

Newsletter



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

Cooperative Extension Service
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Family and Consumer Science March

Calendar at a Glance

The Purchase Area Master Clothing Volunteers will be doing a service project to make quilts for hospice patients in the area. Anyone that would like to help sew is welcome to join! Our next session will be here at the office on March 17th starting at 10:00 am. If you need more information please give me a call.

March 3

Area Cultural Arts Day
@ Graves Co.

March 6 @ 3:30

County Homemaker Council

March 12

Daylight Savings Time

March 17 from 10-2

Hospice Quilt Project @ Ballard Co.

April 6 @ 4:30

Area Homemaker Annual
Day Planning meeting

April 10 @ Hickman County
Area Homemaker Council

April 19 @ McCracken County
MCV Upcycling Denim Class

April 20

Blood Drive

April 25

Best Start Parenting Program

Sarah E. Drysdale
County Extension Agent
Family and Consumer
Science

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

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.

LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

KEHA NEWS

State Newsletter coming soon – will reach mailboxes in a few weeks. It is also available online!

Registration form also will be online

March 15 – Area Showcase forms due to 1st Vice-President

April 10 – Early registration deadline AND hotel group rate cutoff

April 24 – Final registration deadline for meeting

Heads up (again) on the pricing change! This year will be either a 2-day registration or a full registration. NO single day.

Master Farm luncheon/meeting will be a separate registration – details will come from Faye/the Guild

Lifelong Learning Series

Transferring Cherished Possessions

Vicki Wynn

Distributing cherished possessions and other non-titled property is often overlooked when estate planning. Over the course of two lessons, learn ways to create a plan for distributing household items – from treasured heirlooms to closets full of clutter. Lesson One: Who Gets What? covers how to determine goals and establish a fair distribution process between heirs. Lesson Two: Effective Planning and Communication covers methods of distribution and strategies for communicating with loved ones about your decisions while minimizing potential conflicts.

This is a reminder: If you are going to the lesson please call the Hub County prior to the lesson. This will ensure your lesson materials will be ready. If you do not go to the Hub County please call the office for lesson materials.

Hickman: 02-28 @ 10

Graves: 02-27 @ 10

Marshall: 03-02 @ 10

McCracken: 03-01 @ 10

Craft Class

Date & Time: March 23 @ 2 pm & 6 pm

Location: Ballard County Extension Office

Cost: \$8



LIMITED TO 12 PARTICIPANTS TO
REGISTER PLEASE CALL THE
OFFICE 270-665-9118 BY MARCH 17

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Vegetarian Taco Soup



This institution is an equal opportunity provider. This material was partially funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – SNAP.

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 large onion, diced
- 1 can (46 ounces) no-salt-added tomato juice
- 2 cans (15 ounces) pinto beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can (15 ounces) black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can (15 ounces) no-salt-added corn, drained
- 1 can (15 ounces) no-salt-added diced tomatoes
- 3/4 cup dry brown rice
- 1 packet reduced-sodium taco seasoning mix
- 2 tablespoons garlic powder
- 1/2 tablespoon cumin
- 4 cups water

Optional toppings: cilantro, cheese, diced onion, crushed tortilla chips, sour cream, jalapeno, hot sauce, or avocado.

1. Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds.
2. Heat olive oil in a large pot on the stovetop over medium heat.
3. Add diced onion and stir well.
4. Cook and stir for 4 to 5 minutes or until the onion starts to turn clear.
5. Add remaining ingredients and bring to a boil.
6. Reduce heat to low. Cover and simmer for 40 minutes, or until rice is tender.
7. Just as you would a taco, top each bowl of soup with ingredients like cilantro, cheese, diced onion, crushed tortilla chips, sour cream, jalapeno, hot sauce, or avocado.
8. Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours.

Makes 14 cups
Serving size: 1 cup
Cost per recipe: \$9.11
Cost per serving: \$0.65

Nutrition facts per serving:

220 calories;
3.5g total fat;
0g saturated fat;
0g trans fat; 0mg cholesterol; 340mg sodium; 40g total carbohydrate; 5g dietary fiber; 6g total sugars; 0g added sugars; 10g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 6% Daily Value of calcium; 10% Daily Value of iron; 15% Daily Value of potassium.

Source:

Andrea Wilde, Staff Support, Northern KY; and Martha Yount, Nutrition Education Specialist, University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension





MONEYWISE

VALUING PEOPLE. VALUING MONEY.

MARCH 2023

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SHRINKFLATION: INCREASING PRICES, DECREASING QUANTITY

You have likely noticed increased prices when shopping lately, but have you also noticed packaging sizes are shrinking? This is known as “shrinkflation.” Let’s unpack what this means for your household and explore ways to be more mindful when shopping.

UNDERSTANDING SHRINKFLATION

Sometimes called downsizing, *shrinkflation* occurs when companies maintain current prices (or even increase prices ever so slightly) while giving you less product. The size differences are often small enough to keep the physical packaging the same, such as a bag of chips shrinking from 13 ounces to 11 ounces, or a package of bacon shrinking from 16 ounces to 12 ounces. These small changes can easily go unnoticed. In fact, manufacturers are counting on consumers not paying attention to the amount of product in their packages, especially when it comes to shrinking sizes.

WHY SHRINKFLATION MATTERS

Even small changes in the amount of a food or household item can add up quickly and impact your monthly budget. The less of the item you receive, the more often you need to repurchase it. Take toilet paper, for example, which was quite the commodity in 2020. Would you notice if your toilet paper contained just 312 sheets per roll instead of its usual 340 sheets? For the same price, there would be less than 92% as many sheets per roll



than before it was downsized, and you will likely go through each package approximately 8% faster.

TIP #1: NOTICE PACKAGING CHANGES

To combat shrinkflation, pay attention to slight changes in packaging on the products you buy, from cereal to toilet paper to shampoo. While not all shrinking products will come with new packaging or a “new look,” some companies may make boxes or bottles taller and narrower to trick the eye into believing it holds more product than it does. Also, be wary of ‘bonus buys’ that promise additional product. Compare the ‘bonus buy’ to the regular product to ensure it contains more.

TIP #2: CALCULATE UNIT PRICE

Shrinkflation is a legal tactic companies can use to save money from a production standpoint. The Fair Packaging and Labeling Act requires businesses to clearly label an accurate weight



CALCULATING AND COMPARING UNIT PRICES HELPS YOU COMBAT SHRINKFLATION



on its packaging so that customers can comparison shop between like items. However, it doesn't prohibit companies from decreasing an item's weight if they clearly label the amount of product contained in the package.

Calculating and comparing unit prices helps you combat shrinkflation. Unit prices help you compare different brands and different sizes of the same brand. Unit prices show you the price per unit, such as pounds or ounces, and are located on the shelf price tag, not on individual packages. You can also calculate the unit price of an item by dividing the price of the item by the number of units.

For example, let's compare the unit price of two packages of bacon. Bacon #1 is priced at \$4.69 and contains 12 ounces. Bacon #2 is priced at \$5.38 and contains 16 ounces. When we divide price by units, Bacon #1 has a unit price of \$0.39 per ounce, and Bacon #2 has a unit price of \$0.33 per ounce. Although Bacon #2 costs more, you get more bacon in the pack, and it has a lower unit price than Bacon #1.

TIP #3: SAVE WHEN YOU CAN

Finally, keep an eye out for sales and consider stocking up on freezer or self-stable household staples when you find a deal. Between inflation (the rising costs of goods and services) and shrinkflation (the shrinking amount of goods we receive), many households may find it difficult to "bring home the bacon" because it's getting harder to afford it! Using smart shopping strategies like couponing, buying generic brands, and utilizing customer loyalty programs can also help you maximize your resources.

REFERENCES:

<https://research.stlouisfed.org/publications/page1-econ/2022/12/01/beyond-inflation-numbers-shrinkflation-and-skipflation>

https://consumerfed.org/press_release/coping-with-shrinkflation-tips-on-making-ends-meet-as-packages-get-smaller-and-inflation-carries-on/

<https://www.npr.org/sections/money/2021/07/06/1012409112/beware-of-shrinkflation-inflations-devious-cousin>

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