

September - October

FCS Newsletter

Homemaker Kickoff - September 5th @ 12:00 p.m.

Quilt Guild - September 12th @ 10:00 a.m.

Wood Carving - September 14th @ 10:00-3:00p.m.

Beautiful Minds - September 18th @ 1:30 p.m.

Homemakers - September 21st @ 12:00 p.m.

Knox Threads - September 25th @ 10:00 p.m.

Laugh and Learn - September 26th @ 6:00 p.m.

Wood Carving - October 5th @ 10:00 - 3:00

Quilt Guild - October 10th @ 10:00 a.m.

Holiday Ideas and flavorful cakes - October 10th
@ 3:00 pm

Homemakers - October 19th @ 12:00 p.m.

Knox Threads - October 23rd @ 10:00 a.m.

Beautiful Minds - October 23rd @ 1:30 p.m.

Soap Making with Jennifer Smith - October 25th
@ 3:00 p.m.

Wood Carving - October 26th @ 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Laugh and Learn - October 26th @ 6:00 p.m.

Please sign up for all programs by calling

(606) 546-3447



Agent for Family & Consumer Sciences

Cooperative Extension Service

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

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties Cooperating
Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification



University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

TACO BOUT HOMEMAKERS HOMEMAKER KICKOFF



- COME LEARN ABOUT HOMEMAKERS
- MAKE CRAFTS
- ENJOY TACOS AND MEXICAN FOOD

SEPTEMBER 5TH @ 12:00 P.M.



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LEXINGTON, KY 40546



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Laugh and Learn



Come laugh and learn with your 3- to 5-year-old child(ren) at the Knox County Extension Office located at 215 Treuhaft Boulevard, Suite 7 Barbourville KY, 40906

We will be offering a FREE one-hour Laugh and Learn Playdate every month for you and your child(ren) to engage in playful activities that are designed to prepare them for kindergarten. Adults and children will hear stories, sing songs, make crafts, play games, and enjoy a healthy snack during every playdate. Be sure to sign up and mark your calendars with the following dates so you and your child(ren) can together build the skills they will need to best prepare them for school.

When: September 26th @ 6:00 p.m.

Theme: Wind

And

When: October 26th @ 6:00 p.m.

Theme: Pumpkins

Please sign up by calling the Knox County Extension Office @ 606-546-3447.



MONEYWISE

VALUING PEOPLE. VALUING MONEY.

VOLUME 14 • ISSUE 9

Knox County Cooperative Extension Office | 215 Treuhart Blvd Barbourville KY, 40906

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: RISING HOMEOWNER'S INSURANCE COSTS

In recent years, households across our commonwealth have experienced a steady stream of costly natural disasters. These severe weather events have cost Kentuckians more than 1 billion dollars in estimated disaster-related claims in the past 10 years.

Because of inflation, as well as the higher costs to repair homes and the recent losses from natural disasters, homeowner insurance premiums have spiked nationally. Kentucky is no exception. Home insurance rates have been on the rise since the pandemic and are predicted to increase an average of 9% in 2023. In this article, we discuss ways to save money on your homeowner's insurance policy.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Start by improving your finances. Look for ways to build healthy savings and lower outstanding payments, such as student loans, credit cards, or other high-interest consumer debt. Managing your money wisely can help you prioritize spending. Look for "spending leaks" to plug, or those frequent or small purchases that can drain your account over time. This might mean cutting back on entertainment, travel, or eating out. Examining your spending habits can help you identify how to "free up" money for essentials.



Also work to establish and maintain a solid credit history. Having good credit can reduce your insurance costs. Similarly, a poor credit history or low credit score labels you a "risky" consumer and can increase how much you pay for homeowner's insurance. To protect and build your credit, always pay your bills on time and keep your credit balances as low as possible. Never take out more credit than you need, and regularly monitor your credit report to look for errors or fraud that need correcting. If your credit standing has recently improved, discuss this with your insurer to see if you are eligible for discounts.

WHAT SHOULD YOU NOT DO?

Do not be tempted to cancel or significantly reduce your insurance coverage, even if you have paid off your mortgage. As Kentuckians have experienced firsthand recently, severe weather often comes with

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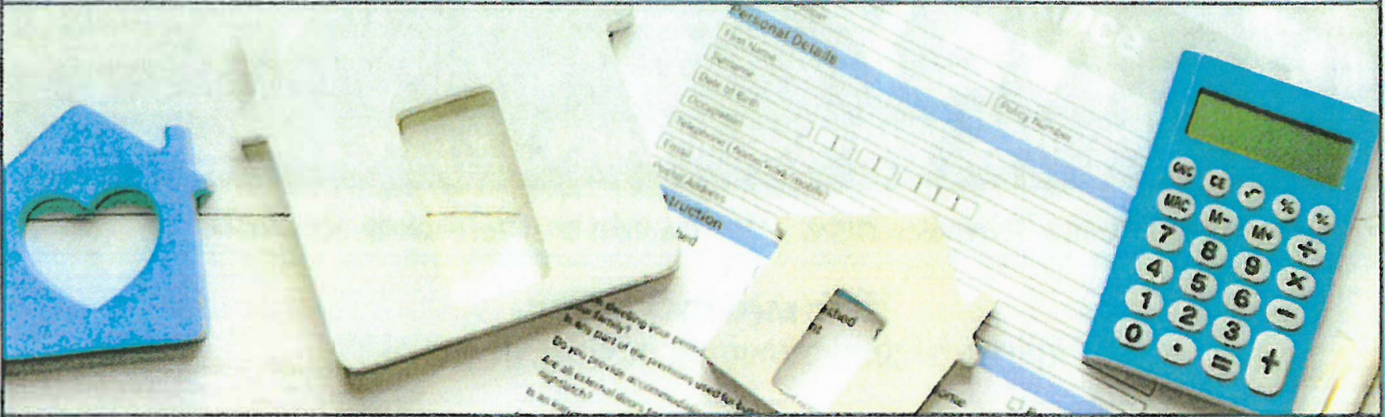
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SEVERE WEATHER OFTEN COMES WITH LITTLE WARNING BUT CAN CAUSE MAJOR DEVASTATION.



little warning but can cause major devastation. Not being properly insured could affect your financial future and could quickly deplete your life savings or retirement funds. Also, do not assume your current coverage is adequate. Revisit your policy to make sure your property is properly insured, especially considering inflation rates and rising home prices.

WAYS TO LOWER PREMIUMS

- **Shop around.** If the last time you shopped for homeowner's insurance was when you bought your home, it may be time to comparison shop. Prices can vary from provider to provider. By comparing multiple quotes, you can determine what company can offer you the lowest premium. Always use caution when comparison shopping to make sure a lower premium doesn't mean less insurance coverage.
- **Claim discounts.** Talk with your agent about eligible discounts that can lower the cost of your policy, such as upgrading your roof, electrical, or plumbing. Other discounts may include upgrades like installing additional fire extinguishers or security systems, bundling services such as home and auto policies, or company loyalty programs. Some companies offer claims-free discounts; lower rates depending on your payment method,

such as automatic drafts or paying in full; discounts for non-smoking households; and even occupational discounts for emergency responders or active military.

- **Raise your deductible.** If you can afford to pay more out-of-pocket initially, increasing your deductible could lower your premium costs. When a homeowner files a claim, depending on their policy, they will pay a certain amount of money upfront (*known as a deductible*) before the insurance company will pay. The higher the deductible, the more money a homeowner can save on their premiums. If you have an emergency fund that could cover a higher deductible if incurred, this may be a way to save.

REFERENCES:

AARP. <https://www.aarp.org/money/budgeting-saving/info-2023/homeowners-insurance-prices-soar.html>

Insurance Information Institute. <https://www.iii.org/article/12-ways-to-lower-your-homeowners-insurance-costs>

National Association of Insurance Commissioners. <https://content.naic.org/consumer/homeowners-insurance.htm>

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WILDERNESS TRAIL AREA EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS 2023 ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, October 28, 2023

at

Grace on the Hill Community Church

1632 Cumberland Falls Hwy, Corbin, KY

Cultural Arts Check-In & Registration Begin at 9:30 am
Meeting Begins at 10:30 am

Lunch catered by Tri-County Catering will include:
Meatloaf, Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, Dessert & Drinks

Tickets are \$20 , and may be purchased at your local County
Extension Office. **Register by October 16th.**

Our theme is Celebrating the USO - United Service Organizations



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