

Toads are a good sign of healthy environment

Lately it seems that everywhere I step in the yard, vegetable garden and perennial beds there is a toad under foot. They manage to jump out of harm's way (from a rapidly approaching foot or spade) just in the nick of time. When I notice healthy populations of a good insect, bug or amphibian I like to think that they are flourishing because of the ecological balance of the farm. Toads are an indicator species suggesting in their abundance that the environment is healthy; in their absence that it is not. They live both on land and in the water and are very sensitive to their surroundings because their amphibious skin absorbs pollutants and chemicals easily.



JENEEN WICHE

We use conventional and organic products on a very limited basis. We don't fertilize the lawn or utilize tilling equipment anymore; so, it seems that reduced disturbance to the soil and the environment around the house and in the garden has paid off and allowed our toad population to flourish.

Toads do some great things out in the garden. They have an appetite for insects including flies, mosquitoes, gnats, snails, slugs, crickets, beetles, cutworms and earthworms. An

American toad can consume over 80 flies in one minute, hundreds of cutworms in a summer and even more mosquitoes. They don't see well, only fast movements like that of a fly; they prefer to stay hidden in the soil, grass or mulch until twilight and if your cat eats one it will probably be sick for a day salivating excessively...but they sort of deserve it for eating a toad!

There is a farm pond on the property, which probably helps maintain my toad population, as well. Toads, since they are amphibious, must head back to the water in order to mate. Their young must spend their first few weeks in the water as eggs through the tadpole stage until they grow legs and hop on up to the house and vegetable garden. They will return to the same place for mating year after year. It has been noted that toads will travel up to 3 miles to return to their old stomping grounds, so to speak. Sometimes the male toad will hop on the back of the females for a free ride and perhaps a little foreplay. Old habits are hard to break; toads will even return to old mating ponds after they have dried up. That would be disappointing to find out at the last minute.

I remember years ago back in the vegetable garden we had a toad that was quite recognizable. Daddy had run over him with the lawn mower by accident and his back was cut. It healed but left a scar. We saw that toad back in the garden at least 3 seasons after "the incident".

So, respect your toads and teach those who still view toads as creepy, wicked things otherwise. Let's help them shake the reputation that they hang out with witches all the time and cause warts. It's not true. They should be associated with the good gardener, perhaps perched on the shoulder like a parrot accompanying a most respected pirate.



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ROBERT G AKINS, EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR T AKINS
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SHAWN DANETTE NAPPER, EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF KAREN MARLENE LACEFIELD
C/O ATTY AMY E OLIVER
77 MACK WALTERS ROAD, SUITE 200



Notice is hereby given that the Taylorsville-Spencer County Joint Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on the 4th day of June 2026 at 7:00 p.m. prevailing time in the Fiscal Court Meeting Hall located at 28 East Main Street, Taylorsville, Kentucky. The commission will be reviewing the following applications as well as any additional items that were continued to this date specific:

- Teddy and Donna Noel requesting a zone change from AG-2, agricultural to R-3, residential on 2.442 acres located on Cecil Noel Rd.
- Glasscock Sawmill Inc requesting to amend the binding elements for the location of 3085 West River Rd.

Information on the above applications is available for review in the zoning office Monday-Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Ashlee Welch, Administrator
Taylorsville-Spencer County Joint Planning & Zoning Commission



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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST DECEASED, **DENNIS EUGENE CROWE, SR** TO FILE SAME WITH THE UNDERSIGNED AT THE ADDRESS GIVEN BELOW AND TO PROVE THE CLAIMS AS REQUIRED BY THE KENTUCKY STATUTE NO LATER OCTOBER 20, 2026.

JOSHUA CROWE, ADMINISTRATOR
DENNIS CROWE, JR, ADMINISTRATOR
C/O ATTY J ANDREW WHITE
734 SOUTH FIRST STREET
LOUISVILLE KY 40202



CALL FOR CLAIMS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST DECEASED, **HOWARD CADLE SHELBOURNE** TO FILE SAME WITH THE UNDERSIGNED AT THE ADDRESS GIVEN BELOW AND TO PROVE THE CLAIMS AS REQUIRED BY THE KENTUCKY STATUTE NO LATER OCTOBER 20, 2026.

MELISSA BETH TODD, EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF HOWARD CADLE SHELBOURNE
C/O ATTY JOHN D DALE, JR
PO BOX 494
TAYLORSVILLE KY 40071



GUARDIANSHIP
Notice is hereby given to all persons having claim against, **EVAN WHITT** To file same with the undersigned at the address given below and to prove the claims as required by the Kentucky revised statute no later than **JUNE 30, 2026**.

MOLLY WHITT, GUARDIAN
C/O MOLLY WHITT
223 BURLEY ROAD
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