



Duval County Extension Office

MAY 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

Is it getting hot to you? In this edition, you're invited to the Spring Demonstration Garden Open House, attend a backyard hen course, there are a few other farming workshops available, several gardening workshops, DIY Canning Center workshop, a new 4-H club is coming, 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](#)

The **Urban Gardening Program** is having a *[Spring Demonstration Garden Open House](#)* on Saturday, May 17 from 9:00-11:00am located at 1032 Superior St., 32254

Tour our demonstration garden, ask questions, and learn about what we grow in the spring, as well as different growing methods. Check out our new garden mural! We will be demonstrating how to scout for insects. Also, you will have the opportunity to take home a small packet of seeds for your garden!



Spring Demonstration Garden Open House

The cost is \$5

[Click here to register](#)



Backyard Hen Seminar
May 28th, 2025
2-3:30pm

Location:
1010 N McDuff Ave
Jacksonville, FL 32254

Join the **Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Program** for their *Backyard Hen Seminar* at the Extension Office, Wednesday, May 28 from 2-3:30pm.

This course is a pre-requisite to receive a Backyard Hen Permit from Duval County.

More and more people are signing up for the Backyard Hens course, showing a growing interest in raising chickens at home.

The cost is \$10 plus tax

[Click here to register](#)

Join the **Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Program** for a discussion on *Pond Management*, Thursday, May 29 from 2-3:30pm. The topic will focus on management strategies and solutions for your pond to compliment your farm.

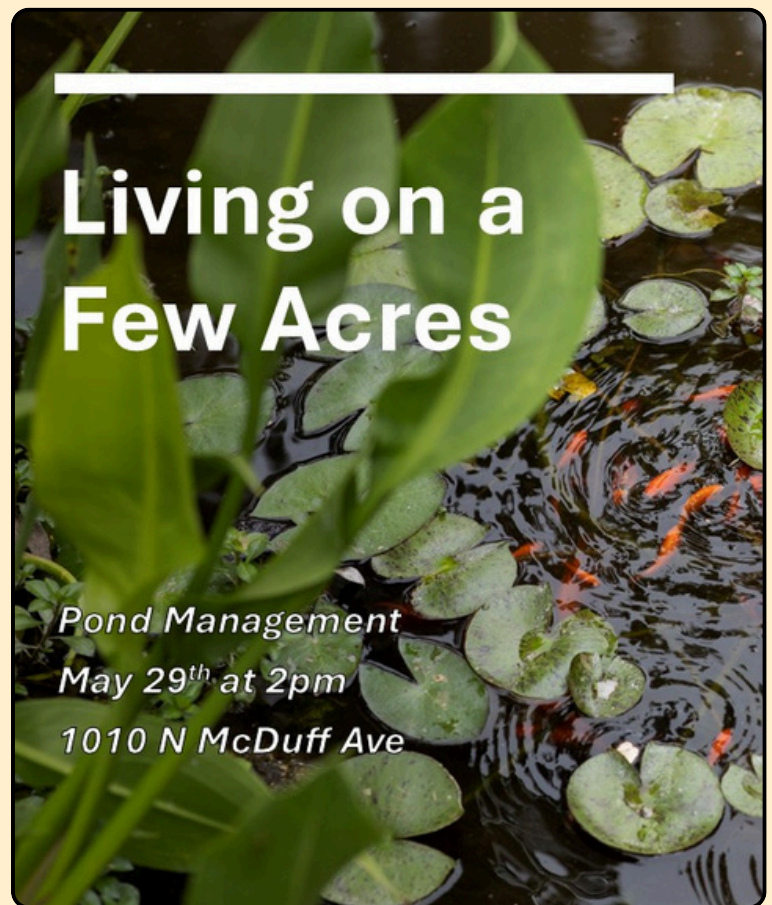
Topics will include:

Aquatic invertebrates
Aquatic Plants
Fish (stocking and management)
Water Quality
Algae/cyanobacteria management
Livestock and your pond

This workshop will be offered in-person at the Extension Office or virtually via Zoom. The Zoom link will be provided on the day of the class.

The cost is \$10 plus tax

[Click here to register](#)



Direct Marketing
Options for Small
Farmers

Direct Marketing Options
for Small Farmers

Duval County Extension Office
1010 N McDuff Ave
2pm May 20th

Own a farm? Join the **Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Program** for a *Direct Marketing Options for Small Farmers* workshop, Tuesday, May 20, 2-4pm at the Extension Office.

Come learn how to take your farm to the next level with Direct Marketing. The course will cover

- Information on local and state ordinances and regulations
- Best practices for direct marketing channels
- Requirements for direct sales (livestock, eggs, honey etc.)
- Networking opportunities

The class will be offered in-person here at the Extension Office or via Zoom. The link will be emailed before class. Please register with a valid email or contact Steve at sjennewein@ufl.edu.

The cost is \$5 plus tax

[Click here to register](#)

Join the **Urban Gardening Program Spring 2025 Vegetable Gardening Classes** at **Common Ground Community Garden** located at Panama Park, 6912 Buffalo Ave., 32208.

The remaining classes are:

Pollinator-Friendly Vegetable Gardening 5/10
Beekeeping and Gardening 6/14
Solarizing and Cover Cropping in Summer 7/12

These informative classes will be taught by Master Gardener Volunteers from the UF/IFAS Extension Duval County Urban Gardening Program.

Pre-registration is preferred.

All classes will be held outdoors and most classes are free of charge.

or scan the QR code on the flyer

[Click here to register](#)

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Feeding a healthy future for Florida and beyond.

Spring 2025 Vegetable Gardening Classes @ Common Ground Community Garden

Taught by Master Gardener Volunteers from the UF IFAS Extension Duval County Urban Gardening Program

For more information, contact:
 Beth Marlowe @ 904-255-7450 or bmarlowe@ufl.edu

All classes to be held outdoors at:
 Common Ground Community Garden,
 Panama Park
 6912 Buffalo Ave.
 Jacksonville, FL 32208
Bring a camp chair!

Class	Date	Cost
Transplanting into the Garden Learn how to transplant seedlings	Saturday, Mar. 8 10:00-11:00 a.m.	FREE
Insects and Integrated Pest Management Learn how to find and identify common insect pests and what to do about them	Saturday, Apr. 12, 10:00-11:00 a.m.	FREE
Pollinator-Friendly Vegetable Gardening Learn about native bees and take home a DIY native bee nursery for your garden	Saturday, May 10, 10:00-11:00 a.m.	\$5.00
Beekeeping and Gardening Learn how beekeeping can benefit your garden	Saturday, Jun. 14, 9:00-10:00 a.m.	FREE
Solarizing and Cover Cropping in Summer Learn what to do in your garden when it's too hot to garden	Saturday, Jul. 12, 9:00-10:00 a.m.	FREE

Pre-registration preferred. Register for classes at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/ufifas-extension-duval-county-31157624255> or scan the QR code

An Equal Opportunity Institution. UF/IFAS Extension, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Andrea Johnson, Dean and Director. Single copies of UF/IFAS Extension publications (excluding 4-H and youth publications) are available free to Florida residents from county UF/IFAS Extension offices.

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Spring 2025 Vegetable Gardening Classes @ the Beaches

Taught by Master Gardener Volunteers from the UF IFAS Extension Duval County Urban Gardening Program

For more information, contact:
 Beth Marlowe @ 904-255-7450 or bmarlowe@ufl.edu

All classes to be held outdoors at:
 Beaches Organic Community Garden,
 Jarboe Park, 1200 3rd St.
 Neptune Beach, 32266 OR
 Dutton Island Community Garden, 96
 Dutton Island Rd W, Atlantic Beach, 32233
Bring a camp chair!

Class	Date	Cost
Propagating Woody Crops from Cuttings Learn how and when to take cuttings from woody-stemmed plants, such as raspberries, loquat, elderberry and roses.	Saturday, Apr. 5 12:00-1:30 p.m. Dutton Island	\$5.00
Native Plants That Thrive in Lawns Learn how to create a healthy mixed lawn by adding hardy, beautiful native plants that stand up to mowing and support native wildlife and pollinators.	Saturday, May 3, 12:00-1:30 p.m. Jarboe Park	\$5.00
Pollinator-Friendly Vegetable Gardening Learn about plants to attract pollinators, and take home seeds for your garden	Saturday, June 7, 12:00-1:30 p.m. Jarboe Park	\$5.00
Solarizing the Garden Learn how to improve your soil over the summer when it's too hot to garden.	Saturday, Jun. 28, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Dutton Island	FREE

Pre-registration required.
 Register for classes at the URL below, or scan the QR code

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/ufifas-extension-duval-county-31157624259>

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Make plans to attend the **Urban Gardening Program Spring 2025 Vegetable Gardening Classes at the beaches**, there are two locations. Beaches Organic Community Garden, Jarboe Park, 1200 3rd Street, Neptune Beach, 32266 or Dutton Island Community Garden 96 Dutton Island Rd W., Atlantic Beach, 32233

Below are the Classes:

Native Plants That Thrive in Lawns 5/3
Pollinator-Friendly Vegetable Gardening 6/7
Solarizing the Garden 6/28

These informative classes will be taught by Master Gardener Volunteers from the UF/IFAS Extension Duval County Urban Gardening Program.

Pre-registration is required.

All classes will be held outdoors and most classes are free of charge.

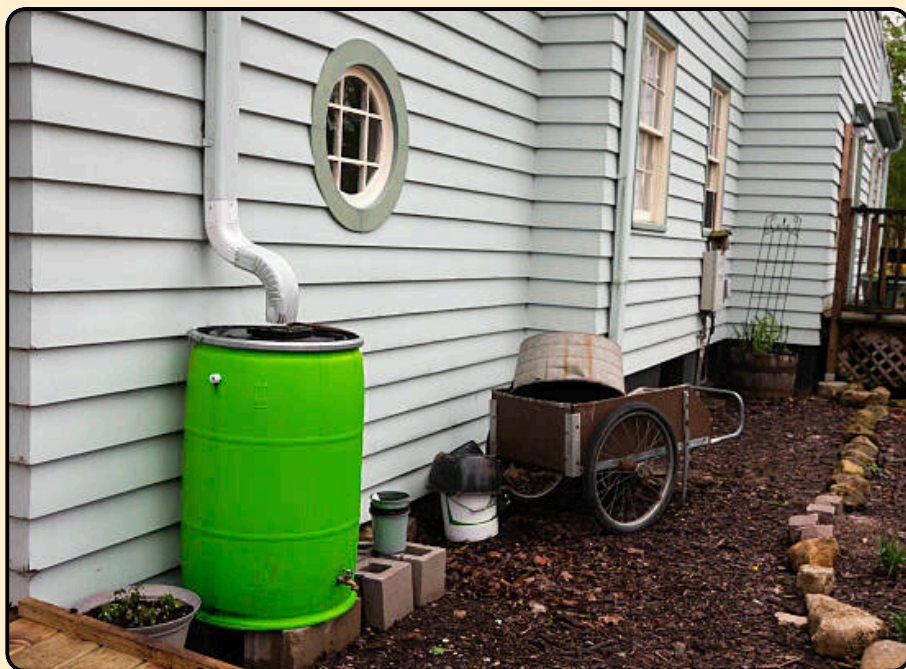
[Click here to register](#)

Join the **Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program** for the *Spring Rain Barrel Workshop*, Friday, May 2 from 1-2pm at the Extension Office.

Rain barrels provide the Florida homeowner with over 50 gallons of free water for their landscape each time it fills up.

You may attend two ways:
General Admission with Barrel to take home (\$75 includes class information and barrel) or without Barrel- Listen and Learn Only (\$5 includes class information only)

[Click here to register](#)



Join the **Florida-Friendly Landscaping Program** for the *Welcome to Florida Gardening 101* series on Tuesday evenings in June from 5:30-7:15pm at the Extension Office. Participants can take 1 or all 3 courses.

These series of classes are tailored to individuals who are new to Florida as well as long-time residents who are inexperienced in garden or landscape care.

Each Course:

Caring for Your Florida Lawn & Landscape:

June 10

When to Plant What in NE Florida:

June 17

Earth Friendly Gardening in Florida:

June 24

Each class is \$10 or all three is \$25.

[Click here to register](#)

Welcome to **Florida Gardening 101**

A series of classes tailored to individuals who are new to Florida as well as long-time residents who are inexperienced in garden or landscape care.



Caring for Your Florida Lawn & Landscape	Tuesday, June 10 5:30-7:15PM	Irrigation and Fertilization 101 Identifying Common Landscape Pests How to Hire Florida-Friendly Landscape Professionals
When to Plant What in NE Florida	Tuesday, June 17 5:30-7:15PM	Right Plant Right Place & How to Find the Right Plants Veggie Gardening Basics Invasive Species - What You Need to Know
Earth Friendly Gardening in Florida	Tuesday, June 24 5:30-7:15PM	How to Attract Wildlife and Pollinators Recycling and Composting Mulching Rain Barrels 101

Tickets: <https://FloridaGardening101.eventbrite.com>

Florida-Friendly Landscaping PROGRAM

Duval County Extension Office
1010 N McDuff Ave, Jacksonville FL 32254
(904) 255-7450

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Join the **Jacksonville Canning Center** for a
Mother's Day DIY Project

Show your love with a handmade gift.

Sign up for the Canning Center's DIY
Workshop and create your own honey sugar
scrub and bath salts - perfect for that
special mom or mother-figure in your life,
Wednesday, May 7 from 10am-12pm located
at 2525 Commonwealth Ave., 32254.

Spots are limited, so reserve yours today!

Cost is \$35 plus tax
Scan QR code on flyer or

[Click here to register](#)



**JACKSONVILLE
Canning
Center**

**DIY HONEY SUGAR
SCRUB & BATH SALT
WORKSHOP:
MOTHER'S DAY
EDITION**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 7
10AM - 12PM**

Join us for a fun, hands-on workshop where
you'll learn to make honey sugar scrubs and
bath salts just in time for Mother's Day!



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**Rooted in Green
4-H Club**

Want to learn something new and get
your hands dirty?

Want to be part of something that
grows—literally?

Contact us for more information!
Or to RSVP to the meeting
@ : Duval4H@ifas.ufl.edu
: (904) 255-7450

**Join us for a club
interest meeting!**

When : July 21st @ 6:00 PM
Where : Duval Extension Office
(1010 McDuff Ave N, Jacksonville, FL 32254)

About Us!

Members will learn about plant
care, sustainability, and
agriculture, with opportunities to
visit farms, connect with local
experts, and discover the journey
of blueberries from farm to table.
Whether you love gardening,
science, or just want to try
something new, this club is the
perfect place to grow! 🌱

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Rooted in Green 4-H Club

Join Duval County **4-H** for a club interest meeting,
Monday, July 21st, 6pm at the Extension Office!

Members and non-members are invited to discover
something new while getting your hands dirty.
Come, hear and learn about this new club.

Members will acquire skills about plant care,
sustainability, and agriculture, with opportunities to
visit farms, connect with local experts, and discover
the journey of blueberries from farm to table.

The club will start in September 2025 and run
through June 2026. Enrollment will open in August.

For more information and to RSVP, email
duval4h@ifas.ufl.edu

4-H Enrollment for the 2025/2026 Year

4-H Online will open for enrollment August 2025.
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](#)

<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/duval/>



In the News

[Digging in for National Gardening Day](#)



By Stephanie Means

On National Gardening Day, our Florida-Friendly Gardening Program Assistant, Stephanie Means visited First Coast News to share information to help create a beautiful landscape for Spring. The discussion stemmed around plants that will last more than one season, plants that don't require much supplemental water, plants that attract butterflies and humming birds, citrus trees, and more.

To hear the entire segment, click on the link above, Digging in for National Gardening Day.



May 11



May 26

Duval County Extension 2024 Annual Report

UF/IFAS EXTENSION DUVAL COUNTY
2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

Duval County Video

Click Here!

[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.

<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/duval/>