



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
EXTENSION

DeSoto County Extension Office Newsletter

DESOTO COUNTY

SEPTEMBER- OCTOBER 2025

We are officially moved! We're looking forward to using this incredible new space and can't wait to serve the community from our new location. Please bare with us as we are still in the "unboxing" phase and are trying to settle into our new space. So excuse our mess! Events and activities from now on will be at our NEW location. We've got this newsletter loaded with things happening. Join us!

Our new address is 1170 Starlanding Road West Suite B Nesbit, MS. Make sure you put "west" in your GPS if you come see us otherwise you will end up somewhere else! If entering the main north entrance (by large parking lot) walk through the main grand hallway and turn left. Our office is the last door on your right past the classrooms and teaching kitchen. If entering the south entrance our office is on your left immediately when you enter.

We will see you soon!

 Lara Angel

 Laura Anglin

 Jessica D. Libby

4-H Record Book Winners

**Junior 4-H Record
Book Results:**
Blue Ribbon
Hunter Rule: Poultry
and
Amelie Trudell: Food,
Nutrition, Pres. & Safety

Senior 4-H Record Book Results:

1st place- Dusti Cox-
Osborne: Citizenship

2nd place- Robert Cox-
Osborne: Achievement and
Willow Cox-Osborne:
Leadership



TATE DESOTO

Junior Livestock Show

We are hosting our first livestock show at the
DeSoto County Agri-Education Center on
September 19-20, 2025.

Join us Friday at 6 pm to see the rabbit and
poultry show.

Join us Saturday for the sheep, dairy goat, and
beef cattle show!



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
EXTENSION

NEW SPACE NEW HOME

DESOTO COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00 TO 5:00 P.M.



DESOTO COUNTY AGRI-EDUCATION CENTER
1170 STARLANDING ROAD W
NESBIT, MS 38651

1170 STARLANDING ROAD W. SUITE B NESBIT, MS 38651

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Extension Service of Mississippi State University, cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture. Published in furtherance of Acts of Congress, May 8 and June 30, 1914. ANGUS L. CATCHOT JR., Director

SEPT-OCT. 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
7	8 Kids and Kits Club meeting 3:30 pm	9	10 DNA Validation Oxford 2-6 pm	11	12 Deadline to turn in State Fair Exhibits	13 Western Heritage Practice
14	15	16	17	18 Lucky Leaders 4-H Club	19 Tate DeSoto Jr Rabbit Show & 4-H Poultry Show	20 Tate Desoto Jr Beef Cattle Dairy Goat Sheep Show Western Heritage Practice
21	22	23 Fall Gardening Workshop	24	25	26	27 Western Heritage Practice
28	29	30	1	2	3 ----- MS State Fair -----	4 Western Heritage Practice
5	6 Kids and Kits Club meeting 3:30 pm	7	8	9	10	11 4-H Day @ Fair Western Heritage Practice
12	13	14	15	16 Lucky Leaders 4-H Club	17	18 Western Heritage Practice
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Western Heritage State Event
26	27	28	29	30 There, Aware, Care	31 4-H Award Deadline	1

Contests 4-H DAY AT THE STATE FAIR 2025

October 11, 2025
Jackson, MS

- ✓ 4-H Chopped
- ✓ Fashion Revue
- ✓ LEGO Build

- ✓ Omelet Cook-Off
- ✓ Public Speaking
- ✓ Rockets

- ✓ Table/Floral Arrangements
- ✓ Robot Round-Up
- ✓ Share-the-Fun

**Saturday,
October 11**

- County Contests:
- ✓ Scarecrow
 - ✓ How it started/How it's going

Let us know if you would like to participate in these contests so we can help you prepare and register!



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
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18
OCTOBER
9AM TO NOON

DEADLINE
OCTOBER
14

MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

4TH ANNUAL 4-H
DELTA SPORT
FISHING

CAMP MCCAIN

3152 JAMES H. BIDDY GRENADA, MS 38901
REGISTER BY CALLING GRENADA (662-226-2061)
QUITMAN (662-326-8939) COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE.

Good Luck to our 4-Hers participating in the
Mississippi State Fair 4-H Events!

Don't let when natural disasters strike spook you!



Join us to learn all you need to know about being personally prepared during a disaster! From calling 911 to how to react and recover from various man-made or natural disasters.



THERE, AWARE & CARE WORKSHOP



Let's get prepared together!

October 30
9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Location: DeSoto County Agri-Education Center
Contact 662-469-8480 for more information.

Cost: FREE!

Register by calling 662-469-8480



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Library

Catch a program at the Library! The stack(s) of books graphic the calendar on page 2 correspond with these dates!

Hernando Public Library

September 24 @ 9:30 a.m.

Why do Leaves Change Color in the Fall

October 22 @ 9:30 a.m.

Fall Silk Floral Design"

Horn Lake Public Library

October 22 @ 1:30 p.m.

Cooking with Salt Free-Spice Blends

November 8 @ 11 a.m.

Fall Floral Arrangements

Southaven Public Library

September 24 @ 2 p.m.

Kick-Off to Seed Bank

October 18 @ 1 p.m.

Seed Saver Workshop

October 23 @ 11

Get it Together!" Get prepared now before disaster strikes

October 27, November 3, 10, 17 @ 10 a.m.

Dining with Diabetes (4 part series)

November 21 @ 11 a.m.

Holiday Wreath and Bow

Walls Public Library

November 15

TBD

November 20 @ 1:30 p.m.

Holiday Wreath and Bow

Olive Branch Library

September 27 @ 10:00 a.m.

Fall Floral Arrangements

November 20 @ 10 a.m.

Holiday Wreath and Bow

All Locations: Grab & Go Kits

Don't forget about our grab and go kits at the library too! This month around September 15th we're dropping off a joint Extension Brown Bag Kit & 4-H Grab and Go Kit. Pick yours up while supplies last.

2025 NORTH Mississippi Beef Expo NOVEMBER 14, 2025

Registration 12:30 - 1:00 PM
Batesville Civic Center



Speakers

Dr. John Byrd, Weed Scientist/Weed Control
Dr. Carla Houston, MSU Vet - Beef Cattle Herd Health/Biosecurity
Josh Maples, Ag Economist
Brett Rushing, Forage Specialist
Producer/Industry Panel Discussion

To register contact your local MSU Extension Office, not sure how to contact your local office scan the QR Code.

SCAN ME



For more information contact Tracy Boone at t.boone@msstate.edu or 662-237-4413
Mississippi State University is an equal opportunity institution.

SAVE THE DATE

2025 DESOTO COUNTY 4-H AWARDS PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 11, 2025
6:00 PM

MORE INFORMATION TO COME



4-H AWARD APPLICATIONS

It's time to shine a spotlight on our 4-H all-stars!
Applications are open for the following awards:

4-Her of the Year

Nominate a 4-Her that exemplifies the 4-H pledge by making a positive impact on their club, community, and peers.

Friend of 4-H Award

This award recognizes an individual, business, or organization outside of 4-H who has provided remarkable support and encouragement to the program.

4-H Club of the Year

This award celebrates a club that has gone above and beyond in living out the 4-H motto, "To Make the Best Better." The winning club shows strong participation, community involvement, teamwork, and a commitment to providing meaningful opportunities for members to learn and grow.

These awards celebrate the awesome members, supporters, and clubs who make 4-H so special. The awards will be presented at the DeSoto County 4-H Awards Program.

Don't miss your chance to recognize someone who deserves it
Applications are due October 31, 2025.

Email L.anglin@msstate.edu for application

Application can be dropped off the DeSoto County Extension Office or email to Laura Anglin.

MEET YOUR STATE 4-H AMBASSADORS

DeSoto County 4-H had 5 Mississippi 4-H Ambassadors elected at the 2025 State 4-H Congress this summer! Read below to learn a little more about them

Willow



When did you join 4-H?

I was 5 as a clover bud!

What is your favorite 4-H event or project?

My favorite things are state fair and leadership opportunities!

What is your favorite 4-H memory?

2025 Congress and running for state office!

Cameron



When did you join 4-H?

I was 5!

What is your favorite 4-H event or project?

State 4-H Congress!

What is your favorite 4-H memory?

Camp Explore when I realized I wanted to be an ambassador

Dusti



When did you join 4-H?

I was 5!

What is your favorite 4-H event or project?

Western Heritage Shooting Sports Program!

What is your favorite 4-H memory?

Being part of the first group from MS to go to the National Western Heritage Competition

Isabella



When did you join 4-H?

I was 14!

What is your favorite 4-H event or project?

State 4-H Congress to meet new friends!

What is your favorite 4-H memory?

My first year at State Shooting Sports competition, Coach Greg offered guidance to focus on progress not perfection.

Robert



When did you join 4-H?

I was five years old!

What is your favorite 4-H event or project?

I like Share the Fun at State Fair!

What is your favorite 4-H memory?

My first state congress!!

FALL GARDENING

WORKSHOP
6PM September 23, 2025

1170 Starlanding Rd. W
Nesbit, MS, 38651

TOPICS COVERED:

- Fall Lawn Herbicides
- Seed Saving
- Cool-Season Crops
- Planning for next year!

RSVP by Calling:
662-469-8480

Mississippi State University is an equal opportunity institution. For disability accommodation, please contact Matthew Thornton at mtt52@msstate.edu

Did you know...
Over 308,000 adults in Mississippi are living with diabetes. Complications include adult blindness, amputations, kidney failure/dialysis, and cardiovascular disease. Join us to combat this!



DINING WITH DIABETES

4 Part Series Mondays
October 27, November 3, 10, 17

@ 10 a.m.

Learn the basics about diabetes

Make healthier versions of familiar foods

Engaging recipe demonstrations

Learn cooking techniques



Location: Southaven Public Library
Contact 662-342-0102 to register.

Fall Armyworm Activity Continues Across Mississippi: Surveillance Update September 4, 2025

Fall armyworm activity continues to impact forage producers across the state, according to the latest data from the Mississippi Armyworm Surveillance Program. As of this update, reports have come in from multiple counties and zip codes, with varying levels of infestation and forage damage.

Armyworm Populations: Mostly Moderate

Survey responses indicate that the majority of fall armyworm sightings are at moderate levels (64%), meaning 4 to 7 caterpillars per square foot. About 28% of reports classified infestations as low, and 9% reported heavy infestations with more than 8 caterpillars per square foot.

Forage Damage Widespread but Mostly Slight

When it comes to forage damage:

- 59% of reports described the damage as slight
- 34% noted moderate damage
- 7% experienced severe damage

Over 4,800 Acres Affected

Armyworm-related damage has been reported on a total of 4,867 acres:

- 2,627 acres of hayfields
- 2,240 acres of pasture

Producers should remain vigilant, especially during late summer and early fall when conditions remain favorable for armyworm development. Timely scouting and early intervention can help reduce potential forage losses.

Report Armyworm Activity

Farmers and land managers are encouraged to report fall armyworm activity on their properties. Visit bit.ly/2025MSArmyworm or scan the QR code below to submit a report and help improve surveillance accuracy.



Fall Weed Control Begins Soon

Control of Winter annual weeds begins towards the end of summer and beginning of fall. Pre-emergence herbicides should be applied in late-August early September to prevent these annual winter weeds from becoming an issue. To be effective, pre-emergence herbicides must be applied before weeds emerge. To be effective, they must be applied before weed seed germination. These herbicides require 0.25 to 0.5 inches of rainfall or irrigation for activation so try to time the application within a day or two or expected rainfall, but not a torrential downpour where all of the product ends up being washed away. All of the herbicides in this list can be used on established, southern turfgrasses. In some instances it may be beneficial to apply ½ the recommended rate and then reapply the remainder of the rate 4-6 weeks later to provide better control. However, READ and FOLLOW THE LABEL completely to make sure you can use it in your situation.

A partial list of common (active ingredient) and trade names for pre-emergent weed control in home lawns by homeowners can be found below. Just as with an application of fertilizer, going in two different directions that total the labeled rate will provide a more consistent barrier to emerging weeds rather than an application in one single direction. Depending upon label directions and application restrictions for the particular product you purchase, reapplication may be beneficial in 6-8 weeks. It is not recommended you use a product that contains a fertilizer carrier at this time as the turf is getting prepared for winter dormancy and encouraging a flush of growth this late can be detrimental in many cases. A more complete chart, and the efficacy towards particular weeds, can be found within Publication 1322 – Establish and Manage Your Home Lawn.

Common Name – Trade Name (partial list)

1. dithiopyr - Sta-Green Crab Ex; Green Light Crabgrass Preventer; Vigoro Preemergent Crabgrass and Weed Preventer
2. pendimethalin - Scotts Halts Crabgrass Preventer
3. oryzalin - Southern Ag. Surflan A.S.
4. isoxaben - Portrait Broadleaf Weed Preventer
5. benefin + oryzalin - Green Light Amaze Grass and Weed Preventer; XL 2G
6. benefin + trifluralin - Hi-Yield Crabgrass Preventer; Southern Ag. Team 2 G
7. corn gluten meal - Concern All Natural Weed Preventer Plus; Nature's Guide Corn Gluten Meal

Fall Garden Tips

Fall may bring cooler weather to mind, but hot, dry days are still ahead—and your garden still needs attention! With the right care, this can be a productive time of year. Here are a few tips to help your garden thrive this season:

Water Wisely

Late summer and early fall can be deceptively dry. While plants may look fine, they're often stressed. If your fall garden is growing strong, a little water and fertilizer now can lead to big yields. Plants are gearing up to set fruit as temperatures drop, and consistent watering will support production right up to the first frost.

Collect Seeds

If you love starting plants from seed like I do, now is the perfect time to collect your own. It's cost-effective, gives you access to more varieties, and helps preserve your favorites. Be sure to collect from fully ripe, disease-free fruits and flowers. Dry seeds well before storing and remember: heirlooms will grow true next year, while hybrids may not.

Plan Ahead

With the season winding down, take stock of your tools, containers, and supplies. Now's a great time to repair, replace, or grab end-of-season deals. Most importantly, get a soil test! Fall testing gives you time to make soil adjustments (like adding lime, phosphorus, or potassium) before spring. Just skip the nitrogen until planting time.

Below is a snapshot of part of my garden and its watchful guardian, Weezy. I included it to fill some space, but also because I'm happy with how it's turned out over the last few years. I love peppers, container gardening (even if the pots don't match), and packing in more plants than I probably should.

My advice to every gardener: have fun, try new things, and never stop learning. A great place to start is our recently updated Vegetable Gardener's Guide, along with many other helpful resources at:

<https://extension.msstate.edu/lawn-and-garden/vegetable-gardens>



Become a Master Gardener Volunteer!

Master Gardeners are a group of like-minded individuals who have received training in botany, soil science, plant propagation, pest management, pesticide use, pruning and other horticultural related subjects. These courses are available either online or in a class room setting. However, it isn't all work, there is a lot of fun and friends to be made.

The Master Gardener Volunteer program is a great way to gain horticultural expertise at a low cost, meet other avid gardeners, share gardening experiences, get connected to the community, and belong to a well-respected and educational organization.

Locally, DeSoto County Master Gardeners have won state awards for projects, manage a beautiful well-known butterfly garden, host a popular spring plant sale, and socials are held throughout the year. Additionally, continual education and volunteering are the main goals of the Mississippi State University Extension Master Gardener program, and our volunteers help extend knowledge to the public by providing knowledge in these perspective fields.

Contact our local extension office for more information on how to get signed up for these classes. Don't miss out on this opportunity!



*Registration
Is Open!*

*Register at the DeSoto
County Ext. Office*

Master Gardener Face-to-Face Trainings

**WHEN: MARCH 10TH, 2026 TO APRIL 9TH, 2026
TUESDAY AND THURSDAYS 8:30AM TO 12:00PM**

WHERE: 1170 STAR LANDING RD W. NESBIT, MS

COST: \$175 PER PERSON

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ACCOMMODATIONS
CALL 662-469-8480**



**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
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4-H Cooking Kits

OCTOBER-DECEMBER

Cost: \$40

Ages 5-18

Signup by October 15th



Pickup dates Oct. 28, Nov. 18, Dec. 16

**Got questions? Reach out to Lara Angel at
662-469-8480 or lara.angel@msstate.edu**



BECOME A Master Gardener

**TRAINING IS SELF-PACED AND
COMPLETLEY ONLINE!**

msuext.ms/mg

**Register online from
August 13 – September 10**

- 1** Master Gardener Course
Volunteer Option **\$175**
- 2** Home Gardening Course
Non-Volunteer Option **\$225**
- 3** Individual Classes *
\$35 per class
*available year round

**COURSES OPEN ON OCTOBER 1 AND MUST BE
COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 3.**



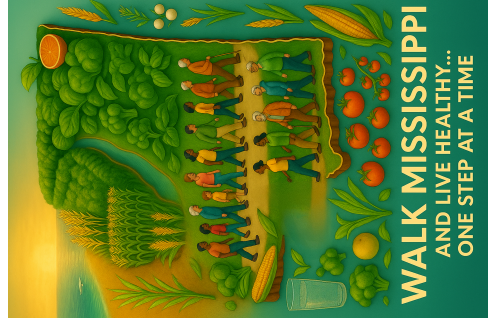
**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
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WALK MISSISSIPPI

and Live Healthy ... One Step at a Time

Walk across the great state of Mississippi with us!

Oct. 11–Nov. 21



This virtual challenge asks individuals or teams to walk 180 miles in 6 weeks, or about 8,000 steps per day.

- Get fit and feel better!
- Eat healthier!
- Exercise regularly!

Join our virtual community support group on Facebook and our weekly email list to get

- nutrition tips and recipes.
- fitness tips.
- video demos.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

MISSISSIPPI STATE, MISSISSIPPI 39762-5446
PO BOX 5446

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Learn more and sign up at:
msuext.ms/walkms

Regardless of whether you can meet the virtual challenge, you can still participate because all types of exercise count! You'll still be exercising more and eating healthier.

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For disability accommodation, contact walkms@ext.msstate.edu.