# Make your own balanced organic fertilizer

improving our

vegetable garden soil by adding composted horse and chicken manure at the end of each growing season. Some years we used cover crops or leaf mold. The result is a rich, welldrained plot that has the capacity to retain moisture and slowly feed what we plant.

Despite the JENEEN healthy soil condi-WICHE tion, I still do a little side dressing with fertilizer at the optimum time. My supplies for some homemade fertilizer include bags of alfalfa meal, bone meal, and cottonseed meal. It makes sense that the mixture would supply a more complete slow-release source of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, as well as important trace elements like calcium, magne-

sium, zinc and copper. To mix the perfect organic fertilizer I follow Steve Solomon's recipe. Solomon is an organic gardener, author, and founder of Territorial Seed Company. His complete organic fertilizer has a few more ingredients than just alfalfa meal, bone meal and cottonseed meal. Solomon's mixture includes seed meals, lime, bone meal, kelp meal and some rock dust. Each does something special in terms of improving the soil and feeding our plants.

He suggests that we shallowly work 4 to 6 quarts per 100 square foot bed before planting and then again as a side dressing to vegetable plants that are considered medium to heavy feeders

e have spent 20 years every 3 to 4 weeks during the growing season. Medium feeders include Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cucumbers, squash, pep-

pers, tomatoes, potatoes, and garlic.

Seed meals (made from cotton seed, soybeans, flaxseed, alfalfa, etc.) typically have a nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium (N-P-K) ratio of 6-4-2. Lime is important because it contains calcium but be

aware that there are different forms of lime. Dolomitic lime is the best because it has calcium and magnesium carbonates. Agricultural lime is mostly calcium carbonates; and gypsum is mostly calcium carbonate.

This may not mean much to us but to plants the extra trace elements, or micronutrients, are needed in small amounts and these various forms of lime provide them. Solomon recommends that we use a mixture of all

three, ideally. Solomon also warns that quicklime, burnt lime and hydrated lime should never be used in the mixture.

Bone meal is rich in phosphorus, necessary for plants to bloom well; and kelp meal provides the entire range of trace elements as well as hormonal components that help to regulate growth and maintain vigor (some say, however, that the power of kelp is a bit exaggerated). Rock dusts are apparently a good source of micronutrients and can be used in place of the kelp meal.

So, now that we have our ingredients, we need the recipe. Grab a big bucket and a scoop and measure out by volume 4 parts seed meal, one-quarter part agricultural lime, one-quarter part gypsum, one-half part dolomitic lime; and he urges for best results, add one part bone meal or rock phosphate dust, and onehalf to one-part kelp meal. Organic fertilizer is as

potent as synthetic so do not overuse it. The difference

SEE MAKE/PAGE B6



CE OF HEAR LLC d/b/a Wildflower Ranch Inn hereby declares its intention(s) to ap ply for a NQ3 Retail Drink Li cense no later than July 15 2025. The licensed premises will be located at 3200 Leban on RD, Springfield, KY 40069 The owners are Richard Brimer and Carol Henry, 3200 Lebanon RD, Springfield, KY 40069. Any person, associ ation, corporation, or body politic may protest the grant-ing of the license(s) by writing he Department of Alcoholi Beverage Control, 500 Merc Street 2NE33, Frankfort, Ken tucky, 40601, within thirty (30) days of the date of legal pub lication.

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June 18, 2025 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Local Planning Committee of the Marion Co. Board of Education will host a public hearing on July 2, 2025 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Marion County Board of Education office, 755 East Main St., Lebanon KY.

For more information, please call 270-692-3721

Marion County Board of Education Equal Employment/Educational Opportunities

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Due to continued rising cost, the City of Lebanon has made the difficult decision to DISCONTINUE its CURBSIDE RECYCLING PROGRAM effective July 1, 2025.

Recyclable items may still be dropped off at our City Service Center located at 331 N. Woodlawn Avenue, Lebanon, KY during normal business hours Monday-Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Any further questions regarding this matter can be addressed to John O. Thomas, the City Administrator, at P.O. Box 840, Lebanon, KY 40033 or by phone at (270) 692-6272.

#### NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Marion County Fiscal Court, 223 North Spalding Ave., Lebanon, Kentucky 40033 has filed applications with the Energy and Environment Cabinet to repair county roads and stream bank erosion in the following locations in Marion County:

Old Lick Creek Road

Specific locations regarding the repairs may be obtained by contacting the Marion County Judge Executive at 223 North Spalding Ave., Lebanon, Kentucky 40033 at 270-692-3451. Any comments or objections Waster, Flood Plain Management Section, 300 Sower Blvd., Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, 502-564-3410

### **JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Washington County Conservation District is accepting applications for a full time Soil Conservation Technician located in the Washington County office and working in Washington and Marion Counties. Applicants need to have an agriculture/natural resources background. Competitive Saraly and benefits. A job description may be requested by contacting the office at 859-336-7777 ext. 3. Resumes will be accepted until 4:30 pm on Friday July 18, 2025, at 461 Lincoln Drive Springfield, KY 40069.







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