

# Periodical cicadas emerge across Kentucky this spring

JESSICA HOPKINS, HARRISON COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT FOR HORTICULTURE  
SOURCE: JONATHAN LARSON, ENTOMOLOGY EXTENSION ASSOCIATE

Kentucky will be the epicenter for the emergence of Brood XIV of 17-year periodical cicadas this spring. Periodical cicadas have appeared in Western Kentucky counties over the past few years, but the largest emergence area for 2025 will occur across most of Central and Eastern Kentucky.

While these time-keeping, red-eyed insects are not harmful to humans or pets, their egg-laying habits could damage the branches of young trees and shrubs. Tree netting is the most effective, non-invasive way to protect your landscaping and fruit trees.

The 17-year periodical cicadas are expected to emerge from the soil to molt into their flying, adult form in late April to early May, when the soil warms to the mid-60s. Periodical cicadas emerge much earlier than annual cicadas and in greater numbers.

Cicadas do not bite or sting, and the feeding habits of the adults do not damage plants. Some may find the abundance of molted shells and loud, near deafening singing a nuisance, while others will enjoy this pageantry of nature. The periodical cicadas' choral song, however, is a cue to protect landscaping and orchards.

## SERVICES

**Polecat Construction** Roofs metal/shingle, remodeling, new construction. Barn repair, hardwood floors and trim. Amish workers. Experienced  
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**Cicadas do not bite or sting, and the feeding habits of the adults do not damage plants. Some may find the abundance of molted shells and loud, near deafening singing a nuisance, while others will enjoy this pageantry of nature.**

Female cicadas will lay their eggs into the new, lower branches of several species after mating: apple, arborvitae, ash, beech, berry and grape vines, crab apple, cherry, dogwood, hickory, holly, maple, lilacs, magnolia, oak, peach, pear, rose bushes, spirea and willows are the most likely targets.

The cicada's ovipositor is long and sharp, and they will inject 200 to 600 eggs into the stem tissue. This "flagging" may cause the tender branches to snap. The fallen branch makes for a much shorter journey for the hatching nymphs from egg to soil but is not beneficial for the growing tree. Once the eggs hatch, the nymphs will feed on root sap, and a heavy population of nymphs in the soil may also impact the tree's root system.

While using insecticides may be less costly, the safest and most effective way to prevent tree and shrub damage is by using cicada netting, which prevents females from laying their eggs. Netting is suggested for use on new and smaller trees and should be installed when

the cicadas begin to sing, about mid-May for most of the area. Trees that are established in the landscape—to tall to net for most people—will grow throughout the egg-laying period.

More information can be found at the University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment publication here: <https://entomology.ca.uky.edu/ef446>.

You can also contact the Harrison County Extension Office for more information on protecting trees and shrubs from cicadas.

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The Cynthiana Elks Lodge is a \$500 bronze sponsor for the VA5K on Nov. 2

# Elks Lodge #438 continues to support VA

Cynthiana Elks Lodge #438 has been busy as usual, demonstrating a strong commitment to supporting veterans at the Lexington VA Health Care Center.

They have once again committed to being a \$500 bronze sponsor for the VA5K on Nov. 2, which benefits the Lexington Fisher House. The Fisher House provides support and lodging for families of veterans during medical treatment or recovery.

Brian Kinney, Veteran Lodge Chairman for Elks #438, said, "It's a meaningful way to assist those who have served and their loved ones."

Another recent donation by the Cynthiana Elks Lodge, enabled by the Boost Grant

from the Elks National Veterans Service Commission, was the purchase of sweatsuits for patients in need at the Lexington VA and its four satellite clinics, Kinney said.

Finally, the Cynthiana Elks Lodge donated 24 wheelchair gloves from Elks National Veterans Service Commission to Lexington VA Health Care System Physical Therapist clinic. The gloves help grip and push wheelchair hand rims for better control and for protection against blisters or calluses.



**Notice of Public Hearing**  
The Planning Commission will have a regular meeting on May 19th, 2025 at 6:00 pm on the 2nd Floor of Courthouse at 111 South Main St. to hear the following:  
A. # 2025-ZMA-02, PUBLIC HEARING-Mike & Angie Sosbe-Request Zone Change from A-1 (Agricultural One) to Residential Two (R-2) for Map #088-0000-020-01-000 (14.813365 acres) adjacent to White Oak Estates.  
B. #2025-SD-02-Paul McCauley-Review of Minor Subdivision on Commonwealth Lane. Zone: Agricultural One (A-1) (Map#114-0000-007-00-000

## GARAGE SALE

**1387 Commonwealth**  
May 1st, 2nd, & 3rd  
9-5 Rain or Shine  
Golf clubs, black stone griddle, changing table, Paul Sawyer framed prints, Longaberger baskets, 2 hanging deer feeders, latter stand, 3 catfish rods and bait-caster reels with clickers, 17 caliber little badger, wall medicine cabinet, child's dresser, clothes, , (men's woman's, children's), children's toys, bouncy horse, child's tool table, hard back books including cookbooks.

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## 0300 PETS

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The (owner(s); Principal Officers and Directors; Limited Partners; or Members) are as follows:  
**Owner, Walter Tapp of 124 Grandview Dr. Cynthiana, KY 41031**

**Owner, Margaret Tapp of 124 Grandview Dr. Cynthiana, KY 41031**

Any person, association, corporation, or body politic may protest the granting of the license(s) by writing the Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control Mayo-Underwood Building 500 Mero St., 2NE33 Frankfort, Ky. 40601, within 30 days of the date of this legal publication.

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A Special thank you to WM "Bert" Bertolasio who acted as my Guide and Gardian.

Thankful,  
Homer R Gray  
Vietnam Veteran

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