



From the Ground

Bath County Agricultural Newsletter

Bath County
Ag and Natural Resources

August 2024 *Robert Amburgey*

Bath County Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

KENTUCKY STATE FAIR

AUGUST 15-25

**BATH COUNTY FIELD DAY—MARK YOUR
CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 17TH!**

MORE DETAILS WILL BE COMING SOON.

Cooperative Extension Service

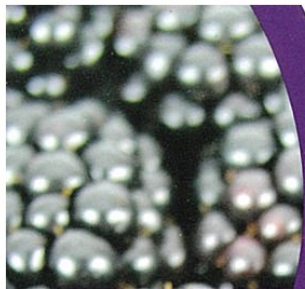
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.



Blackberry Coffee Cake

1 cup all-purpose flour	1/3 cup margarine	2 eggs
1 cup whole wheat flour	1/3 cup applesauce	1 teaspoon vanilla
1 1/2 cups white sugar	1/2 teaspoon cinnamon	2/3 cup 1% milk
2 teaspoons baking powder	2 tablespoons brown sugar	2 cups blackberries, washed
1 teaspoon salt		

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. **Grease** and **flour** a 9-by-13- inch baking pan. In a large bowl, **combine** flours, sugar, baking powder and salt. Using a pastry blender, cut margarine and applesauce into the mixture until it resembles coarse crumbs. **Stir** in the cinnamon and brown sugar. **Set aside** 3/4 cup of crumb mixture to be used as a topping for the cake. In a medium bowl, **mix** together eggs, vanilla and milk. **Blend** into remaining flour mixture. **Spread** batter into prepared pan. **Sprinkle** blackberries evenly over the

batter. Gently **press** blackberries into the batter. **Sprinkle** reserved crumb mixture over fruit and gently pat down. **Bake** in preheated oven for 25-30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center of the cake comes out clean.

Yield: 15 servings.

Nutritional Analysis: 170 calories, 5 g fat, 1 g saturated fat, 1 g trans fat, 30 mg cholesterol, 280 mg sodium, 32 g carbohydrate, 2 g fiber, 18 g sugars, 3 g protein.

Kentucky Blackberries

SEASON: June to September

NUTRITION FACTS: A 1/2 cup serving of raw berries contains 35 calories, has zero fat, and is a good source of potassium, vitamin C and fiber.

SELECTION: Look for plump fruit that is uniform in color and appears fresh. Berries should be free of stems or leaves. Avoid fruit that is moldy, crushed, bruised or contains extra moisture.

STORAGE: Store unwashed and covered berries in the refrigerator. Use within two days.

PREPARATION: Handle all berries gently. Wash berries by covering them with water and gently lifting the berries out. Remove any stems and drain on a single layer of paper towels. Blackberries are delicious cooked, which intensifies the flavor, or eaten fresh as a snack or in a salad.

PRESERVING: Berries may be preserved by canning or freezing, or made into jellies or jam. For more information, contact your local County Extension Office.

KENTUCKY BLACKBERRIES

Kentucky Proud Project

County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences

University of Kentucky, Dietetics and Human Nutrition students

August 2018

Source: www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov

Buying Kentucky Proud is easy. Look for the label at your grocery store, farmers market, or roadside stand.
<http://plateitup.ca.uky.edu>



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University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Protect yourself from ticks

Sources: Jonathan Larson, UK extension entomologist and Anna Pasternak UK graduate student

Kentucky is an ideal environment for ticks as we have forests, humidity and a large deer population. It is important to take precautions to prevent tick bites, especially if you spend a significant amount of time outdoors. Ticks do not discriminate on location, and we find them in urban, suburban and rural environments.

The three most common ticks in Kentucky are the lone star tick, American dog tick and the blacklegged tick. Anna Pasternak, University of Kentucky graduate student who collects ticks for the Kentucky Tick Surveillance Program, is seeing lots of lone star ticks and American dog ticks this summer.

Ticks must have three bloodmeals to develop and reproduce. Those bloodmeals may come from wildlife, animals or you and me. The vast majority of bites from these ticks are just itchy nuisances that last between seven to 10 days, but a small percentage of bites can cause serious allergic reactions and illnesses.

You can identify female lone star ticks by the white spot on their backs. Males are reddish brown. Lone star ticks are vectors of human ehrlichiosis, a bacterial disease, and alpha-gal syndrome, known as the “red meat allergy.” All developmental stages of the tick will feed on humans, and unlike other tick species that lay in wait for a host, lone star ticks actively seek out a blood meal.

The blacklegged tick is the only species that tends to be active year-round in Kentucky, and it is the only vector of Lyme disease. Blacklegged ticks have a reddish-brown body, a dark head, long mouthparts and dark legs. Males have a dark plate that covers their whole body, while females have a dark plate that covers half of their body.

The American dog tick is the primary vector of Rocky Mountain spotted fever. It is reddish brown with mottled white markings on its back. Only adult American dog ticks feed on humans.

You can minimize your chances of getting a tick bite by not walking through or brushing up against high grass, brush or other tick-prone areas. You can wear a tick repellent that contains between 20% to 30% DEET on exposed skin and use a repellent containing permethrin on your clothing and gear. Wear light-colored clothing, as this makes ticks easier to see. Tuck long pants into your socks or boots to minimize the chances of ticks attaching to your pantleg.

Many times, ticks find their way indoors through our pets. Reduce your pet's chances of attracting ticks by using a tick collar, spray or shampoo or a monthly "top spot" medication.

Promptly finding and removing ticks is key to reducing your chances of contracting Rocky Mountain spotted fever and Lyme disease. Ticks must be attached to humans for several hours before they transmit these diseases. While outdoors, you should check yourself and your friends, family members and pets for ticks every two to three hours and again after you return home. Some of the most common places to find them are behind your ears, hair, neck, legs and around your waist. If ticks are found, the best way to remove them is by using a fine-tipped tweezer.

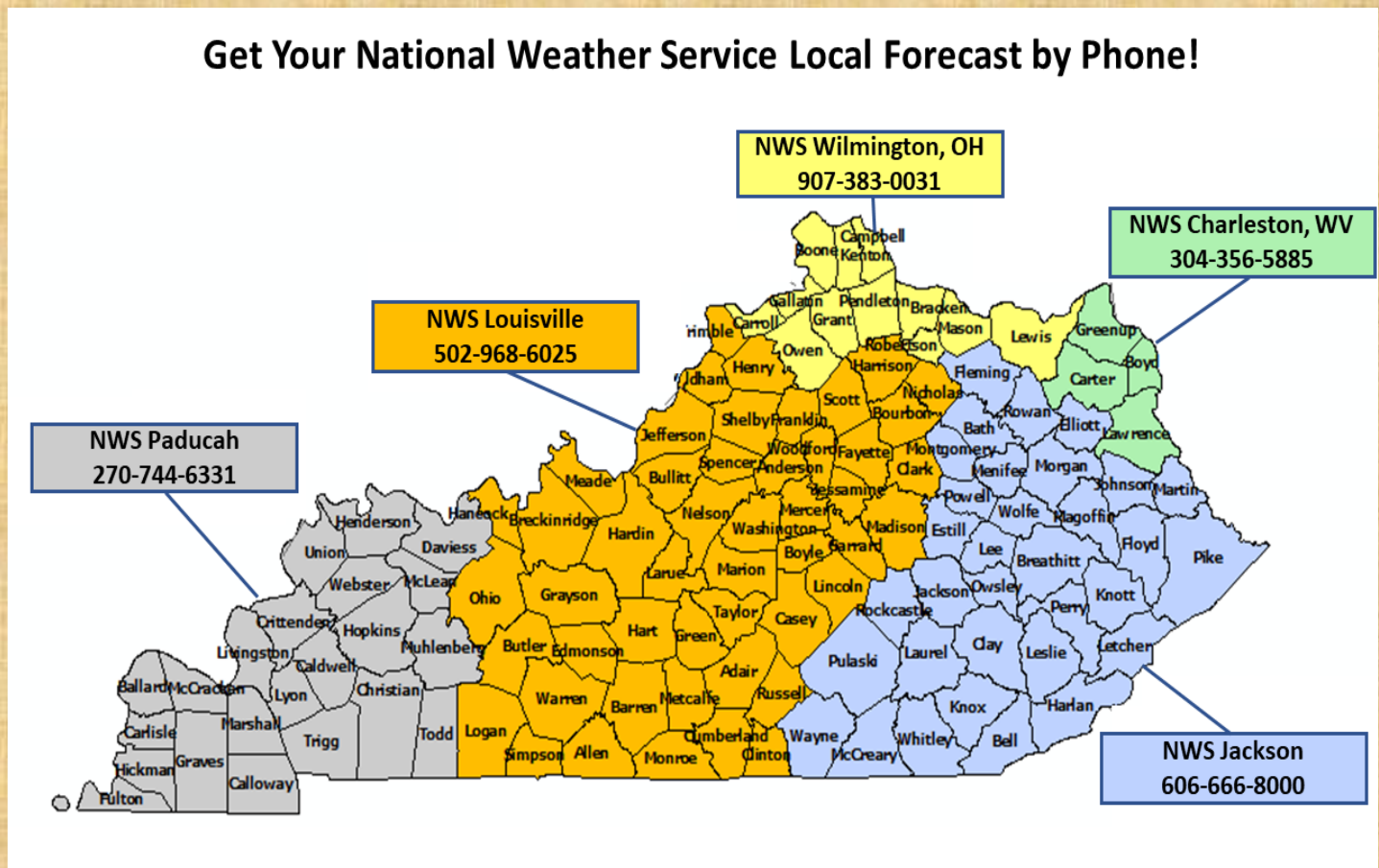


Get Your Local National Weather Service Forecast by Phone!

Your local National Weather Service forecast can be accessed several ways. You can get it from the internet by visiting weather.gov. You can also get it with the touch of a button from a NOAA Weather Radio. One often overlooked way to access your local National Weather Service forecast is by automated phone recording.

Every National Weather Service office that serves Kentucky has a phone number that can be called to access reliable and accurate forecast information 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In the past, the choice of areas that a caller could choose to receive a forecast was limited. Now, with recent upgrades in technology, NWS offices have expanded the number of locations to more than just the major cities. For instance, the National Weather Service offices in Paducah, Louisville and Jackson have added options to receive a forecast recording for locations where Plain communities exist allowing a low-tech way to access reliable and accurate weather forecast information.

To access your local forecast by phone, simply find your county in the map below and dial the number listed for that area, then follow the prompts.



Timely Tips

Dr. Les Anderson, Beef Extension Professor, University of Kentucky

Spring-Calving Cow Herd

- Fescue pastures don't generally produce much this month. Some of us have had some rain but the heat has punished our pastures and cattle this summer. Most of you may have some forage going into the usually dry months. Keep rotating pastures to permit calves to continue gaining weight. Always keep minerals available.
- Bulls should have been removed from the cow herd by the end of the month. They should be pastured away from the cow herd with a good fence and allowed to regain lost weight and condition. It is a good time to evaluate physical condition, especially feet and legs. Bulls can be given medical attention and still have plenty of time to recover, e.g., corns, abscesses, split hooves, etc. If removing the bull is not practical for you then call your herd veterinarian and schedule a pregnancy diagnosis. Market your "late-bred" cows and keep those that conceived early in the breeding season.

Repair and improve corrals for fall working and weaning. Consider having an area to wean calves and retain ownership for post-weaning feeding rather than selling "green", lightweight calves. Plan to participate in CPH-45 feeder calf sales in your area.

Fall-Calving Cow Herd

- Dry cows should be moved to better pastures as calving time approaches. Cows should start calving next month. Yearling heifers may begin "headstart" calving later this month. Plan to move cows to stockpiled fescue for the breeding season, so it will soon be time to apply nitrogen fertilizer.

Prepare for the fall-calving season (usually September). Get ready, be sure you have the following:

- record book
- ear tags for identification
- calf puller
- castration equipment

General

- Perhaps the most tedious aspect of agriculture is keeping records, generating reports, and using data to make management decisions. Consider using one of the many electronic data collection and management systems available on the market. We recommend Stocket.us for a simple, inexpensive web/app platform.
- Provide shade and water! Cattle will need shade during the hot part of the day. Check water supply frequently – as much as 20 gallons may be required by high producing cows in very hot weather.
- Select pastures for stockpiling. Remove cattle and apply nitrogen when moisture conditions are favorable. Stockpiled fescue can be especially beneficial for fall-calving cows after calving. Reproductive rates are highest in fall-calving cows grazing stockpiled fescue.
- Avoid working cattle when temperatures are extremely high – especially those grazing high-endophyte fescue. If cattle must be handled, do so in the early morning.
- Do not give up on fly control in late summer, especially if fly numbers are greater than about 50 flies per animal. You can use a different "type" of spray or pour-on to kill any resistant flies at the end of fly season.
- Keep a good mineral mix available at all times. The UK Beef IRM Basic Cow-Calf mineral is a good choice.
- Cattle may also be more prone to eat poisonous plants during periods of extreme temperature stress. They will stay in "wooded" areas and browse on plants that they would not normally consume. Consider putting a roll of hay in these areas and/or spraying plants like purple (perilla) mint that can be toxic.

Take soil samples to determine pasture fertility needs. Fertilize as needed, this fall.

2024 BATH COUNTY FARMERS MARKET CALENDAR 



Arts & Crafts

MARKET HOURS
Tuesdays 8:00 to 1:00
Fridays 8:00 to 1:00
Saturdays 8:00 to 1:00

May 2024

Su	M	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2024

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2024

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September 2024

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July 2024

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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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October 2024

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Regular sale days are indicated in **RED**. The market hours are from 8 A.M. until sell out. **THIS YEAR, THE MARKET WILL FEATURE CRAFTS IN THE MARKET PAVILION.** The market location is the Bath County Agricultural Education and Marketing Center located at 2914 East Highway 60 in Owingsville, KY.

Cooperative Extension Service

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

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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BATH COUNTY FARMER'S MARKET SCHEDULE

BATH COUNTY PRODUCE AUCTION SCHEDULE

2024 Bath County Produce Auction



The Bath County Produce Auction Thursday night sales will start at 6:00PM. See the map on the back for directions. NO MONDAY SALES THIS YEAR.

Auction Manager:
Kelly Carter
Starting May 2nd.

For More Information Contact:
Kelly Carter/Phil Copher
859-398-0409

The Bath County Produce Auction Welcomes You
Phil Copher, Auctioneer
See the back for a map and more info.

DATES IN RED INDICATE AUCTION NIGHTS



May 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sa
			1	2	3	4
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June 2024

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July 2024

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August 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fri	Sat
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September 2024

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29	30					

October 2024

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sat
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Honey Bee Swarms

By Jessica Bessin

Mercer County
Extension Agent for Horticulture

Throughout the month of May is prime swarm season for honey bees. If you are a bee keeper you might be very excited about this. Otherwise, the thought of a swarm of bees ascending in your yard can be quite intimidating. Have no fear, swarms of bees tend to be very docile as they are on a mission to find a new home.

Honey bees swarm because their hives have become over-crowded. When this starts to happen, the colony will raise a new queen. When the new queen is almost mature, the old queen will leave the hive and release pheromones that half or two-thirds of the hive (worker bees and a few drones) will follow. Initially they won't be far from the hive. They could land on a tree, fence post, mailbox, a building, and even in/on vehicles. The worker bees will cluster around the queen to keep her safe and warm, others are scout bees. The scout bees fly out looking for a more permanent home, once they find one the entire swarm will fly to this location. Once inside their new home, they will secrete beeswax and start building comb for the queen to lay eggs and store honey.

A few things to keep in mind about bee swarms. Swarms tend to be docile, since they are not protecting brood or honey. However, if they are messed with by spraying them with water or insecticides they can become aggressive. Depending on how the weather and how quickly the scout bees find a new home, a swarm can stay in the same location for 24 hours or will move quickly. If you have a swarm on your property call a beekeeper! Call your local Extension Office and they can direct a beekeeper your way.



For those beekeepers on the search for swarms to add to their bee yards, remember the earlier in the season you catch them the better! The saying goes "A swarm in May is worth a load of hay; a swarm in June is worth a silvery spoon; but a swarm in July is not worth a fly"

Garden Tip # 6

If growing grapes, remove the flower clusters for the first two years after planting. Thin third and following years to one or two clusters per shoot.

Quick
TIP

Managing Cool-Season Pastures for Enhanced Fall Growth

Dr. Chris D. Teutsch, University of Kentucky Research and Education Center at Princeton

It seems early to be thinking about stockpiling cool-season grasses for winter grazing, but how we manage pastures now can have a profound impact on fall growth. How closely and frequently we graze pastures this summer can either enhance or reduce our ability to stockpile grass this fall. The objective of this article is to provide some tips that will help to keep cool-season pastures healthy this summer.

Fertilize and lime according to soil test. If you have not already done it, take a soil sample and apply any needed phosphorous, potassium, and lime. Avoid summer applications of nitrogen to cool-season pastures. They are generally not economical since cool-season grasses are not actively growing during the summer months. In addition, they can inadvertently weaken cool-season grass stands by promoting the growth of summer weeds.

Do NOT graze cool-season pastures too closely. Grazing pastures closely during the summer months can weaken cool-season grass stands and promote the growth of warm-season grasses such as bermudagrass or crabgrass in these stands. There is nothing wrong with warm-season grasses, but we want to minimize them in pastures that will be stockpiled for winter grazing. Maintaining 4 to 6 inches of residue in cool-season pastures can also moderate soil temperature and conserve soil moisture.

Rest cool-season pastures during the summer month. Resting pastures during the summer months allows them to acclimate to the hot and dry conditions often found in Kentucky. It allows plants to replenish and maintain stored carbohydrates (energy reserves) that can be mobilized in late summer and fall to full rapid growth during the stockpiling period.

Graze warm-season grasses during the summer months. During the summer months, warm-season grasses will produce about twice as much dry matter per unit of water used when compared to cool-season grasses. The beauty of warm-season grasses is that they allow you to get off of cool-season pastures when they are most susceptible to overgrazing.

There are several perennial warm-season grasses that can be used, but in western Kentucky the most productive, persistent, and tolerant to close and frequent grazing is bermudagrass. Johnsongrass is another warm-season perennial grass that can provide high quality summer grazing. I am going on record to make clear that I am NOT encouraging anyone to plant johnsongrass, but sometimes it is just there. Because johnsongrass is extremely palatable, it can be grazed out of pastures if not rotationally stocked.

Warm-season annual grasses like pearl millet, sorghum-sudangrass, sudangrass, and crabgrass can provide high quality summer grazing. The primary disadvantage with summer annual grasses is that they need to be reestablished every year, which costs money and provides the chance for stand failure. The exception to this is crabgrass that develops volunteer stands from seed in the soil. Although most people don't realize (or want to admit it) crabgrass has saved many cows during dry summers in western Kentucky.

Feed hay in sacrifice area. During the summer months, it is tempting to just open the gates up and let the cattle free range. However, a better plan is to confine animals to the weakest paddock that you have and feed hay. You will likely damage this paddock, but it will allow you to maintain strong and vigorous sod in the others. This sacrifice area can then be renovated in late fall.

When it comes to stockpiling cool-season grasses for winter grazing, what you do during the summer months really does matter! So, as we roll into the hottest and driest part of the grazing season, make sure and give your cool-season pastures a little tender loving care. It will pay big dividends this fall!

More information on stockpiling can be found at your [local extension office](#) or by visiting [UK Forages Webpage](#) or [KYForages YouTube Channel](#).

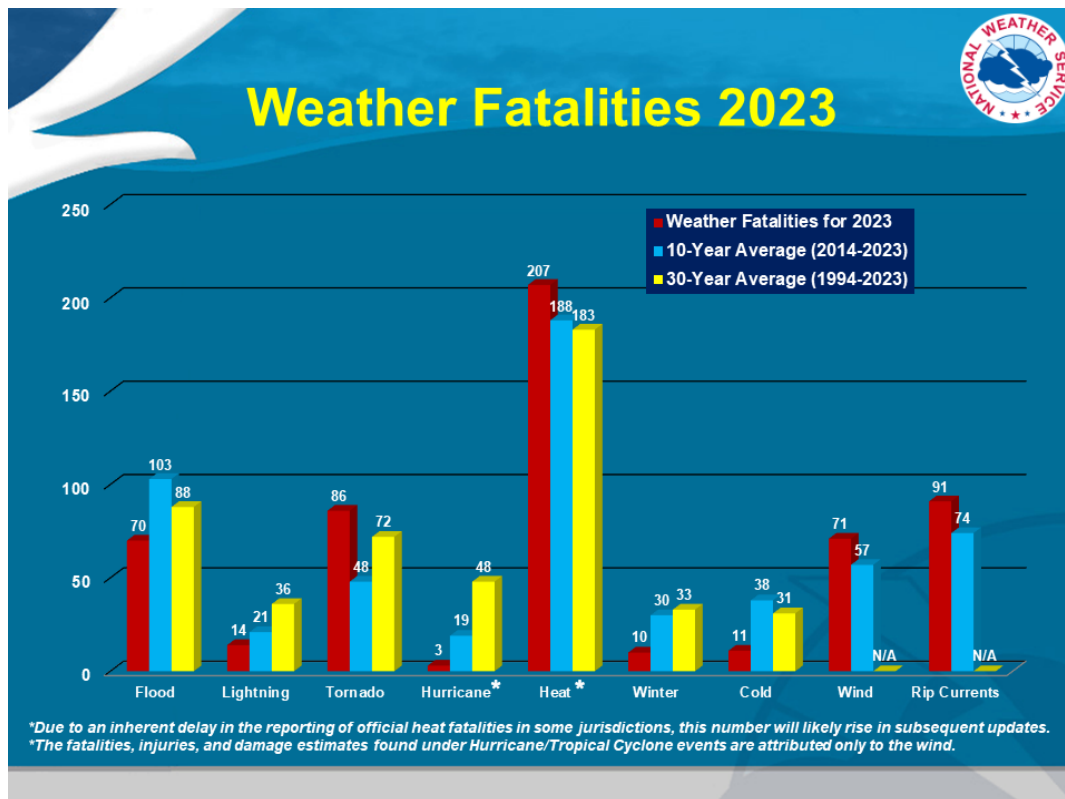


Summer Heat Safety

By Jane Marie Wix - National Weather Service Jackson, KY

Summer heat arrived with a bang in mid-June across Kentucky! Unfortunately, we are only getting started with the summer season - there will most certainly be several months of hot weather ahead. Summer is also the season when everyone wants to be outside, either working or having fun. As much as we love this time of year, it is also a very dangerous season.

Heat continues to be the deadliest form of weather across the country. Higher than flooding, tornadoes, and hurricanes. Sadly, statistics for last year showed a higher-than-average fatality rate. Heat related deaths have been creeping up every year for the last few years.



During excessive heat, avoid heavy activity and direct sunlight. Stay hydrated, find a cool indoor place, and check on children, the elderly, and pets. Protect yourself outside by wearing light, loose-fitting clothes, stay hydrated, and spend time in the shade. Also, never leave anyone (or pets) alone in a locked car, even in the winter, as death can occur in as little as 10 minutes.

Know the signs:

- **Heat Exhaustion:** Becoming faint or dizzy, excessive sweating, cool/clammy skin, nausea, rapid/weak pulse, muscle cramps.
- **Heat Stroke:** Throbbing headache, no sweating, red/hot/dry skin, nausea, rapid/strong pulse, possible loss of consciousness.

If someone experiences these symptoms, get them to a cooler place and try to cool the body (loosen clothing, drink cool water, etc.). If it's a heat stroke, call 911 IMMEDIATELY.