

BALLARD COUNTY 2022

REPORT TO THE PEOPLE



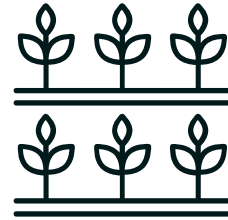
87

youth who participated in Civic Education and Engagement educational programs (PRACTICE)



75

participants used access points that offered healthy foods



50

people who gained knowledge in consumer and home horticulture including: native plants, disease and pests, composting, site analysis, and proper maintenance

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County Emergency Disaster Preparedness

After several years of fruitless searches for a good location, the Ballard Mesonet Station is finally up and running. On May 13, 2022, officials from State Government and Local Government met at the site just south of Bandana, KY to hold a grand opening. The search for a location started 8 years ago when Ballard ANR Agent Tom Miller and Rick Shanklin from Barkley Weather Service toured Ballard County looking for suitable locations. Nothing was found that suited all the location criteria. Five years ago, Stuart Foster, former KY Mesonet Director came and looked at several locations with Tom Miller. No success. The next year Foster returned to look at 5 locations and a couple were possibilities then an off hand comment from one of the land owners led to the current location.

Working with the Ballard County Ag Development Council, a proposal was developed using Ballard County Ag Development funds to help fund the initial cost of the station and then working with the Ballard County Farm Bureau, Ballard County Conservation District, Ballard County Fiscal Court and the Ballard County Ag Development Council, a program was developed to fund the long term upkeep. The weather station is already supplying much needed weather data to help augment the data from the Barkley Weather Center in McCracken County



4-H Youth Development

What a year we had for 4-H Camp. We took 54 campers, 11 counselors and 1 agent to residential camp. This is Ballard County's second highest number ever. We had three returning counselors who were awesome and eight new counselors plus one 15 year old CIT (counselor in training). They all worked as a team and made Ballard County's week a super one. Our campers lived up to the expectations set for them and the counselors exceeded my expectations of them. One of our cabin groups won the spirit stick at the Mega Relay which made them so proud! The campers loved "to Sally", loved their classes and 100% reported learning something new. They also made new friends and learned to live in a group and be responsible for their own belongings. All of our campers reported wanting to come back next year!

We had \$2,612.50 in donated scholarships for some of our campers who couldn't have gone otherwise. The entire Ballard Extension Staff was involved in getting ready for camp, getting to camp, teaching at camp and/or getting home from camp. Ballard County 4-H has strong community support and wonderful volunteer leaders!



2,756

number of hours of youth or adult volunteer related education provided in the county (i.e. orientations, trainings, education workshop, club management seminars, etc) (KOSA)

26

youth who served as group leaders or officers (PRACTICE)

Agriculture and Natural Resources

The language in the current farm bill allows farmers to make a new election each year on what commodity program to implement on their farm. With the loss of a Grain Marketing Specialist on the State Extension Level, Tom Miller Ballard County ANR Agent worked with Dr. Greg Halich and Dr. Kenny Burdine to develop some material that other ANR Agents across the state could use to help their producers. Tom Miller also reached out to specialists at Kansas State, University of Missouri and Ohio State, either directly or attending zoom presentations from these institutions.

With the drastic run up in commodity prices over the last year, the decision was much easier to determine this year, so material for training was much simpler. A one page decision sheet was developed to be distributed by the Local FSA offices when questions were asked. Tom Miller still presented live presentations at the Purchase Area Farm Analysis annual banquet. He also presented to the KY Soybean Association and made the presentation accessible to the KY Corn Growers and the KY Small Grain Growers. Several individual agents were coached over telephone calls and zoom meetings to try to get the word out to growers across the state.



115 people impacted by Advisory Councils, community organizations, and other volunteers including County Ag Investment Program (CAIP), Chamber of Commerce Ag Committee, farm bureau, county fairs, festivals, etc

115 producers who updated spray program to reduce risk of developing resistance

Family and Consumer Sciences

Spending time outside is a great way to be physically active, reduce stress, and get vitamin D. However, the more time you spend outdoors the more likely you are to be exposed to ultraviolet light rays. Most skin cancers are caused by too much exposure to ultraviolet light. You can work and play outside without raising your skin cancer risk by protecting your skin from the sun. Just as staying hydrated is important for our bodies, keeping our skin protected is equally as important.



Ballard County FCS agent Sarah Drysdale partnered with the Warren County FCS agent Kristi Shive to do a digital series on the Warren County Farm and Home show, to discuss the importance of Sun Protection during the summer months and ways to keep the family safe while enjoying time outdoors. Series aired on local access television station in June and reached a total audience of 20,807 viewers in the South Central Kentucky region. The series segments were also uploaded to Facebook and YouTube of those viewers there was a total of 512 viewers that accessed Extension publications and CDC information through links provided online.

150 individuals who reported improved knowledge, opinions, skills, or aspirations regarding the safe storage, handling, preparation and/or preservation of food

150 individuals more likely to buy a Kentucky fruit or vegetable as a result of receiving a Plate It Up! Kentucky Proud recipe card or sampling a recipe

Community and Economic Development

Early in the fall of 2021, Paula Jerrell, Ballard County 4-H Agent approached Tom Miller, Ballard County ANR Agent about developing a driving tour around the county to highlight historical places. The intent was that 4-Hers could participate in the tour over fall break and earn some achievement points in historic landmarks.

Tom Miller went around the county locating all historic markers and developed a route that coincided with the historical development in the county. Transportation and the changing modes was the focus for historical development. The tour starts on the river, with historic Indian Mounds, moves through the Civil War's impact on the county. The focus then shifts to the horse and buggy days of crossroads and general stores to the development of the railroad and the towns that came with it. The tour ends with the modern highways and future expansion of bridges and interstates and how that will further shape the county's future and economic development.

The driving tour was very well received by 4-Hers, but was also picked up by the Ballard County Judge Executive Office and the Ballard County Chamber of Commerce to promote tourism and history in Ballard County as is available at several tourist stops across the County.

4,097

hours KEHA members volunteered in COMMUNITY activities and events

26

empowered individuals engaged in coalitions or organizations to address a significant community issue

1,000

acres impacted by practices relating to wildlife habitat, management or damage



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