

UF/IFAS EXTENSION **Duval County** *Connections*



Duval County Extension Office

FEBRUARY 2025

1010 N. McDuff Ave., Jacksonville, FL 32254

Hours of Operation 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Office: 904-255-7450 | Email: duval@ifas.ufl.edu

In this edition, there is a marketing best practices for small farmers workshop, spring seed starting hands-on workshop, a save the date for the Annual Plant Sale, 4-H programs, a special volunteer highlight, and more.

Quick View of Program Areas

- [Lawns, Gardens and Trees](#)
- [Horticulture and Pest Services](#)
- [Agriculture and Agribusiness Management](#)
- [4-H Youth Development, Duval County 4-H Foundation](#)
- [Family and Consumer Sciences and Canning Center](#)

Join the **Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Program**

for a discussion on *Direct Marketing Options for Small Farmers*, virtually, Wednesday, February 26th from 2-3:30pm. Topics will include information on local and state ordinances and regulations, direct marketing best practices, direct sales requirements, and networking opportunities.

The cost is \$10 plus tax



Direct Marketing Options for Small Farmers

Duval County Extension Office
 1010 N McDuff Ave

Zoom link will be emailed before class. Please register with a valid email or contact Steve at sjennewein@ufl.edu

[Click here to register](#)



Join the **Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Program** for their *Backyard Hen Seminar* at the Extension Office, Tuesday, February 25th from 2-3:30pm.

This course is a pre-requisite to receive a Backyard Hen Permit from Duval County. The class will consist of a lecture and then an exhibition of a functional coop at the UF/IFAS Urban Demonstration Garden.

The cost is \$10 plus tax

[Click here to register](#)

Master Gardener Volunteers are hosting a *Spring Seed Starting hands-on workshop* Saturday, February 1st at Beaches Organic Community Garden in Jarboe Park located at 1200 3rd St., Neptune Beach, 32266.

Come learn the basics of growing your own vegetable transplants from seed.

The cost is \$5, plus tax
Includes take home seeds and soil.



[Click here to register](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

The *Annual Master Gardener Spring Plant Sale* is March 14-15. Limited Presale tickets will be available Friday evening and the main sale will start Saturday morning. There will be Plant Chats throughout the day offered by **Master Gardener Volunteers**. Times and Eventbrite link TBD.



4-H Reenrollment for the 2024/2025 Year

4-H Online is open for enrollment. The membership fee for the year is \$30.

If your family would like to apply for a membership fee scholarship email duval4h@ufl.edu.

Encourage your friends to enroll in Duval 4-H visit [4-H Online](#)

Growing with 4-H SPIN Club

4-H is the largest youth development program in the nation, dedicated to empowering young people through engaging, hands-on learning opportunities. From STEM projects and agricultural programs to community service and leadership activities, 4-H inspires creativity and encourages innovation.

Interested in joining? Classes will meet at the Extension Office at 6:30m. Below are meeting dates and topics:

- February 11th - Cluck' Good Time!
- March 11th - Coking & Confidence!
- April 18th - Plantastic Voyage!
- May 13th - Rabbit Rhapsody

Register via the link below or scan the QR code.

[Click here to register](#)

Duval County 4-H
Growing With 4-H
SPIN Club

What we are about!
Our club is all about empowering youth through hands-on experiences that spark creativity, promote leadership, and nurture essential life skills. Whether you're a first timer or a seasoned member, you'll discover a supportive community eager to learn and grow together.
At the heart of our club are the diverse projects we undertake—each designed to help members explore various facets of life and develop practical skills that will last a lifetime.

Meetings!
January 14th February 11th
March 11th April 18th
May 13th
@ 6:30 pm
Where: The Duval County Extension Office
(1010 McDuff Ave N, Jacksonville)

4-H Online
Link to Register
v2.4honline.com

Meeting Topics!

- January - What is 4-H?
- February - Cluckin' Good Time!
- March - Cooking & Confidence!
- April - Plantastic Voyage!
- May - Rabbit Rhapsody

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Duval County 4-H
EPIC EATERS
4-H SPIN CLUB

What we are about!
Discover the joy of cooking and baking with our 4-H Club! This engaging program is designed for young culinary enthusiasts to learn essential kitchen skills, explore new recipes, and foster a love for food. Participants will enjoy hands-on experiences, from measuring ingredients to mastering baking techniques, all while making new friends and building confidence in the kitchen. Join us for a delicious adventure that inspires creativity and teamwork!

Meetings!
January 7th February 5th
March 4th April 1st
May 6th
@ 6:30 pm
Where: The Duval County Extension Office
(1010 McDuff Ave N, Jacksonville)

Ages
Ages 5-18 are welcome, but the club is limited to 25 seats.

Leaders
Tara Kolb
#: (904) 255-7476
@: tara.holtzendorf@ufl.edu

4-H Online
Link to Register
v2.4honline.com

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Epic Eaters 4-H SPIN Club

Discover the joy of cooking and baking with 4-H. This program is designed for young culinary enthusiasts to learn essential kitchen skills, explore new recipes, and foster a love for food. Space is limited.

Below are meeting dates:

- February 5th
- March 4th
- April 1st
- May 6th

Register via the link below or scan the QR code.

[Click here to register](#)

Duval County Extension Agent Brings Expertise to Petuake, Zambia



Duval County Extension Agent, Dr. Stephen Jennewein, recently traveled to Petuake, Zambia to share knowledge and expertise with local poultry producers. The mission focused on improving village chicken production by educating farmers on best practices for sustainable and efficient poultry farming.

Roughly 90 Zambian small farmers learned how to improve their poultry husbandry practices and increase their food security.

This international collaboration made possible through the Farmer to Farmer USAID funded expert volunteer program, highlights the value of agricultural education and its potential to create lasting change in rural communities.



From your friends at Duval County Extension



February is Black History Month!
 It is a time to honor and celebrate the achievements, history, and contributions of Black individuals and communities throughout history.

An article celebrating Black History Month

The Duval County Video The Duval County I Know



Helpful Resources

- Buy direct from a produce grower near you - <https://www.fdacs.gov/Food-Nutrition/Buy-Fresh-From-Florida>
- The City of Jacksonville's 2024 - 2025 Preparedness Guide: <https://www.jaxready.com>
- Look up your Evacuation Zone - <https://maps.coj.net/evsearch/>



Check Us Out Online and on Facebook!



- <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/duval/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/DuvalCountyAgriculture>
- <https://www.facebook.com/DuvalCounty4H/>
- <http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/duvalco/>

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The University of Florida is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. For disability accommodations such as sign language interpreters, listening devices, and alternate formats of written material, please contact the Duval County Extension Office at 904-255-7450 at least 2 weeks in advance. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs.