



UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA IFAS EXTENSION

The Green Machine

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A Note From Your Extension Agent

Be a Locavore:

Support The Bradford Farmers Market

Don't forget that the **Bradford Farmer's Market** opens for its **second season on Saturday October 4th** from 8 am until noon at the Bradford County Health Department. Supporting the farmers market keeps our cash IN BRADFORD COUNTY by supporting local workers who spend their income at local businesses.

You can also support your farmer's market by becoming a vendor. You can sell anything you make, bake or grow. Sell your citrus, greens, cut flowers, pecans, baked goods and other items **weekly or just when you can. You don't have to make a season commitment.** Day vendors are welcome.

In times like these it makes good sense to do business with someone you know face to face. Make friends and maybe make money.



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VOTE
Nov. 7th

To find out more about all the programs your local Extension Office offers visit our website at:

<http://bradford.ifas.ufl.edu/>



Have you ever wanted to give your landscape a face lift but just didn't know where to start? If you answered yes to this question then keep reading.

Although it is too late in the season to plant some of the summer perennials shown in these pictures, soon the timing will be perfect to plant flowers that like cool weather. As an added bonus, you can take advantage of the rain we have been getting to put in shrubs that can be planted year-round.

Before going out and purchasing plants you can save yourself time and money by following these simple steps:

1. Make a drawing of the area you want to landscape. Be sure to include surrounding structures that cast shade or will frame the appearance. You need to know the area your want to fill.
2. Get the soil tested for pH before selecting plants. Choose plants that are compatible with existing soil pH.
3. Put the right plant in the right place. Choose plants that are compatible with existing soil drainage and light characteristics. When possible, use drought tolerant plants to save water.
4. Setting out plants during rainy periods makes it easier to establish your landscape .

For more information visit your Extension Office or go to this website:

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/MG217>



A nice thing about drought tolerant landscapes is that once established, they require minimal watering. If it is not rainy when you set your plants out you can use a temporary watering systems like the two pictured on the right.

The black hose intertwined among the blue daze at the base of the sign is a soaker hose that puts out a fine spray about 1 foot on either side the hose.

In the middle picture is an inexpensive, above ground mist system. Both of these systems can be attached to a water spigot and are available at most garden stores.

These mist systems, or any portable sprinkler, can be used in combination with many types of inexpensive timers or water flow volume controllers like the one in the bottom picture.

Using the volume controller is simple. Turn the water on, set the controller to the first notch and time how long it takes to turn itself off. Using a water controlling device saves a lot of water because you **don't have to remember to turn off the** sprinkler.

If this article has been helpful then you should consider attending two workshops scheduled for October 7th and 20th at the Bradford County Extension Service.

For more information visit your Extension Office or go to this website:

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/AE287>



Complete brochures with agendas and scheduled speakers are available for all listed workshops from the Bradford County Extension Office.

- Oct 7 Soil Fertility, Composting and Drought Tolerant Landscape Design, The workshop will be held on Tuesday October 7th, 2008 from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm at the Bradford County Extension Office. There is a \$10 registration fee that will cover the cost of dinner and materials. Seating is limited to 25 participants. PRE REGISTRATION and payment by Friday, October 3rd is REQUIRED. Call 904-966-6299 to register or for more information.
- Oct 9 The NE Florida Small Farms Working Group is hosting a workshop entitled Alternative Livestock Production **at the Shepherd's Hill Farm in Lake City, Florida.** The workshop begins at 5:30 pm and will feature instruction on Pastured Poultry Production, Grass Fed Beef & Sheep and Rotational Grazing. There will also be a special session on the Challenges & Opportunities for Small Farmers. Call Derek Barber at 386-752-5384 or Elena Toro at 386-362-2771 to register and get directions.
- Oct 20 Home Landscape Irrigation Workshop, There will be a variety of topics covered including equipment, design basics, installation, monitoring and maintenance. Michael Dukes from the UF/IFAS Ag & Biological Engineering Department will be our guest lecturer. The workshop will be held on Monday October 20th, 2008 from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm at the Bradford County Extension Office. There is a \$10 registration fee that will cover the cost of dinner and materials. Seating is limited to 25 participants. PRE REGISTRATION and payment by Thursday, October 16th is REQUIRED. Call 904-966-6299 to register or for more information.