



University of Kentucky  
College of Agriculture,  
Food and Environment  
*Cooperative Extension Service*

# Kenton County Cooperative Extension

## ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PEOPLE

2023





# NEED ANSWERS?

**It Starts with us.**

- Concerned about your family's wellness?
- Have a question about raising children and your own personal growth?
- Do you want more activities for your child that involves life skills?
- Got bugs on your Posies?
- Are your plants asking for help?
- Just moved to a small farm and need guidance?

**Kenton County has two locations to serve you :**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
**EMAIL: [KENTON.EXT@UKY.EDU](mailto:KENTON.EXT@UKY.EDU)**  
**PHONE: 859-356-3155**



**MAIN OFFICE**  
**MONDAY - FRIDAY, 8:00AM - 4:30PM**

**10990 MARSHALL ROAD**  
**COVINGTON, KY 41015**



**DURR EDUCATION CENTER**  
**MONDAY 1PM - 4:30PM**  
**TUESDAY - THURSDAY, 8:00AM - 4:30PM**  
**CLOSED FOR LUNCH DAILY, 12PM - 1PM**

**450 KENTON LANDS ROAD**  
**ERLANGER, KY 41018**

# WHAT IS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION ?

- Partnership that began in 1914 by county, state & federal government to provide all citizens the access to a wealth of knowledge generated by land grant universities.
- The mission of the cooperative extension is to make a difference in the lives of Kentucky citizens through research-based education in four major areas.
- **Agriculture** programs provides education, training and technical assistance to individuals and businesses concerned with profitable agriculture.
- **Family & Consumer Sciences:** programs provide information on improving diet, preserving and preparing food, keeping food safe, along with other advice to assist you and your family to be well.
- **Horticulture** programming provides information to help professional and homeowners alike to improve the quality and health of plants and gardens through educational classes, diagnostic services, timely research-based information, as well as supporting Master Gardener volunteers throughout the county.
- **4-H Youth Development** is a community of young people ages 9-18 across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.







# AGRICULTURE

506

**FARMS IN KENTON COUNTY**

11,300

**ACRES OF FARMLAND IN KENTON COUNTY THAT  
PRODUCE  
HAY, CORN, SOYBEANS, OR TOBACCO**

# 1

**AGRICULTURAL RECEIPTS IN KENTON COUNTY  
ARE COW AND CALF OPERATIONS**

## **Maintaining a profitable cow calf farm.**

Reproductive efficiency is a critical factor in maintaining a profitable cow calf farm operation. Pregnancy testing can be used to monitor reproductive performance and help make appropriate management decisions. High feed costs coupled with factors like volatile beef markets and droughts mean open cattle can be identified and sold to reduce input costs. This is important in small herds. The Kenton county Agriculture and Natural Resources agent recognized these challenges and offered an on-farm demonstration called "Is That Cow Pregnant?" Working with local veterinarian and another UK Agent, rectal palpation, ultrasound, and blood test draws were demonstrated on a cow calf herd here in Kenton County. This field day attracted 32 participants. Upon follow up 17 of the participants determined they were going to implement pregnancy testing as part of their herd management. Six of them now feel confident to do the blood test method and plan to apply it as part of their herd health protocols. For three of the participants, they decided to work closer with their veterinarian to ensure healthy cows and increase pregnancy rates in their herds.



# FAMILY CONSUMER SCIENCE

1,930  
hours

**OF SERVICE GIVEN TO OUR COMMUNITY BY  
THE KENTON COUNTY FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES  
PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS.**

171

**REGISTERED HOMEMAKERS IN THE COUNTY**

1376

**COUNTY RESIDENTS LEARNED ABOUT EATING  
HEALTHY  
THROUGH SNAP PROGRAM**

## **Leadership Cakes**

The University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service Family & Consumer Sciences (FCS) Education focuses on empowering community leaders. Building the capacity of volunteer leaders is critical for the sustainability of communities that support and strengthen families. Leadership is a challenging topic to teach but with the focus on exploring the fundamentals of what makes baking successful, we can also look at and explore how leadership skills can be viewed as ingredients for our own "Leadership Cake." FCS Agents conducted an extensive leadership program utilizing a creative approach, teaching the fundamentals of leadership, by baking a cake. Each ingredient in the cake represented an essential skill like communication expertise, leadership style, volunteer management and recruitment, as well as developing new leadership tools to emphasize volunteer organizations will function better when all ingredients are present.



# HORTICULTURE



686  
Hours

**MASTER GARDENERS CONTRIBUTED TO OUR GARDENS AT  
MARSHALL ROAD AND KENTON LANDS LOCATIONS**

120  
Trees

**PLANTED AT OUR  
MARSHALL ROAD AND KENTON LANDS OFFICE**

7

**FARMERS MARKETS IN KENTON COUNTY**

## **Arbnet-certified level II arboretum**

The Kenton County Cooperative Extension main office location has been transforming over the past year. Plans are underway for the 3.5-acre office location to become an Arbnet-certified level II arboretum. The goal of creating this arboretum on the extension site is to allow for a “living classroom” to teach and demonstrate horticulture concepts as they pertain to Kenton County. The collection of trees and shrubs are native to Kenton County. From January 2022 to December 2022, a no-mow lawn demonstration plot and two meadows have been established, and our volunteers have planted over as 100 diverse species of woody shrubs throughout our site. Master gardener volunteers have contributed hundreds of hours to this effort and have been involved with the planting and maintaining of the woody plant collections. Funding has been provided by grants from the R.C. Durr Foundation and Northern Kentucky Urban & Community Forestry Council helping to finance material expenses.





# 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

4,344

**YOUTH PARTICIPATED IN 4-H PROGRAMS.**

1,409

**YOUTH WERE PART OF OUR ENTOMOLOGY AND POLLINATOR PROGRAMS.**

1,913

**YOUTH PARTICIPATED IN NATURAL RESOURCES EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.**

## **Pollinator Habitat**

Kenton County 4-H was thrilled to be part of the 4-H Pollinator Habitat Teen Leader Program. Three Kenton County 4-H'ers attended the 2022 National 4-H Youth Summit on Agri-science in Maryland, where they explored the challenges facing agriculture and sustainability, participated in workshops, and toured the nation's capital. Following the summit, they received six hours of pollinator habitat training, and returned home to share their knowledge with over 100 students. They will complete the program by designing and installing a pollinator habitat at the Kenton Lands office, with the assistance of Kenton County Master Gardeners and local businesses

## **Youth Livestock**

Local Expansion and Review committee surveys(2020-2022) indicated that the 4-H program should continue providing educational opportunities for selecting project animals, performing basic animal management skills and raising and exhibiting animals. Local volunteers and community members provided educational programming for youth involved in 4-H livestock projects. Volunteers conducted 15 hours of educational opportunities and created 13 new educational activities. Forty-three youth participated in programs completing 6 required educational hours. Sixteen different presenters and 7 certified volunteers presented programs. Youth evaluations reflected a preference for learning a skill, practicing social skills and interactive experiences with presenters. 87% of youth affirmed in written evaluations that they "got to figure something out for myself at 4-H" directly reflecting common measures evaluations. 79% of youth wrote "4-H is a place where you have a chance to be a leader" directly reflecting a positive outcome from the common measures evaluations.



# Meet Our Extension Staff



**Dan Allen**  
Ag & Natural resource Agent



**Joan Bowling**  
Family consumer Science Agent



**Lori Clark**  
4-H Youth Development Agent



**Denise Donahue**  
Family & consumer Science Agent



**Brandon George**  
Horticulture Agent



**Diane Kelley**  
4- H youth Development Agent



**Vanessa Sturgill**  
4-H Assistant



**Kaylen Greene**  
4-H Assistant



**Mary Ann Schultz**  
Horticulture Assistant



**Angela Baldauff**  
SNAP Ed Assistant



**Nicole Kallmeyer**  
FSC Assistant



**Debbie Covington**  
Receptionist



**Mary Cannon**  
4-H Staff Assistant



**Stacy Whelan**  
Ag & Hort. Staff Assistant



**Laura Patton**  
Book Keeping Assistant



**Tasha Brown**  
FCS Staff Assistant

**Cooperative Extension Service**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Family and Consumer Sciences  
4-H Youth Development  
Community and Economic Development

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.

Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.