NEW RIVER OFFERS CLASS ON MUSHROOM GROWING

[Lewisburg, W. Va.] An expert on plants native to West Virginia will teach an afternoon workshop on "How to Grow Mushrooms for Fun and Profit" at New River Community and Technical College on Saturday, Nov. 6, beginning at 1 p.m. The class will be held at the Jefferson Office Park building in downtown Lewisburg, W. Va.

Lawrence T. Beckerle of Craigsville, an active member in the WV Native Plant Society and chairman of the WV Chapter of Quail Unlimited, will lead the workshop which will teach everything you need to know to start growing your own gourmet shiitake mushrooms.
“These mushrooms are not only a delicious gourmet treat, but are also known for their dietary supplemental value,” says Mary Igo Workforce Education program specialist on New River’s Nicholas County Campus, coordinator of the workshop.

Shiitake (Lentinus edodes) is a mushroom traditionally used to increase energy, longevity, virility and control appetite. It also has anti-fungal, anti-tumor, and antiviral properties which are suggested for colds, flu, immune function, viruses, bacteria, cancer, tumors, parasites, headache, measles, libido, vision, constipation, hemorrhoids, diabetes, liver ailments, nerve pain, gout, cholesterol levels, blood pressure and heart disease.

Berkerle is a former adjunct faculty member at Glenville State College. In 2004, he presented an academic paper, "Techniques for Encouraging Native Plants and Creating Bobwhite Quail Habitat on Drastically Disturbed Land," to the national meeting of the American Society on Mining and Reclamation.

Please call (304) 872-4520 for more information and to register for the class. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required.

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