

UF/IFAS EXTENSION Duval County Connections











AUGUST 2025



Duval County Extension Office 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

We hope to see you all, Saturday, August 16 for the inaugural UF/IFAS Extension Duval County Open House! In this edition, there are workshops on food safety, first time home buyers, new 4-H clubs, and more. This Labor Day, we wish everyone a safe and relaxing holiday as we celebrate the value of labor.

Quick View of Program Areas

- <u>Lawns, Gardens</u>
 <u>and Trees</u>
- Horticulture and Pest Services
- Agriculture and Agribusiness
 Management
- 4-H Youth
 <u>Development</u>,
 <u>Duval County 4-H</u>
- Family and Consumer Sciences and Canning Center



What is Extension in Duval County?

cience-based information and resources for Food Preservation - Food Safety - Gardening
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping - Trees - Pruning - 4-H Youth Organization Clubs - 4-H
Arthropod/Insect Zoo - Plant Doctor - Seed Starting - Soil Testing - Backyard Hens and
Permit - Community Gardens - Garden Plots - Pesticides - Small Acre(s) Farming - Pond
Management - Proper Irrigation - Bee Keeping - Strengthening Families - Money
Management - Food Entrepreneur - First Time Home Buying, and more.

Come explore everything your UF/IFAS Extension has to offer! Join us for a fun and informative day featuring:

- · Fast-paced lightning sessions
- · Informational booths where you can meet the experts
- · Bounce houses and kid-friendly fun
- Guided tours of the Canning Center
- 4-H Kick-off
- 4-H Club Food, Drinks and Treats Fundraiser (Cash or Checks)

The University of Florida Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences (UF/IFAS) Extension provides science-based formation to communities throughout Duval County. Educational programs deliver this information in myriad ways including written materials, in-person and virtual workshops, one-on-one consultations and outreach events.

1010 N McDuff Ave. Tacksonville El 32254 | 904-255-7450

UF/IFAS Duval County Extension Open House is Saturday, August 16!

Come explore everything your Extension office has to offer!

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors. There will be something for everyone and once you complete your passport, you'll receive Chomp, the Extension Gator!

We can't keep these secrets any longer!



Join us Saturday, August 16th from 10am - 1pm to learn about what you didn't know was going on at your Extension Office!



First Time Home Buyer Workshop

Thinking about buying your first home? Join the Family and Consumer Sciences Program virtually to learn steps to homeownership. In this workshop you will obtain knowledge on obtaining an affordable mortgage.

This is a two session workshop. Once complete, you will receive a certificate of completion.

Available Workshops:

Thursdays, August 21 and 28 | 5-9pm Fridays, September 5 and 12 | 9am-1pm

The cost is \$25 per person or \$30 per couple plus tax

Click here to register



Ensure your staff is up to code!

Food Safety Manager Training is offered by the Family
and Consumer Sciences Program.

Florida requires all food service employees in a licensed Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) establishment to be trained on correct food handling and hygiene practices.

Classes are available upon request.

Need a single-day course or a multi-day course option, we have you covered. Our training is flexible to fit your schedule.

To register and for more information contact:

Natasha Parks, Family and Consumer Science Agent III via
email @nparks@ufl.edu or call the office.



Food Handler Training is offered by the Family and Consumer Sciences Program at the Extension Office.

Gain essential knowledge on food safety practices by making sure you're prepared to safely serve!

This training is for anyone who works with food including chefs, cooks, servers, and other food handlers.

Upcoming Dates and Time:
Tuesday, August 5
Wednesday, August 20
10am - 12pm

Upon completion of training, participants will receive a certificate of completion.

Cost is \$40 plus tax

Click here to register



Join the **Urban Garden Program** for this

Fall Seed Starting Workshop,

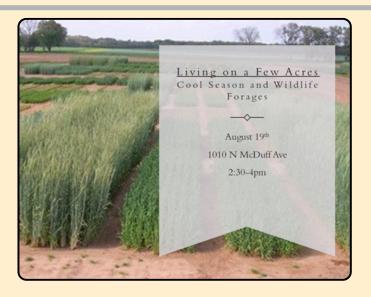
Wednesday, August 20, from 10am - 12pm at the Urban Garden Field Office located at 1032 Superior St., 32254

This hands-on workshop is appropriate for gardeners of all skill levels. It will cover the basics of starting seeds to grow your own transplants, as well as direct seeding.

Course fee covers a seed starting kit including containers, germination mix, humidity dome, seeds and seeding tools to get started.

Cost is \$15 plus tax

Click here to register



The Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Program is offering a workshop teaching the basics of Cool Season & Wildlife Forages for small farms, Tuesday, August 19 from 2:30-4pm at the Extension Office. Come learn new ways to incorporate these feed plots into your farm to attract wildlife and winter livestock feed. This course will be offered virtually and in-person at the Extension Office.

Topics will include: Varieties, Preparation and Establishment,
Stand Management

The cost is \$10 plus tax

Click here to register



Join the Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises

Program for the monthly Backyard Hen Seminar at the
Extension Office, Wednesday, August 20 from
2-3:30pm. You too can raise chickens once you
receive your permit.

This course is a pre-requisite to receive a Backyard Hen Permit from Duval County. A steady stream of people continues to sign up, showing interest in raising chickens at home.

The cost is \$10 plus tax

Click here to register



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 <u>duval4h@ufl.edu</u>.

Encourage your friends to enroll in Duval 4-H

New 4-H Clubs Sprouting This Fall in Duval County! 💸

We're excited to announce some new 4-H clubs launching in the 2025-2026 year! Whether your child loves animals, cooking, plants, or just trying something new—there's a place for them in Duval County 4-H!

X Clover Coop & Company 4-H Club

For our barnyard buddies! Perfect for younger youth interested in rabbits, poultry, and goats. Each month brings fun animal care lessons, showmanship practice, and trivia fun.

Meets monthly at the Duval County 4-H Office | Starts September 16

Rooted in Green 4-H Club

A plant-powered journey! Youth will grow their own blueberry plants, explore sustainability, and learn from local ag experts.

Meets monthly at the Duval Extension Office

📕 Epic Eaters 4-H SPIN Club

Calling all young chefs! This club stirs up confidence, creativity, and culinary skills with hands-on kitchen adventures.

Meets monthly at the Duval Extension Office

Growing With 4-H SPIN Club

Hands-on discovery through leadership, creativity, and practical life skills! Great for new members looking to explore all 4-H has to offer.

Meets monthly at the Duval Extension Office | Starts September 9

S JAX Beekeepers Association 4-H Club

Buzz into the world of beekeeping! This club partners with local experts to teach youth about pollinators, honey production, and how to care for hives safely and responsibly. More information coming soon!

Touth Master Naturalist 4-H Club

Do you love nature and the outdoors? Learn more about Florida's environment and how to respect nature as we study ecosystems and more! More information coming soon!

Questions? Contact us at (904) 255-7450 or duval4h@ifas.ufl.edu.

New 4-H Clubs for Members

We're excited to announce new 4-H clubs launching in the 2025-2026 year! Whether your child loves animals, cooking, plants, or just trying something newthere's a place for them in Duval County 4-H.

- Clover Coop & Company 4-H Club
- Rooted in Green 4-H Club
- Epic Eaters 4-H SPIN Club
- Growing With 4-H SPIN Club
- JAX Beekeepers Association 4-H Club
- Youth Master Naturalist 4-H Club

For more information email duval4h@ifas.ufl.edu or call the office.



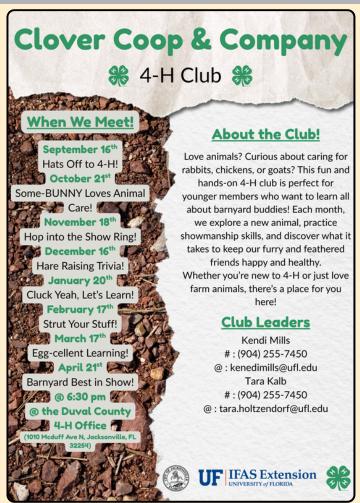
Growing With 4-H

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 are held monthly at the Extension Office at 6:30pm.

Meeting Dates and Topics:
September 9 - What is 4-H
October 14 - Cluckin' Good Time
November 11 - Plantastic Voyage
December 9 - Cooking & Confidence

For more information, email kenedimills@ufl.edu or tara.holtzendorf@ufl.edu

Click here to register



Clover Coop & Company 4-H Club

Love animals? Curious about caring for rabbits, chickens, or goats? This fun and hands-on 4-H club is perfect for younger members who want to learn all about barnyard buddies! Each month, we explore a new animal, practice showmanship skills, and discover what it takes to keep our furry and feathered friends happy and healthy.

Whether you're new to **4-H** or just love farm animals, there's a place for you here! Meetings are held monthly at the Extension Office at 6:30pm.

Meeting Dates and Topics:
September 16 - Hats off to 4-H
October 21 - Some-BUNNY Loves Animal Care
November 18 - Hop into the Show Ring
December 16 - Hare Raising Trivia
January 20 - Cluck Yeah, Let's Learn
February 17 - Strut Your Stuff
March 17 - Egg-cellent Learning
April - Barnyard Best in Show

For more information and to join, email <u>kenedimills@ufl.edu</u> or tara.holtzendorf@ufl.edu



Duval County Extension **4-H** Foundation needs your support.

Set your sights on **4-H** and sponsor the Duval **4-H**Foundation Sporting Clay Shoot, Friday, September
12 from 8am - 3pm. There are several ways you
can support this effort. We need sponsors for
ammo, lunch, golf carts, lunch, goodie bags,
awards, shooting stations, and more!

Location: Jacksonville Clay Target Sports 12125 New Berlin Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32226

> Entry Fee: Per Team: \$1,000 Individual \$250

Scan the QR code for detailed information.

Duval County Extension 2024 Annual Report

UF/IFAS EXTENSION DUVAL COUNTY

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



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 Zome - 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.