Indoor Gardening Options to Extend the Season



ADAM **THOMAS**

There are a number of indoor gardening systems on the market today. They range in price and require anything from 2 square feet in space all the way to a multi-tiered 5-feet wide rack of shelving and grow lights. But if you don't have the money or space to invest in one of these systems, don't worry. There's plenty you can do without them.

The biggest challenge people usually face when growing plants indoors is light. Some plants, like tomatoes, which can be grown in a pot indoors, require close to 10 hours of light a day. You might not be able to get that much light relying on windows alone. However, if you have a table or deep windowsill, you can position a grow light over your plants. Grow lights are bright, wide-spectrum lights that approximate sunlight. They come in all price ranges and styles, from desktop to hanging versions. You can also use a full-spectrum fluorescent light if you have a fixture nearby. There are also LED plant lights that are a bit more expensive but use less electricity than fluorescent lights. Incandescent bulbs do not emit the right spectrum of light for plant growth.

Containers should have proper drainage. Greens and some herbs only need a few inches of depth, while tomatoes will require a 12-inch deep pot. Use potting soil, which has better drainage, rather than garden soil.

Here are some easy plants to consider growing indoors this winter.

• Scallions and garlic greens. For scallions, also known as green onions, you can cut off the tip with the roots and place it in a glass with about an inch of water. When the roots are 2 or 3 inches long, plant them in potting soil in a shallow container. You can either harvest the green tops and let the plant continue to grow or use the entire green onion. For garlic greens, plant a garlic clove in a few inches of potting soil mix. You won't be able to grow bulbs, but the green portion tastes garlicky and serves as a good substitute, either raw or sauteed.

• Carrots. Small carrots are easy to grow in potting soil. Sprinkle the seeds on top of the soil in a pot or long window box, lightly cover with damp peat moss and water well. And don't throw away those carrot tops. They're edible and nutritious and can be used in soups and sauces and even smoothies.

• Salad greens. Spread the seeds across the top of a 2-inch to 4-inch deep container filled with potting soil. Lightly press them into the soil and mist to keep the seeds moist. Wait until the leaves are at least 4 inches long and then harvest the leaves starting from the outside of the plant. These plants will keep producing all season long, if you harvest them leaf by leaf.

• Herbs. Basil, chives and parsley are extremely easy to grow indoors. Parsley demands more humidity, so misting the plants will help them flourish. Use an organic fertilizer to help your herbs reach their full potential.

For more information about indoor gardening, contact the LaRue County Cooperative Extension Service at 270-358-3401.

The Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is an•Equal Opportunity Provider.

Zoning change denied for Dollar General on Hodgenville Road

BY GREG THOMPSON
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

After a two-hour public hearing on Tuesday, Nov. 17, a crowded Hardin Fiscal Court room of Roundtop Road and Ky. 210 neighbors walked out happy about the decision of the Hardin County Planning and Zoning Commission.

Tricia Brackett was in tears once all four commissioners voted to deny the request by Rafferty Development to amend zoning of property at 2305 Hodgenville Road from Residential (R1) to Commercial (C1) for a proposed Dollar General on the nearly two acres that sits facing the highway.

"I'm ecstatic," Tricia said.

Brackett, who along with her husband, Mark, own Brackett Family Farms that abuts the property and led the charge in opposition of the zone change from the moment it was made public.



GREG THOMPSON/PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Tricia Brackett presents her argument to commissioners during a public hearing Tuesday in opposition to a proposed zoning amendment to property at 2305 Hodgenville Road.

The Bracketts raise Scottish Highland Cows on their 65-acre farm and said amending the zone to commercial would be detrimental to their farm land and forever change the community and neighborhood profile.

"I know a lot of people came in for one specific reason, and for one specific entity – being Dollar General," Commission Chairman Mark Hinton said. "This zone change right now has nothing to do with Dollar General. What we are looking at is the zone change from residential to commercial. That's the only thing that we're addressing right now."

Each side of the issue was given 30 minutes to speak. The only individual to speak in favor of the amended zone request was Bowling Green attorney Chris Davenport who represents Rafferty Development.

Davenport began first by questioning Adam King, Hardin County Planning and Development director. The attorney wanted it to seem clear that the 290-page Hardin County Comprehensive Development Plan, favors the proposed change.

"The comp plan additions convene commercial use including convenience and general commerce use along state highways therein including along Hodgenville Road, is that correct?" Davenport questioned.

"That is correct," King said in reply.

Rafferty Development's legal counsel spent almost his entire 30 minutes painting a portrait of a cooperative retailer willing to do anything necessary to be a good neighbor. He mentioned installing a black chain link fence to keep trash and debris from blowing onto nearby properties, switching the types of trees used to form a buffer and groundwater retention work around the proposed development.

Brackett offered a presentation to the commission with reasons to deny Rafferty Development's request.

"I don't care what business is going there. I'm here for the rezoning," Tricia said, who has been a champion in opposing the proposed change in zoning.

In her opinion, no business should be allowed at 2305 Hodgenville Road. Their farm is already comprised of "highly erodible land" and a chain link fence may keep some trash off the farm, but any trash or debris at all that should find its way on the land is dangerous to their cattle, which graze almost daily in a corner next to the property.

"We get to home every day to a peaceful, quiet community," Tricia said. "When you start to introduce commercial into this primarily residential area, that's going to impact our livelihood, our quality of life, our cattle. We don't want that."

Referring to the appointed commissioners, Tricia said, "You are the gatekeepers to Hardin County." She said it was the commission's role to make a decision in the best interest of the community surrounding the property.

Amy Logsdon-Risley, who lives nearby, said as a social worker, she inquired if there was a need or a lack of access to food or basic resources in the vicinity. As it is not the case, she said a Dollar General is not warranted for the location.

Logsdon-Risley went on to list nine Dollar General locations within a 10-mile radius.

Eight other people spoke in opposition citing such reasons as traffic and pedestrian safety in an already "dangerous area," the decline of property values, the possibility of attracting criminal activity

SEE **ZONING/PAGE B3**



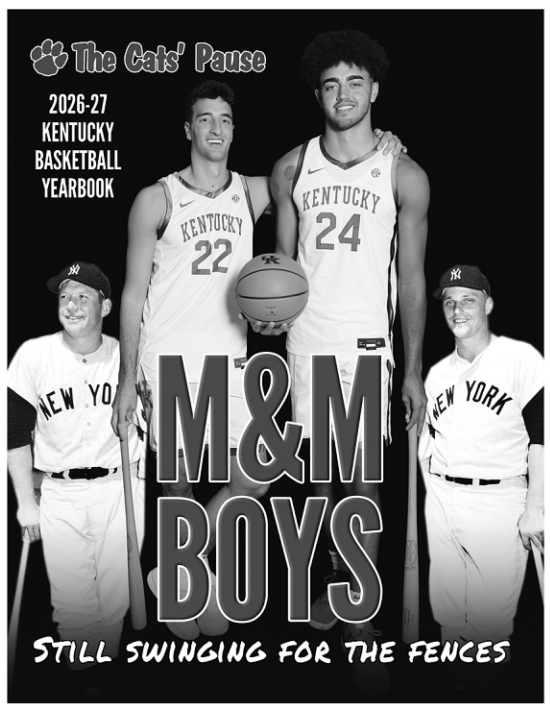
Driving with a blood alcohol content of just 0.01% makes you 46% more likely to cause an accident.

CITY of HODGENVILLE Est. 1818

Impaired driving kills. It's up to you to stay focused and sober behind the wheel.

This message paid for by the City of Hodgenville ABC REGULATORY FEE

2026-27 KENTUCKY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK



Excitement has never been higher for a new Kentucky basketball season and The Cats' Pause is here to get the party started with our 47th annual Kentucky Basketball Yearbook! Inside you will find:

- Moreno's return to Kentucky
- Momcilovic, a "relationship guy"
- Brotherly Love, Hawthorne boys
- Profiles of all 14 UK players
- Previewing 16-team SEC race
- Previewing non-conference slate
- Recruiting next generation of Cats
- State Schools season preview
- Boys High School preview
- Girls High School preview
- Extensive Q&A with Kenny Brooks
- Women's basketball player profiles

ORDER TODAY by visiting
SHOPCatsPause.com
or telephone 800.641.3302 or scan the QR code

$17.95+ $8 priority mail delivery