM June Classes

- Every Tues / Fri
- At 9:00am join us for a FREE informative class.
- No registration needed!

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Visit our website for full calendar & class details.

Extension offices will be closed Friday, July 3

Happy July 4th

Farmers’ Market WILL be open!