Greetings! It is hard to believe that we are halfway done with 2023! It seems like only yesterday that we were ringing in the new year! It is summer, which means fresh fruits and vegetables, school is out, and hot temperatures! Please stay hydrated during the heat wave we are experiencing each day!

The Mississippi State University Extension Service is here for all tribal members, and we have information about an array of topics. The Tribal MSU Extension Service is here to meet the needs of all tribal members in all tribal communities.

The Tribal MSU Extension Service has been busy with educational activities during this summer break, and I can’t wait to see what activities will be planned in the future.

If you have an inquiry, recommendation, or question about an educational workshop, activity, or event, please do not hesitate to contact me. My phone number is 601-656-9679 or you can email me at kdf132@msstate.edu.

Please enjoy some of these Tribal MSU Extension highlights!

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Watermelon Parties

Nothing is better than a delicious, Smith County watermelon on a hot day! Students from the Early Childhood Development centers were able to talk about what is needed to grow a watermelon. Afterwards, they were able to taste a homegrown, Smith County watermelon! The watermelons were enjoyed by all. The watermelons were donated by Ford Farms in Taylorsville, MS.
A big thank you to Ms. Tina Routh and all of the Early Childhood Development staff for allowing the MSU Extension Service to come and implement these watermelon parties!

Red Water

Conehatta
Tucker

Bogue Chitto

Standing Pine
Crystal Ridge Resource Center Watermelon Party

Students at the Crystal Ridge Resource Center learned all about watermelons! The students were able to discuss what is needed to plant watermelons, and these students were so smart and attentive! After the lesson, students were able to taste some homegrown, Smith County watermelons! The watermelons were donated by Ford Farms in Taylorsville, MS.

Thank you to Ms. Tamara Eaves for allowing the Tribal MSU Extension Service to come and implement this fun activity with the children!
Who knew The Real-World costs so much money?? Students participating in the Employment and Training department were able to catch a glimpse on how much The Real-World cost on a monthly basis. Students were given careers, monthly budgets, and real-life scenarios that helped the students budget their monthly incomes. The students went to stations including childcare, food, entertainment, etc.

Thank you to Ms. Dawnena John for allowing the MSU Extension Service to come and implement this eye-opening program!
July Planting Guide

JULY PLANTING GUIDE

LIMA BUSH BEANS
WINTER SQUASH
PUMPKINS
SWEET POTATO
OKRA
CORN
LIMA POLE BEANS

PLANTING TIMES WILL VARY BY ZONES

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION
How Do I Get Rid of these Horseflies?

By Ms. Susan M. Collins-Smith
MSU Extension Service

Horseflies can be a nuisance to people and pets in the summertime. (Photo by CanStock, Inc./imagoz)

If you’ve ever had an encounter with a horsefly, you know they are annoying. If you’ve ever been bitten by one, you know it hurts!

These insects are persistent because their existence depends on it. Most horse flies need a blood meal to successfully reproduce. Most species feed on mammals such as horses, cattle, dogs, and even people.

How can you keep these pesky critters from spoiling your outdoor summer fun? The answer probably isn’t what you want to hear.

Because their breeding sites are large and widespread, chemical controls are not very effective in reducing adult populations. Horseflies lay their eggs near water and swampy areas. As a result, mature flies can be found in high numbers in wooded, wetland, and damp areas. Once the eggs hatch, larvae drop or crawl into water or mud where they grow into adults.

Depending on the species, larvae take from one month to more than a year to develop. Mature larvae become adults in one to four weeks.

Adult horseflies range in size from three-fourths of an inch to an inch or more in length. Many species are yellowish with large green eyes and are called green heads or yellow flies. Some other species have grayish-brown bodies with very large eyes and clear wings.

Insect repellants on their own provide some relief but are not 100 percent effective. For the most effective protection from their bites, wear light-colored, long-sleeve shirts and long pants in combination with repellants that contain DEET, picaridin, citronella, geraniol, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

Unfortunately, there is no scientifically backed method that can adequately reduce the number of horseflies in an area. The good news is June is behind us. Generally, horseflies are the worst in June. They begin to diminish later in the summer.

Still, it’s best to keep your flyswatter handy!
Thank you for taking the time to see all of the fun, exciting, and educational activities that has been happening with the Tribal MSU Extension Service! I have been busy, and I can’t wait to see what exciting activities will be happening in the future!

The Tribal MSU Extension Service is here to meet the needs of all tribal members in all tribal communities. The MSU Extension Service has educational, research-based information on an array of topics.

If you have an inquiry, request, or questions about having an activity with the Tribal MSU Extension Service, please do not hesitate to contact me. My phone number is 601-656-9679 and my email is kdf132@msstate.edu.

Please be on the lookout for more workshops coming up in the future!

God Bless and Hail State!
Kaitlyn Ford
Tribal MSU Extension Agent

Future Tribal MSU Extension Activities

August 23- Private Pesticide Applicator Training; 9:00-12:00; Natural Resources Multi-Purpose Room.

August 24- Canva Workshop; Lunch and Learn; 11:45-1:00; Natural Resources Multi-Purpose Room