

# Cumberland County

## Agriculture and Natural Resource Newsletter



### Forage Timely Tips

Continue strip-grazing of stockpiled tall fescue for maximum utilization.

Remove animals from waterlogged pastures to limit pugging and soil compaction.

Feed best hay to animals with highest nutritional needs.

Supplement poor quality hay as indicated by forage testing.

Feed hay in poor pastures to increase soil fertility and enhance organic matter.

Consider 'bale grazing' - set out hay throughout field when the ground is dry or frozen. Then use temporary fencing to allocate bales as needed after that.

Use variety trial results to select seed for spring renovation.

Prepare for pasture renovation by purchasing seeds, inoculant, etc. and getting equipment ready.

*Resource: January Forage News*



Cumberland County  
Cooperative Extension Service  
90 Smith Grove Rd.  
Burkesville, KY 42717  
(270) 433-7700  
Website: [cumberland.ca.uky.edu](http://cumberland.ca.uky.edu)

Chelsey Anderson,

Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources

Email: [capick3@uky.edu](mailto:capick3@uky.edu)

### IN THIS NEWSLETTER YOU CAN EXPECT:

FORAGE TIMELY TIPS

UPCOMING EVENTS & CLASSES

DON'T GET BURNT, BECAUSE NOT ALL FIREWOOD IS CREATED EQUAL

NUISANCE WEED SPRAYING PROGRAM

PASTURES PLEASE

SEASONAL CRD PREPAREDNESS TIPS



**Pesticide Class**

Date: January 14th, 2025  
Time: 9am  
Location: Cumberland Co. Extension Office

**Cumberland County Beekeepers**

Date: January 14th, 2025  
Time: 5pm  
Location: Cumberland Co. Extension Office

Date: February 11th, 2025  
Time: 5pm  
Location: Cumberland Co. Extension Office  
Topic: Farm Business Management

**Cumberland County Gardeners**

Date: January 23rd, 2025  
Time: 10am  
Location: Cumberland Co. Extension Office

Date: February 27th, 2025  
Time: 10am  
Location: Cumberland Co. Extension Office

**Winter Wheat Meeting**

Date: February 4th, 2025  
Location: Princeton, Kentucky

**Master Loggers CEUs**

Date: February 25th, 2025  
Time: All Day  
Location: Cumberland Co. Extension Office

**Ag Producers Safety Drive Thru**

Date: March 18th, 2025  
Time: 7am-9am  
Location: Cumberland Co. Extension Office

**Women in Ag**

Date: March 21st, 2025  
Time: 9am  
Location: Cumberland Co. Extension Office

**Clinton-Cumberland Cattlemen's Meeting**

Date: March 27th, 2025  
Time: 6pm  
Location: To be determined

**Wheat Field Day**

Date: May 13th, 2025  
Location: Princeton, Kentucky

**Corn, Soybean & Tobacco Field Day**

Date: July 22nd or 29th, 2025  
Location: Princeton, Kentucky

For more information, see full details on the Cumberland County Cooperative Extension Service website: [cumberland.ca.uky.edu](http://cumberland.ca.uky.edu)



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# Don't Get Burnt, Because Not All Firewood Is Created Equal

Source: Laurie Taylor Thomas, University of Kentucky extension forester at Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment

Fires in the fireplace or outside in the fire pit are intrinsically connected to our visions of nestling in for a long, comfy winter. Outside, let the winter bring its ice and snow if it wants. Inside, we could have a fire to snuggle up to. But not all firewood is created equal.

There are some important things to know before lighting, igniting just any old wood.

- Different species of trees provide different amounts of heat. Wood is made up of air and wood fiber, or cellulose. Since the cellulose burns, but not the air, look for the heaviest or densest firewood per unit volume. The best woods would be oak, hickory and black locust. Yellow-poplar, silver and red maple are not as dense and will provide much less heat. On the other hand, they are great woods for starting a fire.
- Freshly cut wood contains a lot of water. Seasoned wood refers to wood that has been given the time for some or all of that water to evaporate. It usually takes between six and 12 months for wood to cure. If you burn it too soon, when it's still green, most of the heat generated will go into evaporating that water, rather than heating your room.
- Burning unseasoned wood can also be dangerous. Generated smoldering fire can cause a creosote buildup in your chimney. Burning pine logs, with their heavy resin, can result in the same problem. Over time, that buildup can lead to a chimney fire.
- If you're seasoning your own wood, cut it first to a length that fits your fireplace, remove the bark, and split the logs for faster drying. Stack it off the ground in an open area with good airflow. Pallets make a good base for this. Air dry it for a minimum of six months.
- If you are buying your wood from a vendor, ask what tree species the wood comes from and how long it has been seasoned. Wood that has been properly seasoned has a gray, weathered appearance and large cracks in the ends of the logs. Even if you've bought seasoned wood, storing it correctly—stacked off the ground and covered with a tarp to protect it from rain—will prevent the wood from reabsorbing water.
- Be aware, too, of unwanted visitors that can hitch a ride on your firewood. Buy firewood near the location where you plan to burn it. Moving infected firewood long distances (especially ash) can spread invasive species, such as the emerald ash borer, a destructive species that originated in Asia. You likely won't see the adult borers, which are three-eighths to one-half-inch long and very narrow. But larva and eggs could be out of sight inside the logs.

However you plan to enjoy utilizing firewood this season, stay safe and enjoy their embers.

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## Nuisance Weed Spraying Program

This program consists of weed spraying demonstration plots. The department will provide the sprayer and enough chemical for the treatment of 10 acres of agricultural land or 100 gallons of spot spraying mix to be used on agricultural land. The department's representative will demonstrate proper mixing and application techniques. A number of nuisance weeds can be treated under this program depending on the needs of the participant. This program is limited to broadleaf weeds.

Broadcast Spraying demonstration plots consist of:

- 10 acres of agricultural land will be treated with chemical provided by the department
- Application is performed with a two-wheeled trailer type sprayer equipped with boomless nozzles
- If additional chemical is provided by the participant, an additional 10 acres can be treated

Spot Spraying demonstration plots consist of:

- 100 gallons of broadleaf chemical mix which is applied until sprayer is empty
- Application is performed with a two-wheeled trailer type sprayer equipped with a handheld spray wand used by the tractor operator
- If additional chemical is provided by the participant, an additional 100 gallons can be sprayed

For each demonstration:

- The participant must provide water source
- The participant must provide tractor and operator
- All chemical products must be labeled and the product label will be strictly followed
- A maximum of 7 participants per county
- This program is designed to target weeds that have a negative impact on the participant's agricultural production.

There will be an annual online application period to participate in this program. You may submit an application using our on-line services from February 1 to February 28 of each year.



Visit the Kentucky Department of Agriculture website: [kyagr.com](http://kyagr.com)

Click "Online Services" in the menu bar at top.

Click on "Nuisance Weed Spraying Program" from the options provided.

Fill out the application.

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# 2025 Horses & Horsemen:

Join us for the 18th annual

## PASTURES PLEASE!!

Thursday, February 27



### Schedule:

5:30—Meal

6:00—Aerial Applications: Does a Drone Fit  
– Brett Reese

6:30—Weeds to Watch Out For  
– Dr. Bill Witt

7:00—Cost Share Opportunities for Horse Owners  
– Krista Lea

RSVP to 859-257-5582

**Fayette County  
Extension Office**  
1140 Harry Sykes Way  
Lexington, KY 40504

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with prior notification.



## Seasonal CRD Preparedness Tips

### January: Extreme Weather Preparedness

As winter storms are becoming more prevalent within this season, there is higher risk for car accidents and extreme cold. Blizzards can bring extreme temperatures, high winds, and freezing rain/snow. See the following tips to stay safe in this winter season:

#### 1. Learn the types of winter storms

##### *Winter Weather Advisory:*

- Issued during snow, freezing rain, freezing drizzle, and sleet

Could lead to life-threatening situations if ignored

##### *Winter Storm Watch:*

- Are usually issued 12 to 48 hours before the beginning of a Winter Storm
- Issued for: blizzard, heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet

##### *Winter Storm Warning:*

- Issued typically 12 to 24 hours before the event is expected
- Issued for: heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet



#### 2. Practice car safety during winter storms

##### *Stay off roads if at all possible*

If you must go out, then let someone know your route and times

##### *If your car skids:*

Remain calm, ease your foot off the gas and turn your wheels in the direction you want the front of the car to go

##### *If trapped in your car, then stay inside:*

Run the motor about 10 minutes each hour for heat.

While running the motor, open the window a little for fresh air to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

Be visible to rescuers by turning on your dome light at night, tie a bright colored cloth to your antenna/door, and raise your hood (after snow stops)

#### 3. How to handle extreme temperatures

*Limit your time outside:* If you need to go outside, then wear layers of warm clothing and watch for frostbite and hypothermia

*Frostbite:* causes loss of feeling and color around the face, fingers and toes

- Signs: Numbness, white or grayish-yellow skin, firm or waxy skin.
- Actions: Go to a warm room, soak the area in warm water, use body heat to warm, and do not massage or use a heating pad.

*Hypothermia:* An unusually low body temperature

A body temperature below 95 degrees is an emergency

- Signs: Shivering, exhaustion, confusion, fumbling hands, memory loss, slurred speech or drowsiness.
- Actions: Go to a warm room. Warm the center of the body first (chest, neck, head and groin). Keep dry and wrapped up in warm blankets, including the head and neck.

##### *Reduce the risk of a heart attack:*

- Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow and walking in the snow
- Passing out in the snow (without help) is deadly

#### Sources:

<https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>

<https://www.weather.gov/safety/winter-during>

<https://canva.com>

