





Cooperative Extension Service LaRue County P.O. Box 210 807 Old Elizabethtown Rd. Hodgenville, KY 42748-0210 (270) 358-3401 larue.ca.uky.edu

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AUTUMN HEALTH CONCERNS

There are many things to love about autumn: The air begins to cool down a bit, leaves change colors, and there are many special foods and fragrances that we associate with this time of year. However, autumn can also bring specific health concerns for some people. You can address your health concerns and still enjoy the season and all it has to offer.

Dry Skin - As the air cools, some people have more dry skin. To prevent cracking and itching, try to stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water, continuing to wear sunscreen when outdoors, and use a lotion or cream skin barrier to help moisturize skin when you get out of the bath or shower.

Decreased Immune Function - You may find yourself getting sick more as the seasons change. Stay up to date on all vaccines, wash your hands, and check with your doctor if allergy or cold symptoms become persistent.

Sleep Disturbances - Even though the days are becoming shorter, you may find that you are getting less sleep at night. This can happen as the season change affects circadian rhythms. Try to establish a consistent bedtime routine, plan to get at least seven to eight hours of sleep per night, and avoid screens once you turn off the lights.

Take advantage of the change in seasons to catch up on needed annual health exams as well. If you have not done so, schedule an annual physical, dental cleaning, and vision check. These strategies combined can help you have an enjoyable autumn and end the year well.

Reference: https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/resources/infographic/healthyfall.htm

Source: Katherine Jury, Extension Specialist for Family Health

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

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HOMEMAKERS NEWS & NOTES

The theme for the 2023-2024 KEHA year is "Let's Take A Hike." Let's make this year a great one!

- 2023-24 KEHA Book List NOW AVAILABLE at the Extension Office or online at <a href="https://keha.ca.uky.edu/sites/keha.c
- Friends and Family Homemakers 1st Thursdays at 1:00pm
- South Fork Homemakers 3rd Tuesdays at 10:30am
- Life Around the Table Homemakers 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00pm
- County Homemaker Council Mtg. October 16 at 1:00pm



- Lesson Leader Training October 27 "Emergency Health Information Cards" 1:30pm at the Hardin County Extension Office – 111 Opportunity Way, Elizabethtown
- Lincoln Trail Area Annual Homemakers Meeting October 12 at Meade County Extension Office hosted by Meade County Homemakers – Registration Deadline has passed



If you are ever in an emergency where you need immediate medical treatment, but are not able to communicate with first responders, an Emergency Health Information (EHI) Card can tell medical providers important information about how to help you. Join us for this month's lesson to learn about EHI cards.



- October 11 Quilt Club at 10am at the Extension Office
- October 19 at 5pm Dehydrating Basics at the Public Library
- October 20 at 12:00 noon Cooking Through the Calendar *"Italian One Pot Pasta & Beans"*
- October 23 at 10:00am Open Sewing at the Extension Office
- Coming in November Adult Beginner Sewing Project

COOKING THROUGH THE CALENDAR

Don't forget to join us for our monthly **Cooking through the Calendar** program on the 3rd Friday of each month at 12:00 noon at the Extension Office! A demonstration of the recipe will be provided as well as sampling and additional recipes! If you haven't already received a copy of this year's recipe calendar, please stop by and get one while supplies last!









ADULT HEALTH BULLETIN



OCTOBER 2023

Download this and past issues of the Adult, Youth, Parent, and Family Caregiver Health Bulletins: http://fcs-hes.ca.uky.edu/ content/health-bulletins LaRue County Extension Service 807 Old Elizabethtown Road Hodgenville, KY 42748

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THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: BREAST CANCER AWARENESS



Lexington, KY 40506

Ctober is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a time dedicated to increasing public awareness about the signs and symptoms of breast cancer. The month brings awareness to screening, treatment, and research resources as well.

Every year in the United States, about 264,000 women get breast cancer and tragically, 42,000 women die from the disease annually. Early detection and treatment are the best ways to ensure that a person diagnosed with breast cancer is able to beat the disease.

Most breast cancers are found in women who are 50 years old or older, but breast cancer also affects younger women. Other than skin cancer, breast cancer is the most common cancer among American women. Mammograms are the best way to find

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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification. Mammograms are the best way to find breast cancer early. That's when it is easier to treat and before it is big enough to feel or cause symptoms.



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breast cancer early. That's when it is easier to treat and before it is big enough to feel or cause symptoms. Ask your doctor when you should get a mammogram to check for signs of breast cancer.

Men also get breast cancer, but it is not as common. About 1 out of every 100 breast cancers diagnosed in the United States is found in a man.

Symptoms

It is important for everyone to be aware of signs and symptoms of breast cancer. Though in early stages, some people have no symptoms at all. Symptoms can include:

- Change in the size or the shape of the breast
- Pain in any area of the breast tissue
- Nipple discharge other than breast milk (including blood)
- A new lump in the breast tissue or underarm

If you have any signs that worry you, see your doctor right away.

Prevention

There are also things that you can do to lower your risks of developing breast cancer. Some of those things include:

- Keep a healthy weight and exercise regularly.
- Do not drink alcohol, or drink alcohol in moderation.
- Breastfeed your children, if possible.
- If you are taking hormone replacement therapy or birth control pills, ask your doctor about the risks.

REFERENCE:

https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/dcpc/resources/features/breastcancerawareness



Written by: Katherine Jury, MS Edited by: Alyssa Simms Designed by: Rusty Manseau Stock images: 123RF.com, Adobe Stock



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OCTOBER 2023

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TIME WELL SPENT: **ORGANIZING TIPS FOR INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY**

Productivity allows you to make progress on and complete necessary tasks. However, many people are not as productive as they would like to be. To be productive you must be intentional with your time and space. This can be hard to do if your spaces are cluttered or disorganized, or if you lack routines at home or work.

THE POWER OF CLUTTER

Clutter can distract from completing tasks. Whether at work or doing household chores, having organized spaces can reduce stress and improve your overall well-being. You can apply many organizational strategies to at-home and on-the-job workspaces. You can organize a home or an office over time. Start small with one drawer, closet, cabinet, or bookshelf. Then work your way through your home, garage, or office - one space at a time.

- 1. Clear the clutter. Begin by removing visible trash or other items that need to be discarded. Broken? Toss it. No longer needed? Consider donating it to an individual or organization who could put it to use.
- 2. Group like-items. Next, sort items by purpose. Group like-items together and find a way to contain them. Use simple storage solutions (like bins, baskets, or baggies) that you already have on hand.



3. Give everything a "home." After grouping your items, be intentional about how you store them. Everything should have a "home" in your home or office. When everything has a designated space, it keeps clutter at bay. When storing an item, consider how frequently you use it and how easy it is to access.

THE POWER OF PERSONAL ROUTINES

Three powerful personal routines to establish are sleep, meal, and exercise routines. Develop a *sleep* routine by setting consistent sleep and wake times, even on the weekends. Create a set of tasks that you do before bed to signal to your body that it is time to sleep. This might include putting your phone away for the night, taking a shower, or reading a book.

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REGARDLESS OF HOW YOU CHOOSE TO ORGANIZE YOUR TIME AND SPACE, REMEMBER THAT IT MUST WORK FOR YOU.



Planning and shopping for your weekly meals in advance helps establish *meal routines*. This can minimize the daily stress of, *"What's for dinner?"* It can also help you plan for affordable, healthy meals. Finally, *exercise routines* (such as an evening walk) can ensure you get the recommended 150 to 300 minutes of exercise per week for general wellness, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

THE POWER OF PROFESSIONAL ROUTINES

As you consider "professional" routines, note that these routines might apply to more than just paid employment. For example, you may volunteer, provide care for loved ones, or enjoy hobbies for which organizing your time might increase your productivity. Consider the 4 P's:

- Prep. Develop the routine of prepping for the next "work" day before you go to bed. This might include packing your bag and/or lunch, laying out clothes, or making a to-do list.
- Production. Create "production" routines. For example, group like-tasks together throughout your workday or gather all necessary supplies before starting a task.
- Pause. Take small, intentional breaks to help you recharge throughout the day.

 Play. Set aside time each week to focus on taking care of yourself and having fun with friends, family, or co-workers outside of work.

Regardless of how you choose to organize your time and space, remember that it must work for *you*. Take time to explore what works — and what doesn't — and adjust your organizational systems or routines as needed. Additionally, look for ways to incorporate organization into your routines. For example, part of your "sleep" routine might include tidying up before bed.

TIME WELL SPENT CURRICULUM

Interested in learning more? Contact your county Cooperative Extension office. Ask your FCS agent about the free four-lesson curriculum, *Time Well Spent: Productivity Skills for Success*, developed by Kentucky FCS Extension. Topics include productivity versus procrastination, organizing your time and workspace, prioritizing tasks, and work-life balance.

REFERENCES:

Huff, N., Bejda, M., May, K., & McCulley, M. (2022). *Organizing Your Time and Workspace*. University of Kentucky Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Service. #FRM-TWS.002.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

AUTUMN SWEET POTATO CHILI

ingredients:

- 1 (15 ounce) can sweet potatoes (do not drain)
- 1 tablespoon chili powder •
- 1 (16 ounce) jar salsa •
- 2 (15 ounce) cans black beans (do not drain) ٠
- Water to achieve desired consistency ٠
- ½ cup reduced-fat sour cream •
- ٠ Shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- Dried or fresh chopped cilantro ٠

DIFECTIONS:

- 1. Combine sweet potatoes, chili powder and salsa in a large saucepan.
- 2. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to simmer, and cook until heated through, stirring as needed.
- 3. Add beans with liquid and cook another 3 minutes to blend flavors.
- 4. Thin with water if needed. Heat through. 5. Serve with sour cream, cheese and cilantro on the side.

Nutritional facts per serving: 160 calories; 0g total fat; 0g saturated fat; 0g trans fat; 0mg cholesterol; 790mg sodium; 32g carbohydrate; 9g fiber; 12g sugar; 7g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 4% Daily Value of calcium; 10% Daily Value of iron; 6% Daily Value of potassium.

Source: Jeffrey Hines, former Graphic Artist for Nutrition Education Program, University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service https://www.planeatmove.com/

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