



Chesterfield County is committed to ensuring the health and safety of all citizens as we respond to the constantly changing situation surrounding COVID-19. Considering the growing concerns about the potential spread of COVID-19, the County is taking appropriate actions to limit the spread in the community. Consistent with directives from the Virginia Governor's Office and the Virginia Department of Health to limit public gatherings, the [Chesterfield Cooperative Extension](#) is instituting the following steps until further notice:

- The Extension office is closed to the public.
- All in person Extension special events and programs are cancelled. This includes department-sponsored and co-sponsored activities.
- Registrations will not be taken for programs and activities.

We realize the inconvenience that this may cause and appreciate your patience as we all work through this situation together. The County is continually reevaluating their response in coordination with state and local agencies and is working diligently to protect the citizens.

Please consult the resources below for up-to-date information:

- [Chesterfield County Response to COVID-19](#)
- [Virginia Department of Health](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

SPRING HAS SPRUNG

Wake up and smell the flowers

Extension is still here for you and we are working on new ways to serve the residents of Chesterfield County. Check out some of the announcements below.



2020 Chesterfield Community Champion Award

Congratulations to Chesterfield 4-H adult volunteer **Jessica Lynch** for receiving the 2020 Chesterfield Community Champion award. Jessica was nominated by 4-H Agent, Bethany Eigel, to recognize her extraordinary contributions of time and talent to effect positive change in the community.

[Read more about Jessica and her contributions here.](#)

2020 Virginia 4-H All Star

Congratulations to **Megan Gaines** for being selected as a 2020 Virginia 4-H All Star, the highest possible recognition a Virginia 4-H'er can obtain. This Monacan High School senior has been active with Chesterfield 4-H for over half her life, primarily through her horse project club Classic Equestrians. However, Megan has also been part of the Teen Club for the past two years and was selected to serve as a camp counselor at the Jamestown 4-H Center for 2019 and 2020.

Megan's commitment to 4-H has deepened with each year. She has competed in countless riding competitions at the local, district and state level earning numerous ribbons along the way (see picture below). For the past two years Megan was selected to serve as a Virginia Horse Ambassador. This group advocates for the Virginia 4-H Horse program across the state.

In 2019 Megan was also elected to the State 4-H Cabinet. As the Southeast District Ambassador, she and others help support a number of statewide events including 4-H Teen Summit, State 4-H Cabinet, and 4-H Day at the Capitol.

We are very proud of Megan for this most recent accomplishment and wish her well as she moves on to the next exciting chapter!



**Thinking about starting a garden while stuck at home?
Let us help you.**



Within our new normal, there are so many changes to the ways we go about our daily routines. One thing that hasn't changed is our dedication to helping you with your gardening & landscaping questions, and that's why we're happy to share a new way for you to reach us through our Master Gardener Virtual Help Desk.

Simply email your question to vce@chesterfield.gov and we'll assign a Master Gardener to assist you. If needed, you may attach photos or a short video to illustrate your question. Our Master Gardeners will respond, and we'll either call (if you choose to provide a phone number) or email you with our response. You may also contact us by visiting our [webpage](#) and clicking the link on the right for the Master Gardener Help Desk.

We look forward to helping your garden grow!

The **Chesterfield Cooperative Extension Laboratory** is still closed to the public, but staff continues to assist residents by providing assistance with their plant disease, insect or weed problems Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please send high resolution pictures (as attachments, not embedded) and a description of your concerns or questions to vce@chesterfield.gov. We will try to digitally diagnose your problem and provide you with a recommendation. If the images are not sufficient for an accurate and timely resolution, we may ask that you mail a sample to our laboratory. If the sample is too large to mail, please call our office at 804.751.4401 to schedule an appointment before attempting to drop off samples. For **landscapers, nursery operators, and garden center managers**, you may use the same email and phone number to submit questions and pictures.

**MyPlate Food Planning During the
Coronavirus Pandemic**



During a pandemic, you may be taking extra precautions to keep you and your family safe and prepared, including making sure you have everything you need at home. This guide contains information on food planning, including what to buy, how much to buy, and preparation tips.

[Full Article Here](#)

Resources for Families at Home

Extension is here to help you and your family adapt to the challenges you may be facing at home. Please check out some resources and webinars that we have available.

[Additional resources](#)



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