



Avoid soil compaction in the garden

the ground. Major causes are working the soil when it is too wet, foot traffic, and excessive rototiller use.

To reduce this problem, it is best to avoid working in the garden or walking in it when the soil is too wet. Squeeze a handful of soil and if it forms a muddy ball, rather than crumbling when you open your hand, stay out of the garden area.

Walk between plants and rows in the garden area to reduce compaction in primary plant growth areas.

Excessive rototiller use destroys soil structure and promotes compaction. When compaction takes place in a dense soil structure, it also makes root growth more difficult.

A little hand hoeing, rather than a rototiller, may be all you need to do to eliminate a few weeds. It usually causes less soil damage than repeated ro-

totilling and is less harmful to the earthworms that help aerate the soil.

You also can use mulch to control weeds instead of tilling. A 2- to 3-inch layer of mulch relieves the pressure of walking on the soil, reducing the degree of compaction. Organic mulches are materials such as lawn clippings or straw. Do not use lawn clippings that come from a lawn recently treated with herbicides.

One excellent way to spread mulch materials more thinly is to first lay about six sheets of newspaper on the soil surface then cover the paper with organic matter. In this case the newspaper is really the mulch, and the organic matter holds the paper in place and improves appearances. Soils will remain cool longer in the spring under organic mulches, because the sun does not strike the soil.

If you want your garden to grow rapidly in the spring, do not scatter the mulch until the soil warms. One precaution needed if you use straw is to be sure it is weed seed free. Otherwise, it will be a source of weeds for the growing season.

Most organic mulches will compact and start to decompose by fall. They can be tilled under easily, adding valuable organic matter to the soil.

Contact me at the Estill County Cooperative Extension Service for more gardening information. We have a nice comprehensive gardening booklet available for no charge. Our telephone number is 606-723-4557.

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

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: X equals J

GTWY NZLWZYW JWVZLWN EIPP
 EISKYF DTW GKYDWS, K FIWNN TW
 VZIPE JW XWXIYW KY XRYIRSA.

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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.

ARJ IRNYFS JNY DV LNMPYIVS
 CYIX DVLTYIV JNY LNEV PUNE
 T LNMPYIVS LKQKFKOTXKNM?
 — DUKTM TFSKII

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Flowering Ground Covers

Landscapers love these plants, as they offer beauty and function, giving a yard color while helping to fight weeds and control erosion. Some favorites for full sun areas are Creeping Phlox (Phlox subulata), Candytuft (Iberis sempervirens), Ice Plant (Delosperma cooperi), Yellow Alyssum (Aurinia saxatilis), Dragon's Blood (Sedum spurium) and Snow-in-Summer (Cerastium tomentosum). Some shade-tolerating varieties are Pachysandra (Pachysandra terminalis), Bugleweed (Ajuga reptans), Yellow Archangel (Lamium galeobdolon), Cotoneaster (Cotoneaster horizontalis) and Sweet Woodruff (Galium odoratum). — Brenda Weaver

Source: www.thespruce.com



Happy Mother's Day!
 We can help mama birds that are feeding babies by putting out high-protein food. And we can help our own moms with the birds by cleaning and refilling bird baths and feeders, and by planting bird-friendly flowers that hummingbirds like, such as red sage or honeysuckle. Everyone's happy!

E-mail: birdingbits@cfrr.com
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Cooking Grab 'N Go

Cooking Through the Calendar Grab 'N Go - Estill County SNAP-Ed program assistant, Jessica Webb, will be providing a Cooking Through the Calendar Grab 'N Go event on Friday, April 30, between 12 noon and 4:30 p.m.. This event will be held at the Estill County Extension Office, located at 76 Golden Court, Irvine, KY. Limited quantity available. For more details, contact Jessica Webb at 606-723-4557.

Puzzle Answers

Sticklers Answer
 10227
 2857
 + 15779
 28863

Stickeler's Puzzle on Page 7

could be June in January.
 during the winter, I guess he
 When someone becomes dull
 answer
CryptoQuip

— Brian Aldiss
 just because you come from
 Why should you be confused
 answer
CryptoQuote

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Answers
 H V L L I F S U G M
 E L Z D A L O C B A
 N N I P E A C E P L
 H J P E T H G I L O
 T T P H S J O Y F N
 M R I K S A F A C E E
 D A A W M T F C L W
 O W K E S L L E W D
 W V D E H C T P T X
 N D R O L Q Y O U Y

Bible Word Search on Page 7

Puzzle Answers

April 28, 2021

Puzzles4Kids

Answer
 CASPER P SCARE
 ADORES O DARES
 SIMPLE P LIMES
 LAMEST M STALE
 BEIRUT U TRIBE
 BASTES S BEAST
 KEISHA I SHAKE
 CLAMPS C PALMS

ONE-WORD MUSICALS

HAMILTON
 LESUORAC
 CATS
 CAMELOTA
 GMMO

FEAR KNIT

answer
 RESORT
 OH
 BROWSE
 ELASE
 IOFF
 ALTERL
 BROIL
 AT

Even Exchange answers

- Mount, Mound
- Incite, Invite
- Weave, Leave
- Tanker, Talker
- Union, Onion
- Career, Carter
- Lithe, Lathe
- Squash, Squish
- Bunch, Bench
- Naval, Navel

King Crossword

Answers
 Solution time: 21 mins.
 STYLE PUMAS
 SORTER ISABEL
 HOODIE LENORE
 ATV SCALD AGA
 CHER TRARA RES
 KESHA FREDDIE
 INCSAD
 BLONDIE RETRO
 ROPE NOR DREA
 ILE LENIN ULT
 MTRIAM FOODIE
 STADIA LARGER
 ASSTS EMBED

Letter Box

Solution
 DOCARUGYL
 YULD OGRCA
 GRAYCLOUD
 RADCUYLGGO
 LYOGADURC
 CGUOLRDAY
 ODYRGCALU
 ALRUYOCDG
 UCGLDAYOR

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

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Bible Trivia Answers

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.

ANSWERS (1) Old; (2) Je-temaker; (6) Great-grandson