



SEASONS IN WAKULLA COUNTY

Horticulture, Agriculture, Natural Resources
Quarterly Report, May - July 2024
Volume 4

Mission Statement

UF/IFAS Wakulla Extension is a federal, state, and county partnership throughout Florida, with the mission to improve our lives by developing knowledge in agriculture, natural resources, and the life sciences and to make that knowledge accessible to sustain and enhance the quality of human life. The partnership includes Florida Cooperative Extension, University of Florida (UF), Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University (FAMU) and the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners.

UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County
84 Cedar Avenue
Crawfordville, FL 32327-2063

Phone: (850) 926-3931
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Web: <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/wakulla/>

Helpful Links

Florida Master Gardener Volunteer Information

mastergardener.ifas.ufl.edu

UF/IFAS Gardening Solutions

gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu

Florida-Friendly Landscaping (TM)

ffl.ifas.ufl.edu

UF/IFAS Solution For Life

solutionsforyourlife.com

Ask IFAS

<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>



For more information contact: UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County
wakullamg@ifas.ufl.edu ▪ (850) 926-3931 option 5
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Horticulture, Agriculture, Natural Resources Advisory Committee:

The activities offered by UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County are based on statewide priorities, national initiatives, current research, and local community needs. In an effort to best represent Wakulla County, the Horticulture, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Extension Advisory Committee was developed. The Extension Advisory Committee provides advice to Extension Faculty in the creation and updating of program plans to make sure that Extension programming reflects both the mission and vision of the organization as well as the interests and requirements of the community.

Are you passionate about the environment, agriculture, or gardening? Here's a fantastic opportunity to make a difference! We invite you to consider joining the UF/IFAS Extension Wakulla County Horticulture, Agriculture, Natural Resources Advisory Committee. Your voice matters, and this committee is a platform for you to contribute ideas and perspectives. To express your interest or for more information, please contact the Extension Office @ 850-926-3931, option 5. Let's grow together and make a positive impact on Wakulla County!

Advisory Committee Members

Nelson Ball, Lorraine Calaway, Katasha Cornwell, Bryan Green,
Tonya Green, Kellie Keys, Kenny Manning,
Robert Manning, and Kaitlyn Sheffield



Wakulla County Master Gardener Volunteers

Dianne Amburn, Maxine Chentnik, Linda Clemens, Mary Cortese, Michele Hackmeyer, Ruth Jacobs, Jenny Lorch, Roy Malberg, Rita Schuetz, Diana Whitmore, Shannon Whitmore

Master Gardener Trainees

Rhonda Blake, Dewana Britten, Alicia Crites, Jiuqing Gu, Abby Lisboa, Pennie Slaughter, Nicole Sullivan, Jeffery Zou



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June Plant Sale Sequel



June 22, 2024 was the date of the Master Gardener Volunteer Plant Sale Sequel. The event was held from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon at the Wakulla County Extension Office arena. Approximately 100 people attended the sale and purchased 250 plants. The Master Gardeners are already planning for next year's initial sale which will take place on Saturday, April 5, 2025. More information will be available in upcoming issues.



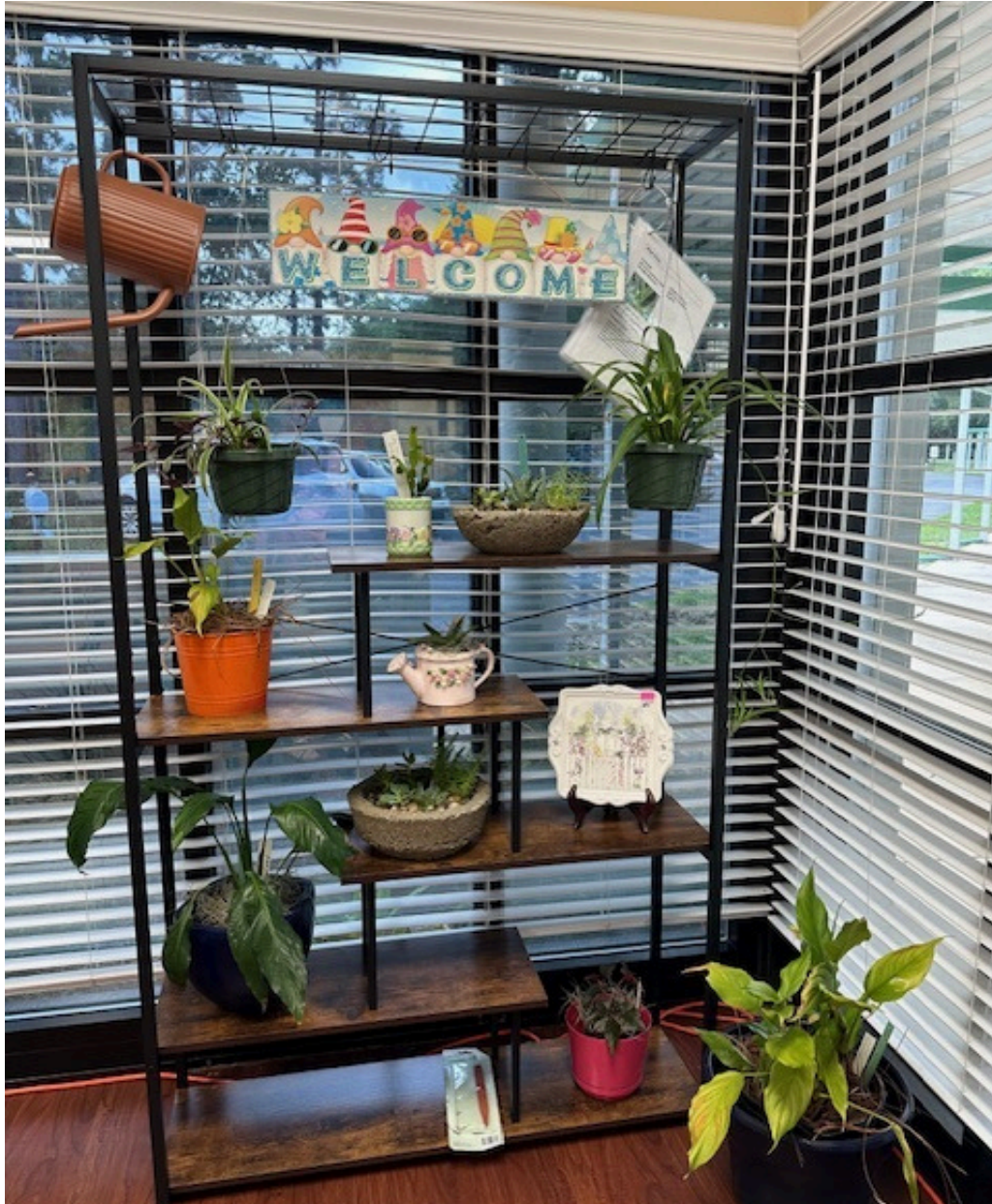
June Plant Sale Sequel - continued



June Plant Sale Sequel - continued



Beautification of Extension Office Lobby



A big THANK YOU to MGV Mary Cortese for setting up our new plant stand located in the Extension Office lobby. A variety of houseplants are featured along with plant information sheets. Plants and containers are available for purchase. Please stop by if you need to pick up a gift for a friend or family member, or just to gift to yourself! The Extension Office is open Monday - Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cash or checks accepted.



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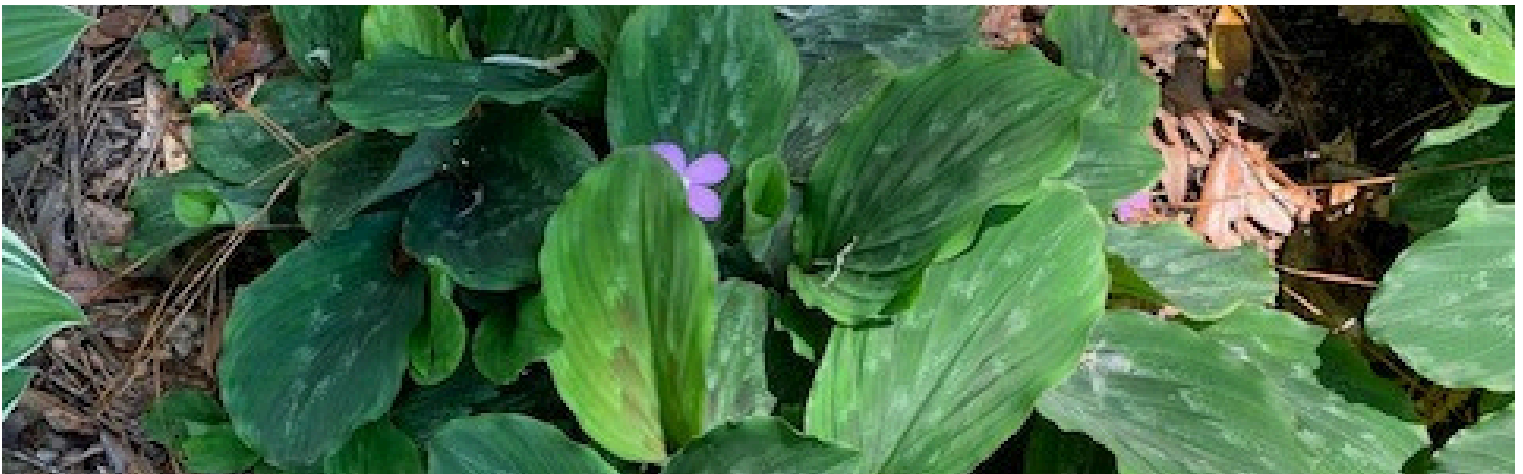
Spotlight on My Favorite Plant

Peacock Ginger

By: Jenny Lorch, MGVS

When I moved into my new home, there was an established garden. The first year was so interesting watching all the flowers come up. I never knew what or where the next flower would appear. Since I came from Colorado, all the flowers were new and different. By the end of May I thought I'd seen them all. But low and behold little oblong tubes started to show up. These small tubes turned larger, then evolved into big leaves. The leaves were elaborately striped shades of green and spread out into a fan shape. Small pink and purple flowers appeared. These plants turned out to be Peacock Ginger which only grow about 4" to 10", are very hardy, and come back better each year. As they are very easy to divide, I have spread them along the edge of the garden bed.

Peacock Gingers love shade and are grown in hardiness zones 8 - 11. They are not poisonous to people or animals. They lose their leaves in the winter but come back strong in late Spring. The Florida Garden Select Plant program has recognized the Peacock Ginger as a plant that grows well in Florida.



Tour of MGV Home Garden in Crawfordville

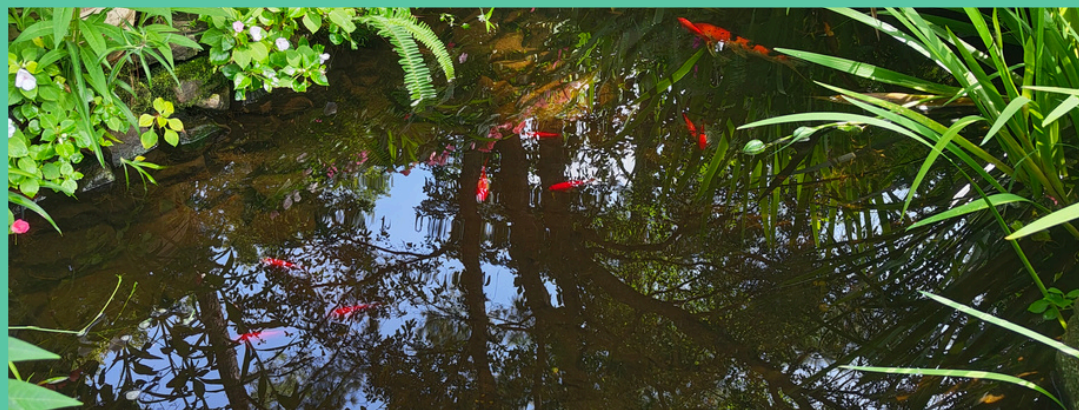


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Tour of MGV Home Garden in Crawfordville Continued



July Flower of the Month Coral Honeysuckle



Native coral honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) grows all over Florida. The vine features bright red, tubular flowers. The flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies.



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Stay on the Vine - Upcoming Events

8/24/2024 - Extension Open House: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the Arena. 84 Cedar Ave, Crawfordville. Meet Extension faculty and learn about 4-H, Family & Consumer Sciences, the Master Gardener Program, and Family Nutrition Program. Food trucks on site.

9/11/2024 - Seed Library Kick-Off: Wakulla County Library. 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Fall vegetable and flower seeds available. Free to public.

10/26/2024 - St. Marks Monarch Butterfly Festival: Butterfly lovers throughout the southeast states will descend on St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge to see and learn about butterfly migration.

1/18/2025 - Wakulla County Arbor Day: Annual tree giveaway program for Wakulla residents. To be held @ Hudson Park.

3/9/2025 - Wakulla Wonderful: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Celebrate the history of Wakulla County.

Mark Your Calendars Now!



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Garden Therapy

With the heat such as it is you may find gardening stressful rather than rewarding at times. The sun is hot, the bugs are fierce, and sometimes Mother Nature just won't cooperate. Sometimes, it's more fun to put the shears down, relax, and read the gardening memes for some old-fashioned entertainment. A real gardener cannot take themselves too seriously. As you start your new day look in the mirror and tell yourself you look radishing and find your inner peas. Go out and spread hap-pea-ness, lettuce romaine calm and try not to carrot on. Stand back and look at how your hard work is paying off. I bet you if you take a real hard look, you will say I am a gardener down to-ma-toes. Screaming Kale yes! Oh, my gourd, let us turnip the music and lettuce celebrate. You and gardening were mint to be. So bay leaf in your self and garden to your own beat. We are rooting for you.
Go kick some asparag-ass.





SPONSORSHIP

The UF/IFAS Wakulla County Master Gardener Volunteers Program is entirely dependent on support from funds generated by the kindness of monetary donations, plant sales, and volunteers providing their personal time maintaining the Extension center grounds. By becoming a Sponsor, you will help volunteers make a difference by sharing their experience and knowledge with the public. The results are significant and meaningful to the community.

Benefits of Your Sponsorship

Pride and satisfaction knowing your contributions to the Wakulla County Master Volunteer Program are helping county residents.

Free advertisement promoting your company business in our quarterly newsletter “Seasons in Wakulla County” sent out to over 300 residents and businesses.

Sponsorship Options

Platinum Sponsor: \$1,000 - Whole Page Ad

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Silver Sponsor: \$250.00 - 1/4 Page Ad

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Thank you for supporting your local Wakulla County Master
Gardener program!**

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Platinum Sponsor

Please make all checks payable to: **“University of Florida Foundation.”**

Sponsor now and see your ad in the next edition January 2024, newsletter.

Thank you for supporting your local Wakulla County Master Gardener program.

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Address: 84 Cedar Ave.
Address: Crawfordville, FL 32327
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Bronze Sponsor

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Crawfordville, FL, 32327
(850) 421-0111



3361 Crawfordville Hwy,
Crawfordville, FL 32327
(850) 926-5559

Lindy's Fried Chicken, Inc.
2120 Crawfordville Highway
Crawfordville, FL 32327

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support to our Master
Gardener Volunteer program**


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UF/IFAS Wakulla Extension Staff

**Samantha Kennedy M.S., County Extension Director &
Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agent III**

**Vacant, Horticulture, Agriculture, and
Natural Resources Extension Agent I**

Rachel Pienta PhD, 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent III

Sherry Balchuck, Office Manager

Patricia Standeford, Administrative Assistant

Christy Pearson, 4-H Program Assistant

Danielle Cimino, 4-H Program Assistant

Amy Frazier, Nutrition Educator



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