

Virginia Cooperative Extension, Goochland Office

Quarterly Newsletter



Virginia Cooperative Extension

Virginia Tech • Virginia State University

Second Quarter, Spring/Summer 2018



14th Annual Spring Garden Fest "Spring in the Garden"

Mark your calendars! The 14th Annual Spring Garden Fest, sponsored by the Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners in cooperation with Reynolds Community College and Virginia Cooperative Extension, will be held rain or shine

on Saturday, April 21st from 8am to 3pm at the Western Campus of Reynolds Community College in Goochland.

The Fest will offer 2 class sessions led by nationally recognized horticulturist and author, **Jeff Gillman**. Vendors will be selling a variety of plants and garden items, horticultural demonstrations and Master Gardeners available to answer your questions will round out the day's activities. Even if not attending scheduled educational sessions, the public is invited to stop by any time during the event to browse, shop and learn.

For more information and to sign-up for classes, visit the website
www.gpmga.org/spring-garden-fest/



Horticulture Help Line:

Residents with questions regarding gardens, lawn care, pruning and more are invited to contact the Goochland Extension Office for free advice. The Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners are available at the office Thursdays beginning in mid-March through September. You can reach them at 804-556-5874 or stop by the Goochland Extension Office.

Would you like to learn more about Goochland County?

In September, Goochland Leadership Enterprise (GLE) will begin its 21st Class. Consider that over these last 20 Classes, over 300 people were introduced to opportunities to participate in Goochland County. The GLE program informs and educates interested citizens about issues facing the County to foster involvement in making Goochland a desirable place to live, work and enjoy. The goal of the GLE is to develop as a group of County citizens who will be motivated to participate in current and future County activities. The program begins in September and concludes with graduation in March. For further information about this program and the upcoming Class, please contact the Goochland Extension Office at (804) 556-5841 or visit the Extension website at <https://goochland.ext.vt.edu/programs.html>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goochland-Leadership-Enterprise/282584751894928>

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Agriculture Awareness: Did You Know?

By Charlotte Maxwell, Extension Agent - Agriculture & Natural Resources

Are There Poisonous Weeds in Your Horse Pasture?

Spring is here and that means weeds are going to become increasingly obvious in your horse pastures. The best way to combat weeds is having fertile soil and a stand of grass thick enough that the weed seeds don't have room to grow. That is easier said than done for most and weeds can find their way into even the best managed pastures. There are five common weeds in horse pastures that are also toxic.

The most common and easily identifiable by its appearance is the buttercup (Figure 1). There are several varieties of buttercup, some are annual and other are perennial. Buttercup is frequently in overgrazed pastures and is toxic when chewed, but horses rarely consume these because they are not palatable. If you see dried buttercups in your hay, don't panic! Buttercup loses its toxicity when dried.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

Jimson Weed (Figure 2) is another toxic plant that is rarely consumed if there is enough hay or grass available. This plant can reach up to 5 feet tall and has a foul odor/taste. This weed is an annual and can be recognized by the distinct trumpet-like flowers it produces. Horse Nettle (Figure 3) is in the nightshade family and is typically only consumed when the horse is very hungry. The leaves, shoots and green berries of this plant contain solanine. Solanine can affect the horses central nervous system and gastrointestinal tract. Pokeweed (Figure 4) will typically be found around fence lines and can reach up to 10 feet. You can identify this weed by its purplish-red stem and deep purple berries. The roots of this weed are what is most toxic, but the leaves and stems can also poison a horse. Finally, Black Walnut

(Figure 5) bark, wood, nuts and roots contain toxins. If you have these trees in your pasture they should be removed and be cautious of any black walnut shavings or bedding material. Horses who are on black walnut bedding or consume any part of the tree may experience depression, laminitis, increased temperature, etc. If you have any of these in your pasture it is important to remember that your horse is extremely unlikely to eat them if they have grass and/or hay to consume to keep them getting hungry. On the other hand, if you have an abundance of these or other weeds in your pasture, you might not have enough grass growing to out-compete these unwanted plants. If you need to have your soil tested, a weed identified, or need pasture management advice give our ANR Extension Agent, Charley, a call at 540-223-3837 or e-mail at mcharley@vt.edu.

Goochland Pond Workshop

April 20, 2018 10am—noon

We will be welcoming Virginia Cooperative Extension Specialists, Dr. David Crosby and Dr. Brian Nerrie to cover water quality, pond weeds, fish health and more! You are welcome to bring with you: a chair to sit in by the pond, a pond water sample to be analyzed and a pond weed sample to be identified.

The cost is \$5. Please call Charlotte Maxwell at 804-556-5872 or e-mail at mcharley@vt.edu for more information.

Click here to register: <https://goo.gl/forms/gv1nsC4avuNeEnrW2>

We reserve the right to cancel due to lack of registration.



Upcoming Extension Events:

April

4-H Great Equestrian Club - Next meeting - **April 3rd, 6:30pm**. Contact the Goochland Extension office at (804) 556-5841 for more information.

4-H Goochland Livestock Club - Next Meeting - **April 13th at 7pm** at St. Mathews UMC.

4-H Trailblazers Club - Next Meeting - **April 10th at 6:30p** at the Goochland Parks & Rec Classroom.

4-H Cloverbuds Club - Next Meeting - **April 10th at 5:30p** at the Goochland Parks & Rec Classroom.

SATURDAY GARDEN TOURS April 28th "The Awakening Spring Garden" Each walking tour starts promptly at 10 a.m. at the entrance to the main building The tours are **FREE**, but you must sign up for each tour at www.gpmga.org. Registration will open 1 month before each tour date Join the Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners for seasonal tours of the Gardens on the Goochland Campus of Reynolds Community College 1851 Dickinson Road, Goochland, VA 23063 If weather is inclement, tour will be rescheduled Tours will include descriptive & cultural information for the highlighted plants Spring, additional tours & dates - July 14, 2018 "The Exuberant Summer Garden", September 29, 2018 "The Glowing Fall Garden", November 10, 2018 "The Intriguing Winter Garden"

Garden Fest "Spring in the Garden" - April 21st, 8a-3p. Talks by nationally recognized horticulturalist & author Jeff Gillman (9 a.m.) **The Truth about Garden Remedies (1 p.m.) The Truth about Organic Gardening** * Plants for Sale * Garden tool sharpening * Ask the Experts The Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners in cooperation with Reynolds Community College & VA Cooperative Extension present *Advanced registration and fee required to attend the talks (\$25/talk or \$50 for both talks) More information available at www.gpmga.org OR just stop by to shop, browse, and learn the day of the event.

May

4-H Great Equestrian Club - Next meeting - **May 1st, 6:30pm**. Contact the Goochland Extension office at (804) 556-5841 for more information.

4-H Goochland Livestock Club - Next Meeting - **May 11th, 7pm** at St. Mathews UMC.

4-H Trailblazers - Next Meeting - **May 8th, 6:30p** at the Goochland Parks & Rec Classroom.

4-H Cloverbuds - Next Meeting - **May 8th at 5:30p** at the Goochland Parks & Rec Classroom.

June

Planning and Installing a Rain Garden - Saturday, June 2, 2018 8:45 am - noon Reynolds Community College, 1851 Dickinson Road, Goochland, VA 23063 In this session, you will learn about: Rain gardens and their benefits , Planning considerations, Construction, Plant selection & layout The class is **FREE**, but you must sign up for the class at www.gpmga.org Class registration will open May 2, 2018 Presented by the Goochland-Powhatan Master Gardeners in cooperation with Virginia Cooperative Extension and Reynolds Community College.

4-H Great Equestrian Club - Next meeting - **June 5th at 6:30pm**. Contact the Goochland Extension office at (804) 556- 5841 for more information.

4-H Goochland Livestock Club - Next Meeting - **June 8th, 7pm** at St. Mathews UMC.

4-H Trailblazers Club - Next Meeting - **June 12th, 6p** at Goochland Parks and Rec Classroom.

4-H Cloverbuds Club - Next Meeting - **June 12th at 6p** at Goochland Parks and Rec Classroom.

Master Gardener Educational Talk - June 14th, 6:30-8:30pm FREE. Join the Master Gardeners for their association meetings to hear about different horticultural topics from a range of speakers. For more information and location visit the GP Master Gardener website at www.gpmga.org.

****Please call the Extension Office prior to these meeting dates to verify that the clubs will be meeting on these dates and times.****



If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in these activities, or any activity listed in this newsletter, please contact Goochland Extension Office at 804-556-5841 during business hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event.

*TDD number is (800) 828-1120.

4-H News & Spotlight:



Rilie Bass giving her 1st place speech at Spring Air Competition

Rilie Bass: 2018 Spring Air Public Speaking Speech

A Coach's Impact

This past season, I have learned the importance of having a caring coach and support system. Without the multiple adults pushing me to be my very best, I wouldn't be able to say I've travelled halfway across the country with 6 of my very best friends to compete nationally. Holding the title of a "Virginia State Shooting Sports Ambassador" wouldn't be a reality for me, and the Virginia Youth Education Summit application wouldn't be in my future. There are so many things that I, by myself, wouldn't have been able to accomplish alone. I needed a coach to show me what I was capable of.

A sports coach is asked to play many roles including a role-model, a mentor, a motivator, and even a cheerleader sometimes. A good coach is not only there to improve an athlete's performance but also to encourage teamwork, positive thinking, and respect. Respect for each other, our resources, and the sport we all love.

So while I was thinking of the needed qualities to be a good coach, a name popped into my head. But this man is more than just a "good coach." He is my role-model and my shoulder to lean on when things aren't going so smoothly. When I'm older, I want to be just like him (minus the grumpiness of course, haha). Walter Glusiec is the reason I am who I am today.

My coach, Mr. Walt, has been with me from the start of my shooting career. He's seen me grow and mature into the outgoing person I am today.

A lot of people may know about our 4-H organization, but I would say the majority don't really know what the 4 H's stand for. The 4 H's actually stand for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. But to me, these are more than just words, they're my story. Mr. Walt has shown me the true meaning of 4-H.

He's shown me that head means to have confidence and pride in my work and accomplishments. We all have something to be proud of and we should embrace that. All of us are inspiring in our own way.

I have seen through his teachings that heart means to have compassion behind everything I do, and to treat others with respect. Differences should be embraced because that is what makes our community so special. We are accepting of others. 4-H is unlike any other program in the sense that everyone can do anything, the sky is the limit.

In addition to this, I have seen that 1 act of kindness really goes a long way in our community. Just a few hours ago I saw a coach from another county go out of his way to help someone in need. One of my teammates was on the line when her rifle malfunctioned. No one was obligated to help, but this man went out of his way and offered to loan one of his club's guns so that she could continue to compete. But he didn't stop there. He persisted that he should adjust the gun to fit her perfectly. Now she has a chance to do her very best.

This reminded me of a theory called the "Butterfly Effect." By definition, the "Butterfly Effect" is the idea that a single butterfly can flap its wings on one side of the globe, to cause

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Spring Air BB Competition Results:

The Goochland 4-H Shooting Education BB Team went to Spring Air Competition on March 17 and 18, 2018. They competed against other 4-H clubs across Virginia. The Goochland Team placed as follows:

Individual Awards:

Air Rifle Kneeling - Carter Burcham placed 2nd
Air Rifle Overall - Caleb Moyer placed 10th

Carter Burcham placed 7th
Rilie Bass placed 3rd

BB Overall - Carter Burcham placed 9th
Loren Bass placed 6th
Caleb Moyer placed 5th
Stephen Yago placed 1st

BB Prone - Carter Burcham placed 3rd

BB Test - Loren Bass placed 2nd
Stephen Yago placed 1st

BB 10 and under - Samantha Yago placed 1st
Public Speaking - Rilie Bass placed 1st.

TEAM AWARDS:

Air Rifle - Carter Burcham, Caleb Moyer, Rilie Bass and Loren Bass placed 2nd!

BB - Stephen Yago, Alex Davis, Natalie Yago, Mathew Getter and Samantha Yago placed 3rd!

*Once again our BB Team will be headed to the Daisy Nationals in July 2018 to compete!

CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE!



STEM & Leaf Club

Junior Club: Ages 9-12 Senior Club: Ages 13-18

This special interest club is for youth who love nature & all things STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). In this program, youth will be transformed into scientists

working to solve real-world environmental problems. Young inventors & scientists will explore STEM & nature through hands-on learning opportunities! Build and design your own inventions as we learn about how to help solve environmental problems!

\$20 registration fee



Next session begins 2018

3:30pm to 5:30pm

Multiple Locations

4-H Junior Summer Camp Ages 9-13

Mark your calendar and join us July 9-13, 2018 at Jamestown 4-H Educational Center for a week long summer camp. Jamestown offers canoeing, riflery, crafts and much more. Don't miss a minute of the fun!



~Spring Break 4-H Camp~

April 2-6 & April 6-8, 2018 at Jamestown 4-H Center,
contact <http://www.jamestown4hcenter.org/programs/#spc>
or call the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center at 757-253-4931
for more information.

*If you are interested in registering for any of these great opportunities or have questions, please call the Goochland Extension Office at 804-556-5873 or email sarahc89@vt.edu**

See what 4-H has to offer for you!! Here is a list of our 4-H Clubs:



The Goochland County 4-H program is growing throughout the county. 4-H provides “learn by doing” opportunities for youth to receive “hands on experiences through work or activities. 4-H is for all youth, both boys and girls between the ages of 5-18 years of age regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, handicap or political affiliation. For further information or questions regarding any of these programs please contact the 4-H office at 556-5841.

Goochland 4-H Shooting Education Club: Ages 9-18

The Shooting Education Club focuses on teaching responsible handling of any firearm, including safety, cleaning and proper storage. The youth will have a chance to compete in several 4-H sponsored shooting event throughout the year. The 4-H club is lead by qualifies, trained 4-H volunteers who are certified instructors in the following disciplines; archery, rifle, shotgun, pistol, air rifle.

4-H Trailblazers & Cloverbuds: Ages 5-18

Youth will learn about a variety of subject areas such as geocaching, photography, science and more. Meetings are usually held in the Goochland Parks and Recreation Building Classroom.

Great Equestrian 4-H Club: Ages 9-18

The 4-Hers will participate in equine workshops, visit farms and show equine at local 4-H horse shows. Youth do not need to have a horse to be a member, just interest in the equine industry. The 4-H members meet once a month on the first Tuesday at 6:30pm.

4-H Thunderhooves: Ages 9-18

The Thunderhooves are an equine club that focuses on learning more about the equine industry. The 4-Hers will participate in equine workshops, visit farms and show equine at local 4-H horse shows. Youth do not need to have a horse to be a member just interest in the equine industry.

Goochland 4-H Livestock Club: Ages 5-18

The Goochland Livestock 4-H club focuses on learning about livestock animals and agriculture. Throughout the year, the youth participate in workshops on different species of livestock; have guest speakers within the industry and show at the local 4-H livestock shows. Youth do not need to have a livestock animal to be a member just an interest. Youth 5-8 years of age, can be a part of this club as Cloverbuds until they reach the 4-H age of 9. This 4-H Club meets once a month on the second Friday at 7 pm at St. Mathews UMC in Goochland.



As a 4-H Volunteer, You can:

- *Lead youth within school-based and after-school programs, camp settings or 4-H clubs.
- *Serve as a chaperone, board member, or judge for a 4-H contest
- *Develop and support community service opportunities for youth to make a difference in Goochland County.
- *Teach youth using research-based university curricula
- *Work with other adults to create fun, new programs for youth.
- *Make a difference in the lives of youth

4-H is a great volunteer opportunity that allows you to share your interests, skills and time available with the youth in Goochland County. Interested in learning more? Contact Sarah Crews, 4-H Youth Development at 804-556-5873 or sarahc89@vt.edu for more information.

“When adults take time to help young people through 4-H, they exert an enormous, positive influence on the lives of youth.”
– Retired General Colin Powell

Greening Your Home and Landscape

By: Adam Downing



Many ways to "green up" your home require expensive modifications such as solar panels, insulation, and energy-efficient appliances. All good stuff, but what can you do when the budget is tight?

Let's start with your home. The first two of the classic three R's — reduce, reuse, and recycle — are environmentally and economically important. Let's consider zip-closed bags, for example. Do you simply throw these away or do you wash and reuse? It is not always popular to reuse, yet how many of us have received a gift we don't need? Practice a little "R and R."

Another easy action is to bump the thermostat down a degree lower than normal in winter and up a degree or two in summer. Our ancestors survived with little climate control; your body will adjust as well. The less energy you use, the less has to be produced, which reduces pollution while saving you money. Consider your landscape. Planting a tree on the southwest side of your home that will grow big enough to shade the house can reduce air conditioning costs by up to 30 percent. This two-for-one deal saves energy and the environment.

Another way to green up your landscape is to choose native plant species. Native plants benefit everything from butterfly populations to soil health and cost no more than non-native invasive plants. If your yard is like most, it has non-native plants like English ivy, wisteria, privet bushes, and Bradford pear trees. Remove them before they spread further. These plants are green only in color, not in function.

For more information on these topics, a variety of Virginia Cooperative Extension publications are available online or from your local Extension office. Search for "energy," "tree planting," and "invasive" at www.pubs.ext.vt.edu.

Adam Downing is a senior agricultural and natural resources Extension agent serving Madison County.

Upcoming Horticulture Programs

Extending the Vegetable Harvest

FREE

Fall Vegetable Gardening begins in late July for fall harvest. Extend your vegetable harvest with planning and appropriate crop choices for the fall season. Learn which vegetables to plant, planting and harvest dates. Care of the fall garden and preparing the soil for winter.

Saturday, July 21, 2018

9am to 12pm Goochland County Library

Fall Lawn Care - Feed the Soil

FREE

After a soil test, take advantage of the Fall season to improve your lawn, reduce weeds and improve soil fertility so that it can provide your lawn with the nutrients it needs. Contact Bob Whitehead at 556-5868 or whitehd5@vt.edu for more information and to register.

Saturday August 4, 2018

9am to Noon Goochland County Library

****Pre-registration for both workshops is required, please call or email Bob Whitehead at 804-556-5868 or whitehd5@vt.edu to register.****

Bagworms – They're in the Bag

By: **Bob Whitehead, Horticulture Associate**



Goochland Extension Office
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P.O. Box 20
Goochland, VA 23063

Phone - 804-556-5841
Fax - 804-556-3144



Visit our website at:
<http://offices.ext.vt.edu/goochland/>
For more programs and
information!
Also search Virginia
Cooperative Extension
Goochland on Facebook!

During late summer and early fall, some people notice brown pointed cylindrical objects hanging from the branches of their favorite evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs. Except for the dull unattractive coloring, one might think the objects resemble Christmas decorations dangling from the branches. The plant foliage may also appear to be under attack by some cellulose consuming culprit. Quite often the un-decorative branch ornaments are identified as the bagworm

(*Thyridopteryx ephemeraeformis*). The bagworm prefers plants such as juniper, arborvitae, cedar, pine, hemlock, spruce, Chinese elm, honey locust and many others. The bagworm is a pest that can do serious damage and/or kill landscape plants if not controlled appropriately. The first step for control is to understand the life cycle of the bagworm and its vulnerabilities. The bagworm is an insect that lives most of its life inside of a self made protective coating or bag. The bag is made of leaf/plant debris spun together with silk strands produced by the larval stage of this insect. When noticed during the late summer and fall, the bag worm is nearing the end of the larval stage. At this point they are the least vulnerable to control by insecticides. The bags are about one to two inches in length. The mature caterpillars attach the bag to the branches to begin the pupation stage to become adult moths.

After pupation, the wingless female moth never leaves the bag. The winged male is attracted to the female by aromatic pheromones. Mating occurs through an opening in the bag. After laying up to 1000 eggs in the bag, the female exits the bag, drops to the ground to die. This insect produces one generation per year. After overwintering in the bag, the eggs hatch during the month of June. The young caterpillars immediately begin feeding and spinning a protective bag proportionate to their small size. The caterpillars move about the branch while feeding and retreat to the bag if they are threatened. This is the stage where the caterpillars are most vulnerable to insecticide control. It is important to treat with recommended pesticides during mid-June. Small larvae are more susceptible to insecticides. Insecticides with some residual effect offer the best control. However, precautions should be taken when applying chemicals to landscape plants in public areas. Federal and state law requires that all pesticides be applied in accordance with the product label.

If the plants are reasonably small in size, the best course of action from fall to spring is to manually pick the bags off of the plant and destroy them by burning. This will significantly reduce the emerging population next spring. Follow-up spraying during mid to late June will likely bring any surviving larvae under control. For large trees where manual removal of the bags is unfeasible, a professional pesticide applicator will have the necessary equipment to apply pesticides to very large trees and shrubs.

If you would like to learn more, refer to "Bagworm" (publication ENTO-83NP) on the Virginia Cooperative Extension publication website. Use the search feature to find this publication and other educational documents at: <http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/>.



Pictures from Purdue University
Department of Entomology
publication: Bagworms -E-27-W



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Find us on Facebook for the **Virginia Cooperative Extension Office - Goochland** and **Goochland 4-H** here:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Virginia-Cooperative-Extension-Goochland-County/197382547017139> &

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Goochland-4-H/192197339215>



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a hurricane on the other. By receiving help from a kind gentlemen, my teammate will now want to help someone in return. This creates an on-going cycle that our coaches encourage.

He has shown me that hands represent returning the favor. Our coaches have taken weeks, months - and maybe even years for some of our volunteers - for us, the youth. To help us improve and succeed in this sport we all love. We will be WELL prepared because of our volunteers. We may not know it now, but later in life we will thank them for the important lessons and life skills they've taught us. When it's our time to step up and take charge of this program, we should take the knowledge the adults have given us and apply it into living through our motto, "making the best better".

He has shown me that health means to know what is best for YOU in any situation. I am a selfless type of person, especially when it comes to my shooting teammates. Thinking of others, showing consideration, and putting the needs of others before my own is a part of my personality. Through my experience, I have learned that this isn't always beneficial to my shooting. If I want to achieve a specific goal, I can't have any distractions in my way. I have to work hard for myself because things won't always be handed to me, and nor should they be. My coaches have shown me the importance and pay off of a good work ethic.

Although I was speaking about 1 person who has changed my life. Everyone has the ability to do the same. Speaking on the behalf of all the athletes here this weekend, and even those who were unable to come, we look up to you because we are the next generation. You all have provided us with insight when we were lost, opportunities to grow as young leaders, and knowledge to better our future.

To all of the adults in the room - from us to you - thank you for everything you've done for the Shooting Sports community.

We won't let you down.



Pictured here are last years' BB State Champions with their Coach: Walt Glusiec.

Pictured L to R : Chris Yago, Rilie Bass, Grace Moyer, Caleb Moyer, Alexander Davis, Carter Burcham, Stephen Yago, Loren Bass and Coach Walt Glusiec