

**EDGAR COUNTY
HOME & COMMUNITY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
May/June 2021**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Hostess</u>
HCE ANNUAL MEETING RESCHEDULED TO MAY 11 5 p.m. (registration)				
	4-H Fairgrounds		Reservation form is included later in this newsletter	
	Please RSVP to the Extension Office by May 1		217-465-8585	
May		Bell Ridge		
May		Chrisman Nite		
May	10 a.m.	Redmon Nite	Meet at Save-A-Lot parking lot to travel to Moonshine for lunch, followed by a meeting & then traveling to Casey (weather permitting)	
May		Stratton		

May Major Lesson: Clean & Green (Package Lesson)

Lesson can be picked up at the Extension Office.

June		Bell Ridge		
June		Chrisman Nite		
June	11:30 a.m.	Redmon Nite	Joan Mattingly – Potluck lunch	
June		Stratton		

June Major Lesson: Care & Preservation of Treasured Photographs

Lesson can be picked up at the Extension Office.

*****Edgar County H.C.E. Board Members*****

Co-Presidents – Pat Brazelton, 217-822-6183 Kate Morecraft, 217-822-4956	pbraze@nwcable.net silly1kate@me.com
First Vice – Paula Coombes, 217-822-4058	prcoombes@wildblue.net
Second Vice – Rebecca Step, 217-265-6855	rstep1954@gmail.com
Secretary/CVH – Cindy Bruce, 217-948-1021	cndlu347@gmail.com
Treasurer – Carole Halloran, 217-844-2374	jchalloran.jtj@gmail.com
International /Public Relations-Marge Houghland 217-822-7610	mhear8@nwcable.net
Cultural Enrichment/Family/Comm. Issues – Dona Hoult, 217-822-2419	hillcrest30@frontier.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING? WE WANT TO KNOW! WE WANT YOUR UNIT NEWS!

Please send your unit's information regarding meetings, fundraisers, pictures or activities to Rebecca at the Extension Office – 210 W. Washington St., Paris or email to schiver@illinois.edu. The due date is the 20th of each month before publication. Please note that our newsletter is published every other month. Thank you for your cooperation in making HCE the best it can be!

All regular memberships of \$12 were to be paid to your Unit 2nd Vice-President prior to May 1. She should then send one (1) unit check to Edgar County HCE Treasurer, Carole Halloran, 13556 N. 800th St., Paris. Please send unit membership and officers' lists with your check also. Thank you for your help in keeping the membership and officers list correct. If you have joined mid-year, your dues are \$6 for the remaining year of January until May 1.



If you are a mailbox member, please send your check directly to Carole Halloran at the above address.

Members of Redmon Nite HCE celebrated long time member, Maxine Cochran's 98th birthday in January. Pictured (1ST Picture) left to right: Marian Powers, Denise Step, Maxine Cochran, Becky Step. Those not pictured: Joan Mattingly, Cindy Bruce, Rita McClarey, Cindy Muchow
You can send Maxine a belated birthday card in care of Brookstone Estates.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAXINE!



Redmon Nite members met March 11 at Step station with Becky Step as hostess. A soup and sandwich lunch was enjoyed by members and a short meeting was held after lunch. Becky Step gave the major lesson and then Denise Step helped everyone learn a new way to decorate eggs for Easter. Those present were Cindy Muchow, Maxine Cochran, Joan Mattingly, Cindy Bruce, Becky Step, Denise Step and Marian Powers.



EDGAR COUNTY ASSOCIATION
FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION
84th ANNUAL MEETING
Change Is To Grow



Grow Is To Become

Tuesday, May 11th
4-H Building, Paris, IL
Registration 5:00 p.m. – Meal 5:30 p.m.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Unit: _____ Years in HCE: _____

2020 International Lesson prepared and served by ECHCE Board Members
(Ham, Chickpea Tapas, Garlic Potato Tapas, Relish & Fruit trays, Chocolate Mousses,
rolls and drink)

\$10 Checks to: ECHCE **Mailed to:** Carole Halloran, 13556 N 800th St, Paris
61944

Deadline: MAY 1

From Cindy Bruce, ECHCE Board Secretary

The Edgar County HCE Board met on April 5, 2021, at the 4-H Building. Kate Morecraft led us with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Homemakers Aim

Cindy read the roll. Those present were Kate Morecraft, Pat Brazelton, Paula Coombes, Carole Halloran, Dona Hoult, Becky Step, and Cindy Bruce. Marge Houghland was absent. The March minutes were read and approved for filing.

Carole said we had \$1,278.56 in the regular account and \$4,624.86 in the premier account. We have \$85.00 in deposit for school supplies. She also said that Coke still had not presented her with the check and she had talked to several people and would continue talking until the check comes.

Paula Coombes had gotten the HCE lessons. Pat Brazelton read a letter from the old state president.

Would all **UNIT Secretaries** get all members email addresses and send a copy to Kate Morecraft, PO Box 442, Paris, IL 61944.

June 26 is the 4-H Bar-B-Q. Each UNIT needs to supply 10 (TEN) DOZEN cookies, brownies, or cereal marshmallow bars, in packages of 2 each, at the Extension Office or 4-H Building by June 24. If you are unable to deliver the cookies on June 24, you may bring them to the 4-H Building the day of the BBQ before 3 p.m. Homemade or store boughten cookies are appreciated.

We are still discussing having food for the 4-H Fair as the building is to be used for judging.

We also need a nominating committee for new officers. Pat, Kate, Marge and Carole's time on the board will be up. Are there any members willing to take any office? If so, please come to our next meeting May 3 at the 4-H Building at 1 p.m.

Our Annual Meeting will be May 11 at the 4-H Building. Registration is at 5 p.m. and we will eat at 5:30 p.m.

Speaker will be Ruth Patchett

Decor is butterflies

Meal is \$10.00 per meal

Booklet-Carole will make the booklet and do the logo.

Board members will make the meal

Carole-----ham

Becky and Cindy----Garlic Potato Tapas

Kate-----Moroccan Chocolate Mousse and Chickpea Tapas

Dona---- Moroccan Chocolate Mousse

Pat----Veggie Tray

Paula--Fruit Tray

Marge--Drinks and Rolls (flatbreads)

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting is May 3 at 1 p.m. at 4-H Building.

Respectfully

Cindy Bruce, secretary

Words from IAHCE....

The IAHCE newsletter can be read for free online at IAHCE.org. However, if you would like a copy mailed to you, please send a \$10 check, payable to IAHCE. Newsletters are mailed in May – August – December.

Mail to: Emily McDowell, 1430 Laurel St., Highland, IL 62249

Name: _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____ County _____

New _____ Renewal _____ Address Change _____

Email: _____

**Don't miss the Annual HCE Meeting on
Tuesday, May 11 at the 4-H Fairgrounds.
Registration is at 5 p.m. with the meeting
beginning at 5:30 p.m.**

Cost is \$10

**RSVP and send your check to:
Carole Halloran, 13556 N. 800th St., Paris
by May 1.**

Please make checks payable to Edgar County HCE.

Upcoming Illinois Extension Events

Soil Testing May 3 – 7 \$10 per sample Bring your soil sample to the Extension Office this week on Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – noon & 1 – 4:30 p.m.

Edgar County 4-H BBQ Saturday, June 26 4-H Fairgrounds Serving 4-7 p.m.

There are many webinars scheduled covering a variety of educational topics.

See this link for details and to register:

<https://extension.illinois.edu/cce/events?tid=All&page=%2C%2C%2C0>

For more information about any of these events contact
University of Illinois Extension, Edgar County at 217-
465-8585 or see our website:
extension.illinois.edu/cce

**MAY 3-7
2021**

COST

**\$15 per
sample
payable to
KSI Labs**



SOIL TESTING

Clark & Edgar County
Illinois Extension Offices

Put your soil to the test! The Illinois Extension offices in Clark and Edgar counties have designated the week of May 3-7 as Soil Testing Week. Collect samples on your own and drop them off at either Extension Office. Results and recommendations will be sent to you.

Questions? Call 217-465-8585 or 217-826-5422.



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

University of Illinois | U.S. Department of Agriculture | Local Extension Councils Cooperating | University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate, call 217-465-8585 or 217-826-5422. Early requests are strongly encouraged to allow sufficient time for meeting your access needs.

Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting – What’s the Difference & Why Does it Matter

Minor Lesson – May, 2021

By Zack Grant (Local Foods and Small Farms Educator) with review and input from Laurie George (Local Foods and Small Farms Educator)

The complete article can be found at: <https://extension.illinois.edu/blogs/cultivate-cook-county/2020-05-19-cleaning-sanitization-and-disinfection-produce-farm-whats>

There has never been a more important time than now to review food contact surface and high touch surface cleaning, sanitization, and disinfection procedures. Food safety systems on produce farms should always be given the attention to detail we apply to our other farm systems. New federal food safety guidelines from the FDA and the emerging SARS-Cov-2 virus (cause of COVID-19) give farmers new pause to consider how robustly they have built out their food safety practices.

In the course of taking produce safety training, the often-repeated mantra of “you cannot clean a dirty surface” is drilled into farmers' minds. The idea is simple, before a sanitizer is effective on a surface, it must be cleared of dirt and organic debris that renders sanitizer less effective. Cleaning and sanitizing is really a four-step process that involves removing obvious debris, cleaning with a detergent, rinsing, and ending in a sanitizer application to a surface and allowed to air dry. This procedure for food contact surfaces should be repeated as a part of your normal operation.

The terms **cleaning and sanitizing** are now well understood by produce farmers. However, an often overlooked aspect of maintaining food safe environments needs new attention in the age of SARS-CoV-2. This is the concept of disinfection. The difference between sanitization and disinfection is primarily in the concentration of the anti-microbial applied and when the event takes place. Look at these definitions and a table comparing three common anti-microbial products:

“**Cleaning** removes germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces and objects...using soap (or detergent) and water to physically remove [them].”

“**Sanitizing** lowers the number of germs on surfaces or objects to a safe level, as judged by public health standards or requirements.”

“**Disinfecting** kills germs on surfaces or objects. Disinfecting works by using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces or objects. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs, but by killing germs on a surface after cleaning, it can further lower the risk of spreading infection.”

The decision to sanitize or disinfect should be based on the probability of the presence of a known hazard. For instance, during normal washing and packing of produce where typical levels of outside food borne pathogens are **possibly** present, then routine **cleaning and sanitizing** guidelines in your produce safety plan should be followed. However, if you have a **known or highly probable hazard present** (e.g. visible feces on produce, blood, or an employee is found to be or is suspected of being ill with a communicable disease) then **cleaning and disinfecting is** appropriate. The **cleaning and disinfecting** step would typically be used on specific surfaces with visible contamination. However, considering SARS-CoV-2’s uncertainty when it comes to surface survival and its inability to be seen, growers may want to consider **cleaning and disinfecting certain “high contact surfaces”** in and around the farm. These surfaces may vary from farm to farm, but could include things like frequently used door handles, equipment, bins, point of sale equipment, chairs, tables, and other heavily touched surfaces.

Currently, there are no labeled sanitizers or anti-microbial products labeled for SARS-CoV-2. Some products may be labeled for other coronavirus or similar hard to kill viruses. The EPA is currently providing “[List N](#)”, which highlights disinfectants that are currently approved for use against SARS-CoV-2. Here you can cross reference your current products with List N. **Only products on List N can legally be used against SARS-CoV-2.** Even if a product on List N has a similar formulation to your product it cannot be used unless it is on the list. Be sure to follow the labeled instructions carefully as they pertain to the indicated virus on List N.

One other thing to note about the disinfection procedures. The high concentrations of a sanitizer product used for disinfecting are not meant to remain in contact with food contact surfaces. After cleaning the surface, apply the disinfectant. Follow labeled instructions on the amount of time the **wet** solution should remain on the object. After the indicated contact time, it is recommended that the food contact surface be rinsed with water, then re-applied with a normal sanitizer rate solution and allowed to air dry. This seems counter-intuitive after you have disinfected a surface, but it is a current best practice recommended by sanitizer product manufacturers.

Cool DIY Photography Tricks That Work

Minor Lesson – June 2021

Author: Hillary Grigonis For the complete article, see:
<https://expertphotography.com/diy-photography-tricks/>

Photography has no shortage of accessories. But you don't need to break the bank to try something new with your images. DIY photography tricks can add just the right level of interest to your photos. Some of them create interesting visuals. Others replace pricey gear with something that's simple to do yourself.

Ready to have some fun with your camera, without a big budget? Try these DIY photography tricks.

Read This Before You Start – Or You Might Ruin Your Gear

You can create fun image effects without lightroom or photoshop. Most of the items needed for these tricks can be picked up for a few dollars at a grocery or hardware store, like a magnifying glass for macro photography.

If you're a Lifehacker, you will find these photography tips quite handy. But, it's time for a disclaimer. The best photography tricks use inexpensive items to create neat effects. But the worst will ruin your Nikon, Sony, GoPro, or any of your priced gear. To avoid that, proceed with caution before modifying your gear.

There's an alarming number of potentially harmful photography tips out there. Some suggest you apply lipstick, a glue stick, petroleum jelly, water, you name it, to the front of your camera lens.

Camera lenses have all kinds of specialty coatings. Applying something to the front of that lens can ruin those coatings and wreck your lens.

If you're tempted by these (we don't include any here), at least put it on a cheap UV filter. That way all you ruin is a \$20 filter, not a pricey lens.

Also, avoid trying to support your camera gear with a DIY rig. You may drop your gear. Use common sense. Keep items off the front (and rear) of your lens, always make sure your camera is secure, and avoid any "hacks" that may void your warranty.

That said, there are plenty of easy, inexpensive photography tricks out there. Most don't even come near the delicate parts of your digital camera or lens. Here are our favorite photography ideas and tricks.

Create a Dreamy Effect With a Sandwich Bag

Head to the kitchen and grab a sandwich bag. That's all you need for photos with a sharp center but hazy, dreamlike edges.

This trick comes from photographer Jesse David McGrady. He places the baggie around a lens to create a surreal edge to the images. Make a hole in the closed end to fit your lens through. And make sure the opposite side is covering some of the edges of the lens glass.

The plastic is close enough to the lens to blur, which will create a sort of haze to the image. Another variation is to color the baggie with permanent markers first. This will give the haze a colored tint.

Create Cool Photography Tricks With a Prism

Objects close to the lens can blur into neat photo effects, beyond a plastic bag. A prism held close to the lens will obscure distractions in the photo. It can also catch a reflection of something else in the scene. Or it can add a rainbow like light to the edge of the image.

You can buy a prism for about \$20 online. Place the prism up close to the lens. Now experiment with different positions to obscure parts of the images.

Try different angles of the prism itself too and you may catch a neat reflection.

This DIY photography trick isn't limited to sandwich baggies and prisms. Placing any number of objects up close to the camera lens can introduce neat, unusual effects into the image.

Anything close to the lens will blur. So, this trick is open to any number of objects. Translucent items work well, and even something as simple as a glass of water can create neat effects.

Solid items aren't out of the question. But they create a colored blur effect blocking off some of the image instead of a hazy or reflective effect.

Modify the Light With Household Objects

The right light (whether it's artificial or natural light) can make all the difference — and so can unusual light. Instead of camera tricks, this DIY photography hack places something in front of the flash. This is to create an unusual lighting effect.

Placing a kitchen strainer over the flash will create spotted light. Any household object with a unique shape and, in particular, holes or openings will work. You can do this to create beautiful light effects for close-up shots in portrait photography.

You can also use a set of window blinds to create stripped light. Or use patterned lace to repeat the pattern in your light. And if you have that prism from that earlier photography trick, place it between the light source and the subject. This will create a small rainbow in the image.

Or, as photographer Joe Edelman suggests, create your own gobo patterns. Cut up your own patterns out of foam board and place them over the light. That allows you to create unique lighting patterns.

Use Shiny Surfaces to Split the Frame

Translucent items like the fishing line and sandwich bag are great items for DIY photo tricks. But another excellent category are reflective surfaces. And as one viral post shows, you don't have to look any further than your pocket.

The screen of an iPhone, smartphone or tablet is a nice, black reflective surface. Hold it underneath or a bit over the bottom of your lens. Then angle the screen to reflect the top half of the image in the bottom.

This trick isn't restricted to a smartphone either. Look for any reflective surface that you can hold up to your lens.

Make It Rain With a Squirt Bottle or Yard Sprayer

Love the look of rainy day photos, but don't want to actually get wet? There are a number of affects you can re-create. All while keeping your photo subject dry and umbrella free.

Water droplets can make an excellent background. Have an assistant spray water behind the subject using a spray bottle. For a less tired hand, use a sprayer like the ones found in hardware stores to spray fertilizer or weed killer on your lawn.

The key though is to place a light behind the spray. This will make those water droplets sparkle. You can also use a flash gel to give the water color. Many photographers use this trick for portraits, from Joe Edelman to Pyre Jirsa.

The wet look isn't just good for the background. If you want that shot-through-a-rainy-window look without actual rain or an actual window, use that spray bottle on a piece of glass. You can find a piece of glass just by taking one out of a large picture frame.

DIY Reflector

Reflectors are among the most inexpensive lighting equipment. But you can make your own for even less. DIY reflectors aren't portable like the ones designed as photography accessories. You might also look a bit silly using one.

But a DIY reflector works in a pinch and it only takes a few minutes to put together with items you already have.

For this DIY photography trick, wrap a piece of cardboard in tinfoil. The larger the cardboard, the larger the reflector and the softer the light. Use tape as needed to keep the tinfoil in place.

Once the cardboard is covered, place the DIY reflector across from a light source. This will bounce some light back into the scene.

Tinfoil Bokeh Photography Tricks

Tinfoil is good for more than a makeshift reflector. If you rumple that tinfoil up first, the tinfoil will scatter the light. This creates excellent bokeh (aesthetic quality of the blur produced in the out of focus parts of an image produced by a lens.)

Crumple up a piece of tinfoil, then stretch it back out and arrange over a piece of cardboard. Then, use that cardboard as a photo background. Make sure you have a light source in front of the tinfoil. You should also keep the tinfoil at least a few inches behind the subject. Using a wide aperture will also help.

DIY a Backdrop at a Craft Store or Hardware Store

This floor drop is a piece of wall paneling from a hardware store.

My favorite places for DIY photo inspiration are hardware stores and craft stores. They're great when you're looking for props or creating your own backdrops.

For large, sturdy backdrops, I pick up paneling from the hardware store. The kind that's used to decorate your walls.

While paneling can be an outdated style, today there are several options. These look like an actual floor and don't cost too much. The downside is that they aren't as portable as rollable floor-drops, but there's a definite cost saving.

For smaller backgrounds, try the craft store. A simple piece of scrapbook paper can work for tiny setups. And quilting fabric can easily serve as a background without the three-digit price tag.

Encourage Kids to Actually Look at the Camera With a PEZ Dispenser

This is a trick I picked up early on, and while I don't use it quite the same way, I still bring out the handy PEZ at times. The PEZ candy dispensers will almost fit into the hot shoe slot at the top of the camera.

If you take a sharp pair of scissors and trim the plastic at the bottom, the candy dispenser will slide right on top.

With a colorful guy that hands out candy on top of your camera, it's easier to get little kids to look at your otherwise uninteresting camera. The only problem? You can't use a flash while your hot shoe is busy with the candy dispenser.

I usually use flash to at least create catchlights. When the Pez dispenser comes with me, I hold him in my hand near the camera. (Make sure to check with the parents before offering a child candy!)

Portrait photographers use bubble machines, favorite toys, and puppets to help get little kids to look towards the camera. And it can help keep create real smiles.

Conclusion

The tricks in this list have been used countless times. But mixing your vision with a photography trick can help create unique images.

Learning a new photography trick is excellent if you are stuck in a creative rut. Or if you want something different without investing in different gear.

Remember to stay away from the glass of the lens and the sensor or mirror area inside the camera body. A \$2 photo trick isn't worth ruining hundreds of dollars of photo gear.



4-H BBQ

Menu: Two Fresh Roosters Farm Market Boneless Pork Chops, Roosters Farm Market Loaded Baked Potato Salad, Applesauce, Cookies, Bottled Water

Saturday, June 26

4:00 to 7:00 PM

Edgar County 4-H Fairgrounds

DRIVE-THRU ONLY!!

All Tickets \$10

Purchase your tickets from any Edgar County 4-H'er or by calling the Extension Office at 217-465-8585

I'm really not into spring cleaning.



Come to think of it, I'm not into summer, fall or winter cleaning either.

Visit Jim Hunt at [facebook.com/huntcartoons](https://www.facebook.com/huntcartoons)

**U of I Extension, Edgar County HCE
210 W. Washington St.
Paris, IL 61944**

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Permit 308
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MAY/JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER
