



**Eric Baker**  
Estill County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources

# Watch for Blacklegged Ticks

confirmed present in Estill County several years ago.

We generally do not think of winter as tick season, but this is no longer the case. While encounters with blacklegged ticks are still relatively low, it is important to watch for them when hiking and working outdoors. Include "tick checks" when monitoring animal health and handling pets. Ticks tend to attach where the hair coat is thin and in areas that an animal cannot groom effectively.

Remove any attached ticks carefully as follows: 1) Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin surface as possible; 2) Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Do not twist or jerk the tick; this can cause the mouthparts to break off and remain in the skin.



**Blacklegged ticks (left) are smaller than American dog ticks (right) which can be spotted by the white markings on their back.** (Credit: Public Health Agency of Canada)

If this happens, remove mouthparts carefully with tweezers. If mouthparts cannot be removed easily, with clean tweezers, leave them alone and let the skin heal; and after removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine scrub, or soap and water. Of course, consult your doctor if you have any questions or concerns about tick bites. Ticks can transmit certain diseases to humans so be cautious when outdoors,

especially in wooded and overgrown areas.

For more information on ticks and disease, contact the Estill County Extension office at 723-4557. Ask us for publication ENTFACT-618 or go online to <http://entomology.ca.uky.edu/ef618>

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## The Garden Bug Tool prep

Get your tools ready for the coming year's work. Clean rust and stubborn dirt off all metal surfaces with a wire brush or steel wool. Wash items with warm soapy water, then rinse and dry completely. Recondition wooden handles by smoothing nicks and splinters with medium-grit sandpaper, and coat handles with boiled linseed oil to help prevent future splintering. - Brenda Weaver

Source: [www.hgtv.com](http://www.hgtv.com)

## Birding BITS BY Cindy Brook

### Nest Building

Birds are gathering material for their nests, and you can help. Put out soft things like string, yarn and (clean) dog hair (NO dryer lint!). These items can be hung from tree branches or scattered on the ground. They'll be easy to spot and will provide extra cushioning for new hatchlings.

E-mail: [birdingbits@cflr.com](mailto:birdingbits@cflr.com)  
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## Wishing Well®

5	7	3	2	6	7	8	7	6	8	2	7	6
S	N	E	Y	C	E	G	W	O	O	O	J	N
7	6	4	3	7	6	7	8	7	4	7	3	5
O	T	B	A	B	R	C	O	O	E	U	S	T
8	4	2	8	7	2	3	6	7	8	4	8	4
D	D	U	J	L	A	Y	O	D	U	I	D	L
5	7	8	6	5	4	7	3	2	6	8	2	6
A	B	G	L	Y	I	E	G	T	A	M	T	G
8	5	7	6	5	6	3	8	3	6	8	2	6
E	C	N	G	A	R	O	N	I	E	T	A	S
2	5	7	2	5	2	7	2	6	2	6	3	6
I	L	E	N	M	G	A	O	S	A	I	N	V
2	7	6	2	6	4	3	6	4	6	4	6	4
L	R	E	S	N	G	E	S	N	S	T		

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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## CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: N equals S

QYVXO Q HSCD PXHQJ PKX VS  
NSLX ECEVEQH NCQDN, VWX  
VQEHSO EN OXQPJ VS DS YKHH  
NXQL QWXQP.

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## CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

M BIE NXT NCIE N CR NBC  
DCLNMLTLNE — YVTTLWILJ  
ILJ IKENVIWMI.  
— JCVCNXO HIVZTV

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## UK COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

University of Kentucky – College of Agriculture

### Estill County 4-H Youth Development

**Isaac L. Hollon**  
Estill County Extension Office

Saturday, March 10th - 8am-2pm

### Estill County 4-H Teen Club Fundraiser

The 4-H Teen Club will be having a yard sale on Saturday, March 10th from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. This fundraiser is to help raise money for leadership trips planned for this Spring and Summer. The location will be at the Estill County Extension Office located at 76 Golden Court, off of Stacy Lane. Some of the things our Teens will be using the money they raise for include: Washington DC Ag Policy trip, Teen Leadership Conference, Teen Leadership Summit, Southern Regional Leadership Conference, and Kentucky Issues Conference.

We will have anything and everything you can think of. Can't wait to see you all there!!!

Thursday-Saturday, March 22nd-24th

### Hunters Education Class (orange card)

There will be a Hunter's Education Class (orange card) at the Estill County Extension Office. The 3-day class will be Thursday and Friday, March 22nd & 23rd from 6-9 p.m., and Saturday, March 24th starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Estill Co. Sportsmen's Club. You must attend all 3 classes to obtain your orange card. Ages 9 and older (as of March 24). Effective March 1, 2014, KY Dept. of Fish & Wildlife requires online pre-registration for all hunter education courses statewide. Following is the registration link for the Estill Co. class: <http://www.register-ed.com/events/view/117617>

For more information, call the Estill County Extension Office at 606-723-4557.

## Stickeler's Puzzle

**STICKELERS** by Terry Stickels

Adam had more baseball cards than his friend Bob in a ratio of 7:5. Adam then gave Bob 12 of his cards and with those twelve Bob now had the same number of cards as Adam.

How many did each have before Adam gave Bob the 12 cards?

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Stickeler's Answer on Page 11

## Farming News

from Extension Agent Eric Baker  
Wednesday, February 28th @ 6:30pm  
Produce Marketing & Farmers Mkt.

If you want to learn more about how to market your produce, Cooperative Extension will have a learning session called "Market Signs That Work" February 28th, 6:30 p.m., at the Estill County Extension office, 76 Golden Court, Irvine. This session will discuss ways to get people to your market and how to communicate effectively while they are there.

Immediately after the learning session, the Estill County Farmer's Market Association will have their February meeting. If you are interested in selling producer at the farmer's market, they are looking for new vendors to participate.

Thursday, March 8th

### Tall Fescue Pasture Renovation Workshop

The Tall Fescue Renovation Workshop will take place Thursday, March 8 at the Bluegrass Stockyards and UK's Spindletop Research Farm in Lexington.

University of Kentucky forage extension specialists are teaming up with the Alliance for Grassland Renewal to host the workshop.

Tuesday, March 20th @ 7pm

### High Tunnel Grower Meeting

Several Estill County vegetable growers now have a high tunnel structure on their farm. High tunnels, also known as hoop houses, are simple polyethylene-covered unheated structures that typically do not use fans for ventilation. Tunnels can be covered with one or two sheets of plastic; those covered with two have an air layer in between, thus offering better insulation and, consequently, more cold protection (and wind protection). High tunnels are used to extend the growing season earlier into spring and later into fall.

High tunnel environments can be a challenge to growers so the Estill County Extension Service has organized a high tunnel grower meeting for Tuesday, March 20th, 7:00 p.m., at the Extension office, 76 Golden Court, in Irvine.

UK Extension horticulturalist Krista Jacobsen will bring information on growing in these structures and Extension entomologist Ric Bessin will discuss insect pest issues. In addition, we will introduce our new Extension vegetable specialist, Rachel Rudolph. She starts March 1st. If you are planning to attend, please let us know by calling 723-4557.

## Puzzle Answers February 28, 2018

### Puzzles4Kids

Answer

### FEAR KNIT

answer

### Letter Box

Solution

T	I	E	R	U	P	M	C	Y
M	Y	P	I	C	T	U	R	E
R	C	U	Y	M	E	T	I	P
Y	T	R	E	I	U	C	P	M
P	U	I	C	T	M	E	Y	R
C	E	M	P	R	Y	I	U	T
E	M	Y	U	P	I	R	T	C
I	P	C	T	E	R	Y	M	U
U	R	T	M	Y	C	P	E	I

FOUND IN A SAFE

### CryptoQuip

answer

After a long delay due to some initial snags, the tailor is ready to go full seam ahead.

### CryptoQuote

answer

I was the toast of two continents — Greenland and Australia.  
— Dorothy Parker

### Even Exchange

- answers
- Break, Bleak
  - London, Lyndon
  - Switch, Stitch
  - Baton, Bacon
  - Farmer, Former
  - Cheer, Cheek
  - Taylor, Tailor
  - Flake, Flare
  - Allow, Alloy
  - Patron, Patton

### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

4	8	6	5	2	7	1	9	3
3	2	7	1	9	4	5	6	8
5	1	9	3	8	6	4	2	7
1	3	8	7	5	2	6	4	9
6	5	4	9	3	8	2	7	1
9	7	2	6	4	1	3	8	5
7	4	1	8	6	5	9	3	2
2	9	5	4	7	3	8	1	6
8	6	3	2	1	9	7	5	4

### King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

### Bible Trivia Answers

Now available by Wilson Casey! 2017 Bible Trivia box calendar loaded with daily teasers.

ANSWERS 1 New; 2 40; 3 Job; 4 Ant; 5 86; 6 Cyrene