December Life Made Easier

Children, the Holiday Season and Temperament

The holiday season brings plenty of changes, festivities and time at home for children. “How they handle it all is affected by their temperament,” says Mackenzie DeJong, a human sciences specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. To learn more on this topic, and what to expect for your own family, visit (https://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/node/3232/).

Try this fun and EASY Christmas Recipe, guaranteed to entertain your kiddos!

All you need:

- Cornflakes
- Green Food coloring
- Butter
- M&Ms or Red Hots
- Marshmallows

For instructions go to:

https://spicysouthernkitchen.com/cornflake-christmas-wreaths/!
Meet Krystal—Davis County Extension and Outreach’s New Office Coordinator!

Krystal Fun Facts!
- Mom of 2 children and 2 dogs!
- Loves being with family and doing family things!
- Steak and potatoes is her favorite meal!

https://hortnews.extension.iastate.edu/2021/11/holiday-plant-care

How do I care for a poinsettia?
To prevent damage from cold temperatures, purchase the poinsettia at the end of the shopping trip, place the poinsettia in a plant sleeve or carefully wrap it before going outdoors, and set the plant in a warm vehicle. Exposure to freezing temperatures, even for a brief moment, may cause the leaves to blacken and drop.

As soon as you get home, unwrap the poinsettia and place it near a sunny window or in another well-lit area. However, don’t let the plant touch the cold window pane. Also, keep the poinsettia away from cold drafts or heat sources. Poinsettias prefer temperatures between 60 and 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

It’s time to winterize your backyard chickens! Take these steps to protect them:

- Provide them with plenty of space to roost off the ground.
- Ventilate the coop with a high opening.
- Keep things clean & tidy.
- Add 6-8 inches of pine shavings to the bottom to keep them warm.

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Check out these informative links!

Iowa Learning Farms Webinar Will Feature Wetlands and Wildlife Case Study

(https://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/node/3236/)

A Dec. 8 presentation by Iowa State University’s Adam Janke and Iowa Nutrient Research Center’s Kay Stefaniak will explore a new wetlands and wildlife case study and training kit.

Dry Manure Applicator Certification Workshops Offered in 2022

(https://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/node/3235/)

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, will offer manure applicator certification workshops for dry/solid manure operators on six different dates and locations in February 2022.

USDA NIFA Funded Farm and Ranch Wellness Project Successful

(https://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/node/3234/)

Since October 2019, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach and extension partners in seven north central states have provided stress assistance programs and resources to support people engaged in farming, ranching and other agriculture-related occupations in the North Central Region.

Cover Crop Dos and Don’ts - Lessons Learned about Cover Crops, Corn Growth, Diseases and Pests

(https://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/node/3233/)

Iowa Learning Farms, in partnership with the Iowa Nutrient Research Center, and Conservation Learning Group will present a virtual cover crop field day on Thursday, Dec. 16.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE STAFF HERE AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE!