

Campbell County

3500 Alexandria Pike
Highland Heights, KY 41076
Phone: (859) 572-2600
Fax: (859) 572-2619
Email: campbell.ext@uky.edu

May / June 2025

Volume 3, Issue 3



Boxwood Alternatives



One of my favorite evergreen landscape shrubs, the boxwood is currently under attack in Northern Kentucky. This classic evergreen shrub brings to mind formal English gardens and beautiful sheered hedges and topiaries.



Through breeding many boxwood cultivars and hybrids offered improved cold hardiness and worked great for our local landscapes. Over the years the boxwood was extensively planted (perhaps overplanted) the past few decades in our area.

The list of common insect and disease issues continues to grow and is impacting many of the residential plants throughout the Tristate area. Two fungal type diseases, Volutella and Macrophoma Blight are a couple that we have been dealing with for some time now.

Unfortunately, boxwood blight is the latest disease and has become the most serious threat to boxwood in local landscapes throughout the region. Ultimately complete defoliation and complete dieback and the results of this fast-progressing fungal disease.

The boxwood insect pest list also unfortunately is growing with many samples being brought to the extension office. These include but are not limited to: box tree

moth, boxwood leafminer, boxwood mite, boxwood psyllid and on occasion, oystershell scale.

The spider mite an arachnid is also commonly encountered during the hot dry summer months. And can cause unsightly damage with extensive stippling of the foliage.

The latest insect threat is the box tree moth which is native to East Asia. This invasive has been recently introduced from Canada to the United States according to the USDA. The box tree moth has become a serious invasive pest in Europe, where it continues to spread.

The caterpillars feed mostly on boxwood and heavy infestations can defoliate entire plantings.

Once the leaves eaten the larvae begin to consume the stems and bark, leading to the girdling of branches and plant death.

In many local landscape situations, it may no longer be feasible to use boxwood in

In this issue...

Boxwood Alternatives	1
Growing Culinary Herbs	2
The Right Herbicide for the Right Situation	3
Irrigating Vegetable Crops	3
Garden Calendar	4
Extension StoryWalk	5
Invasive Species Citizens Science Program	6
Brown Rot of Peach	6
How to Remove a Tick Safely	6
Farm Steading Series	7
Periodical Cicadas Emerge	8
Become a Garden Volunteer	9
Farmers Markets	10
Banana Pancakes Recipe	11
UK Hort. Research Farm Tour	12

the wake of all this insect and disease pressure, particularly with the recent boxwood blight & both tree moth outbreaks. Below are a few alternatives that can be utilized if your landscape is facing these current insect and disease pressures.

Alternative Species & Options

- NewGen Boxwoods: cultivars 'Independence & 'Freedom'
- Japanese Holly (Ilex crenata)
- Inkberry (Ilex glabra)
- Blue Holly (Ilex × meserveae)
- Hybrid yews (Taxus × media)
- Lower growing Junipers ('Grey Owl', 'Blue Star')

Growing your own **Culinary Herbs**

We will learn about growing herbs in your garden along with hands-on activities with cooking and preserving herbs.

July 22nd, 29th & August 5th

Attendance at all dates required.

10:00am - 12:00pm

Campbell County Cooperative Extension

3500 Alexandria Pike | Highland Heights, KY 41076

Registration opens June 23, 2025

Registration Required: 859-572-2600

or online: <https://campbell.ca.uky.edu/events/>

**Cooperative
Extension Service**

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating. Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

The Right Herbicide for the Right Situation

Here at the extension office we often get questions dealing with active ingredients in various pesticides. In particular there is a lot of confusion pertaining to herbicides. The first step is determining where the weed is a problem, such as in the lawn, landscape beds, vegetable garden etc. Where the weed is a problem will often determine the type herbicides to use for control and not damage other desirable plants that are close by.

Next try to identify the weed if possible. Different herbicide formulations and application methods will control different weeds. If you use the wrong herbicide or apply it incorrectly, you are wasting both your time and money. Once your target weed has been identified you then you can determine which product and control method will be most effective.

Below are some of the common types or categories of herbicides that can be utilized.

Preemergence herbicides are applied to weed-free to prevent annual weed problems by killing germinating weed seeds. For example, pre-emergence herbicides should be applied to lawns to prevent problems with crabgrass or winter annual weeds.

Postemergence herbicides are applied to the actively growing weeds to control current weed problems

Selective herbicides will just kill the weeds and not the ornamentals or

turf grasses when applied over all the plants in an area. Products with the active ingredient 2-4D are commonly used in lawns situations.

Nonselective herbicides will kill any plant they come in contact with. These are useful for “total kill” situations such as total lawn renovation. These products (glyphosate) can also be used in “spot treating” for specific weeds in lawns and landscape beds.

Contact herbicides only kill the part of the plant that it comes in contact with. These will not kill below-ground parts such as roots when sprayed on the foliage. These are commonly used on annual type weeds.

Systemic herbicides are applied to the foliage where they are absorbed into the plant’s vascular system. These products kill all parts of the weed including the below ground roots, rhizomes etc. These are the best to use on perennial type weeds such as dandelions etc.

So basically, you first need to know the type of weed you are trying to control. Secondly the location or area in which it is growing to determine the best herbicide and method of control. By using this method, you can effectively choose the appropriate herbicide by looking carefully at the labeling or talking to horticulture professionals, such as extension horticulture agents and staff. And always remember to completely read and understand the label of any herbicide. If herbicides are used improperly, you can often have more problems besides the weeds!

Sarah Imbus

Sarah Imbus

Campbell County Extension Agent for Horticulture Education


Terri Turner

Campbell County Extension Technician for Horticulture Education

Joseph Smith


Campbell County Extension Technician for Horticulture Education

The College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is an Equal Opportunity Organization with respect to education and employment and authorization to provide research, education information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function without regard to economic or social status and will not discriminate on the bases of race, color, ethnic origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and other related matter should be directed to Equal Opportunity Office, College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, University of Kentucky, Room S-105, Agriculture Science Building, North Lexington, Kentucky 40546, the UK Office of Institutional Equity and Equal Opportunity, 13 Main Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0032 or US Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.


 Cooperative
Extension Service

Irrigating Vegetable Crops

Vegetable crops need about 1 inch of water per week (rain or irrigation). Use a rain gauge or local weather reports to track rainfall.



Irrigation Benefits

- Aids seedling emergence
- Improves germination and plant stand
- Maintains uniform growth
- Permits fruit development
- Prevents soil crusting that hinders germination
- Reduces wilting in transplants
- Improves crop quality and yields
- Increases fruit size
- Prevents premature ripening

Source: UK Extension Publication ID-128
An Equal Opportunity Organization.

StoryWalk®

 Cooperative
Extension Service

Enjoy reading in nature
with StoryWalks® in your
community!

Visit the garden at the
Campbell County
Cooperative Extension
Highland Heights Office.

3500 Alexandria Pike
Highland Heights, KY 41076
859-572-2600

Bring your little ones, and
read a picture book as you
enjoy the outdoors.

Please remember to:

- Travel to all the podiums
- Read the pages as you go
- Take the Survey
- Stay safe and have fun!

*The books will stay out
for about a month,
so come back often
to see if there is
something new!*



Schedule:

- ♦ January: *I Will Not Eat You* by Adam Lehrhaupt
- ♦ March: *I'll Wait Mr. Panda* by Steve Antony
- ♦ April: *The Ant and the Grasshopper* by Miles Kelly
- ♦ May: *Splish, Splash, Ducky!* by Lucy Cousins
- ♦ June: *Some Pets* by Angela DiTerlizzi
- ♦ July: *Saturday* by Oge Mora
- ♦ August: *In the Small, Small Pond* by Denise Fleming
- ♦ September: *Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes* by Eric Litwin
- ♦ October: *Some Monsters Look Like This* by Silas Gibson
- ♦ November: *Snowmen All Year* by Caroline Beuhner
- ♦ December: *Bark, George* by Jules Fieffer

Cooperative
Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating. Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

Invasive Species Citizen Science Program

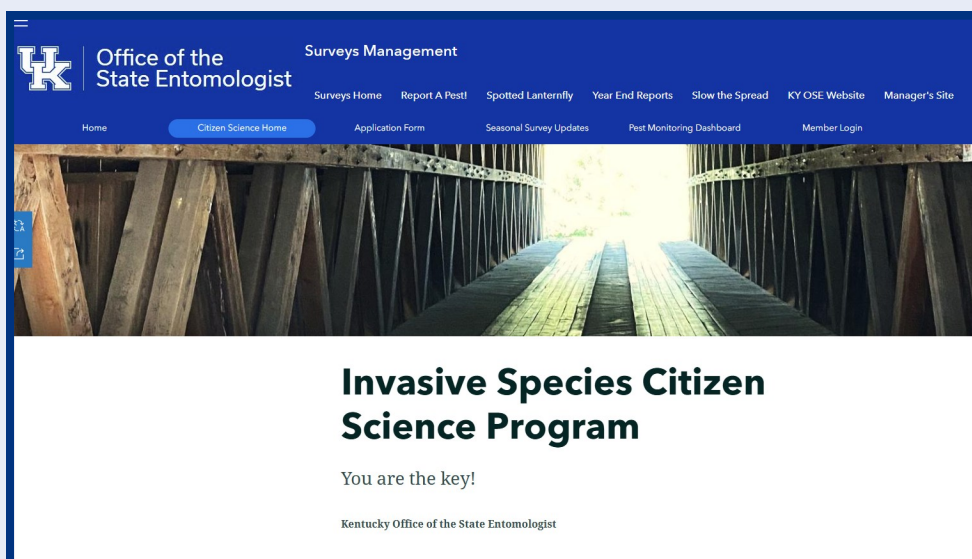
You are the key!

Kentucky Office of the State Entomologist

Welcome to 2025! We have known for years that it is you, the public, that are usually the first to find unwanted pests. Until now, it has been challenging to involve you in our programs. Your involvement is vital in our survey work! With the availability in survey technologies, we are more able to involve you, as a citizen scientist, to keep out or slow the spread of unwanted pests.

What is a citizen science? Specifically, citizen science is when the public voluntarily helps conduct scientific research. These data help professional scientists and resource managers answer scientific questions and solve important problems. And the activity helps participants build meaningful connections to science.

2022 was our inaugural year for implementing a citizen scientist program to help us to keep out or slow the spread of unwanted pests in Kentucky! As you know, commerce and people are able to move more readily around the world which increases our risk of bringing unwanted pests that can be devastating to our Kentucky landscape.



UK Cooperative
Extension Service

Brown Rot of Peach

Description & Damage

Brown rot of peach, caused by the fungus *Monilinia fructicola*, leads to a soft, brown decay with fungal growth on the fruit. Infection can occur anytime. Management of this disease begins at petal fall.



Management

- Promptly remove and discard rotted fruit and mummies.
- Prune out and discard blighted twigs after harvest.
- Prevent fruit injury from insects or harvest damage.
- Improve airflow in trees with pruning.
- Cool fruit to slow post-harvest disease.
- Consult your local county extension office for more management practices.



Learn more about pest management by checking out Kentucky Pest News!

Source: Kimberly Leonberger and Nicole Gauthier
An Equal Opportunity Organization.

UK Cooperative
Extension Service

HOW TO REMOVE A TICK SAFELY

UK Extension Publication ENTFACT-618

STEP ONE

Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick close to the skin to ensure complete removal.

STEP TWO

Pull up with steady, even pressure. Do not twist or jerk the tick.

STEP THREE

Clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine soap, or soap and water.

Identification of ticks is available through your local extension office.

Source: UK Extension Publication ENTFACT-618
An Equal Opportunity Organization.

Periodical Cicadas Emerge Across Kentucky this Spring: How to protect your trees and shrubs

Source: Jonathan Larson, Entomology Extension Associate



damage plants. Some may find the abundance of molted shells and loud, near deafening singing a nuisance, while others will enjoy this pageantry of nature. The periodical cicadas' choral song, however, is a cue to protect landscaping and orchards.

Female cicadas will lay their eggs into the new, lower branches of several species after mating: apple, arborvitae, ash, beech, berry and grape vines, crab apple, cherry, dogwood, hickory, holly, maple, lilacs, magnolia, oak, peach, pear, rose bushes, spirea and willows are the most likely targets.

effective way to prevent tree and shrub damage is by using cicada netting, which prevents females from laying their eggs. Netting is suggested for use on new and smaller trees and should be installed when the cicadas begin to sing, about mid-May for most of the area. Trees that are established in the landscape—too tall to net for most people—will grow throughout the egg-laying period.

More information can be found at the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment publication here: <https://entomology.ca.uky.edu/ef446>.

You can also contact your Campbell County Cooperative Extension office for more information on protecting trees and shrubs from cicadas.

Kentucky will be the epicenter for the emergence of Brood XIV of 17-year periodical cicadas this spring. Periodical cicadas have appeared in Western Kentucky counties over the past few years, but the largest emergence area for 2025 will occur across most of Central and Eastern Kentucky.

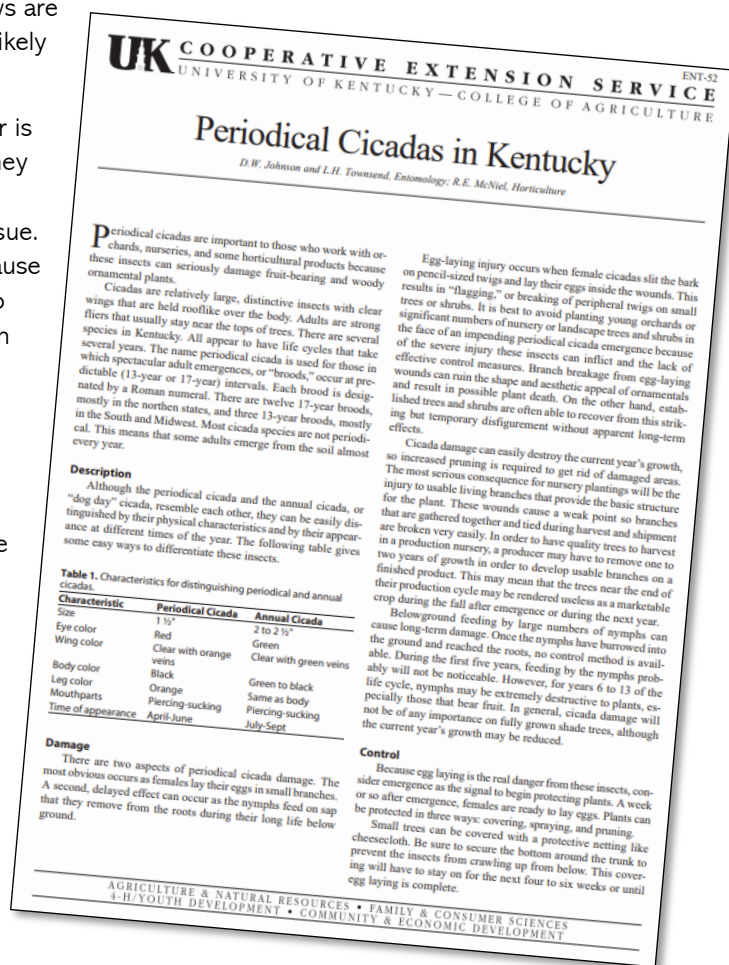
While these time-keeping, red-eyed insects are not harmful to humans or pets, their egg-laying habits could damage the branches of young trees and shrubs. Tree netting is the most effective, non-invasive way to protect your landscaping and fruit trees.

The 17-year periodical cicadas are expected to emerge from the soil to molt into their flying, adult form in late April to early May, when the soil warms to the mid-60s. Periodical cicadas emerge much earlier than annual cicadas and in greater numbers.

Cicadas do not bite or sting, and the feeding habits of the adults do not

The cicada's ovipositor is long and sharp, and they will inject 200 to 600 eggs into the stem tissue. This "flagging" may cause the tender branches to snap. The fallen branch makes for a much shorter journey for the hatching nymphs from egg to soil but is not beneficial for the growing tree. Once the eggs hatch, the nymphs will feed on root sap, and a heavy population of nymphs in the soil may also impact the tree's root system.

While using insecticides may be less costly, the safest and most



Do you enjoy gardening?

Become a Garden Volunteer

Commitment: Workdays and location can vary, however, they are usually from 9am to 12pm at the Lakeside Educational Garden.

Skills: No prior gardening or horticultural skills are required.

Things to Bring: We will provide all tools and materials required for these workdays.

Opportunities & Benefits: Hands-on training is provided during all workdays, connect with like-minded gardeners. Join us for educational tours.

Common tasks include:

- Planting
- Harvesting
- Assemble floral arrangements
- General garden maintenance

Interested in learning more? Reach out to the Campbell County Cooperative Extension Horticulture Agent for more information or send an email to: sarah.imbus@uky.edu



The Horticulture Team works to maintain the Lakeside Educational Garden. This team is perfect for gardeners of all skill levels looking to enhance their gardening knowledge. Whether you're new to gardening, or have many years of experience, this team is for you!

Campbell County Cooperative Extension Service

3500 Alexandria Pike | Highland Heights, KY 41076

859-572-2600 | <https://campbell.ca.uky.edu>

**Cooperative
Extension Service**

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties Cooperating. Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

CAMPBELL COUNTY
**FARMERS
MARKET**

2025

Highland Heights*— Tuesdays

Senior Citizens Activity Center

3504 Alexandria Pike

May 13 thru October 28

3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Fort Thomas— Wednesdays**

Mess Hall in Tower Park

801 Cochran Avenue

April 9 thru December 17

3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

*Hours extend to 7:00 p.m. June-September
(Senior shopping begins at 2:45 p.m.)*

Alexandria*— Fridays

Southern Lanes Sports Center

7634 Alexandria Pike

May 16 thru October 24

3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Newport*— Saturdays

Next to Pepper Pod Restaurant

709 Monmouth Street

May 18 thru October 26

9:00 a.m. to 12 noon



* Accepts WIC, SNAP and Senior Farmer's
Market Nutrition Program

** Accepts WIC, SNAP, Senior Farmer's
Market Nutrition Program and Kentucky Double Dollars





BANANA PANCAKES

Servings: Makes 8

Serving Size: 2 pancakes

Recipe Cost: \$9.03

Cost per Serving: \$1.13



Ingredients:

- 2 large very ripe bananas
- 1 cup low-fat milk
- 2 tablespoons packed light brown sugar
- 1 1/2 tablespoons vanilla extract
- 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1/4 cup chopped pecans or walnuts (optional)
- Nonstick cooking spray

Nutrition facts per serving:

140 calories; 0.5g total fat; 0g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 0mg cholesterol; 85mg sodium; 29g total carbohydrate; 2g dietary fiber; 9g total sugars; 4g added sugars; 3g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 15% Daily Value of calcium; 6% Daily Value of iron; 4% Daily Value of potassium

Source: Brooke Jenkins, Extension Specialist for Curriculum; and Bethany Pratt, Extension Specialist for Food Systems, University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension

Directions:

1. Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds.
2. Preheat a skillet or griddle on the stove over medium-low heat.
3. In a medium bowl, mash the very ripe bananas using a fork or masher. Stir in the milk, brown sugar, and vanilla extract. Mix until combined.
4. Add the flour, baking powder, salt, and cinnamon. Mix just until the batter is moistened with no dry spots remaining. Batter will be lumpy. Fold in nuts if using.
5. Spray the heated skillet or griddle with nonstick cooking spray. Drop about a 1/4 cup of the batter into sections of the pan and spread out each into a 4-inch round.
6. Cook pancakes until bubbles form on top and the edges start to brown, about 6 to 8 minutes. Flip and continue cooking until the bottoms of the pancakes are golden brown and easily release from the pan, about 3 to 4 minutes more.
7. Transfer the pancakes to a warm plate. Repeat, cooking the remaining batter.
8. To serve, stack 2 pancakes on a plate and top with desired toppings. Serve immediately.
9. Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours.



Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment

Plastic Nursery Container Collection



Cincinnati
Recycling &
Reuse Hub

We need all rinsed and dried
PLASTIC landscape containers

Requirements:

- Free of debris
- No wire or rope
- No tags



Please Make Sure

Purpose: to reduce plastic in landfill. The HUB Recycling in Cincinnati accepts most other items that Rumpke doesn't to recycle. Extension will collect and deliver.

We NEED Containers, NOT the landfill.

Friday, May 30
10-12 p.m.

Monday, June 2
5:30-6:30 p.m.

Drop off location:

Campbell County Cooperative Extension Service
3500 Alexandria Pike | Highland Heights, KY 41076

Questions... call the Extension Office at 859-572-2600

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English.
University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.



Save the Date

Twilight Tour

Horticulture Research Farm



July 22, 2025
6-8pm

4321 Emmert Farm Ln,
Lexington, KY 40514

Scan the qr code to register or follow the link
bit.ly/twilighttour25