



UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
EXTENSION



Camden County Extension
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As we all adjust to a new normal and try to learn how to cope with the stresses that come with it, many of us are asking what we can do to help. What we can do to stay relevant. The University of Georgia Extension office is no different. We are an organization that is built on adapting to serve our community in unique and challenging situations, and we're here to serve through this as well. We have many statewide resources available online to serve clientele from economic resources, to how to make your own hand sanitizer, to environmental education programs. Programs that would normally be hosted in person are moving to an online platform across the state – opening participation up to a larger audience than ever. One of the great values of extension is that all of our information is research based and unbiased. In a world where we are constantly inundated with information of questionable credibility, it's comforting to have a reliable source to turn to who has no agenda other than to serve the community.

As for the Camden County office, we are re-evaluating how we can offer programming during this time as well. I already receive many client questions through email, and that has certainly not slowed with the current situation. I plan to more regularly contribute to our Facebook page and my Agriculture and Natural Resources blog with articles and information that may be useful to our clientele. In addition, each Friday beginning Friday April 17th I will offer a virtual lunch and learn program. This will be free and open to anyone who wants to join. The program will run from 12 to 1 each Friday via zoom. Topics will range from wildlife, pollinators, gardening, and composting to invasive species. Our first topic will be *Gardening in a Subtropical Swamp*. To sign up for this or any of the other virtual lunch and learns please email uge3039@uga.edu.

Our 4-H program is working to adapt and stay connected to our youth as well. Our public speaking contest which many of our youth have spent hours preparing for, has moved to an online format for this year. Our 4-H agent hosted a virtual egg hunt for youth, and is hosting regular meetings with middle and high school meetings via zoom to keep members engaged.

We are working to find new ways to serve you as we strive to adjust to this new normal ourselves. If you have ideas or suggestions of programming that would be helpful to you please email me at jkwarren@uga.edu and we'll strive to meet the need if possible. We are currently a staff of three but we aim to be as impactful as possible – especially during these trying times for our global and local community. If you would like further information on any of the programs or resources listed above, or if you would like to join our email list for information and upcoming programs please email uge3039@uga.edu. You can access the University's resources for COVID-19 at <https://extension.uga.edu/topic-areas/timely-topics/emergencies.html>. May we all come out of this better than we went into it.