

Henry County 2024

REPORT TO THE PEOPLE

JUST A FEW OF OUR PROGRAMS

- Youth Ag Day
- Electric Fencing
- Manners
- Charcuterie Basics
- Estate Planning
- Canning 101

Did You Know...

Henry County is approx. 291 sq miles. Of that, 286 sq miles are land and 4.8 sq miles are water.

Priority Program Efforts

- 500 youth gained/ strengthened the ability to express their thoughts or opinions
- 475 youth engaged in SET 4-H programming
- KEHA members volunteered a total of 3500 hours for Community Activities and events
- 5600 dollars in EBT, WIC, or Senior benefits were redeemed at the Farmers' markets
- 21 farmers reported diversification in their small farm or added new enterprises
- 200 people applied Extension recommendations for soil fertility

For More Information, Please Contact us at:
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In Henry County we're growing ideas that make a difference in your life, your family, and your community. We have a dedicated staff of trained professionals delivering educational programs in agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, 4-H youth development, and community and economic development. The Henry County Cooperative Extension Office is your connection to the University of Kentucky and the world.

"There are two spiritual dangers in not owning a farm. One is the danger of supposing that breakfast comes from the grocery, and the other that heat comes from the furnace."

-Aldo Leopold on the importance of Agriculture.-



Website: henry.ca.uky.edu



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Henry-County-Extension-157488554329713/>

4-H Leadership

Leadership is a key focus of the 4-H program, offering youth opportunities to develop skills for future success. In Henry County, five youth serve on state teen councils and leadership boards, including a Natural Resource Ambassador, Shooting Sports Ambassador, Fashion Leadership Ambassador, and Kentucky State President. Teens participated in events like the National 4-H Congress, Southern Teen Regional Leadership Conference, and the State Teen Conference. Middle schoolers attended Teen Summit, their first statewide event. Five youth are involved in the Natural Resources and Environmental Academy, learning about the environment and building connections. One teen placed in the top four of the Kentucky State Judging Team, traveling to six states, and another represented Kentucky at the National 4-H Shooting competition. Fifteen teens led 4-H camp, mentoring over 120 youth. For over 100 years, 4-H has been shaping future leaders in Henry County.

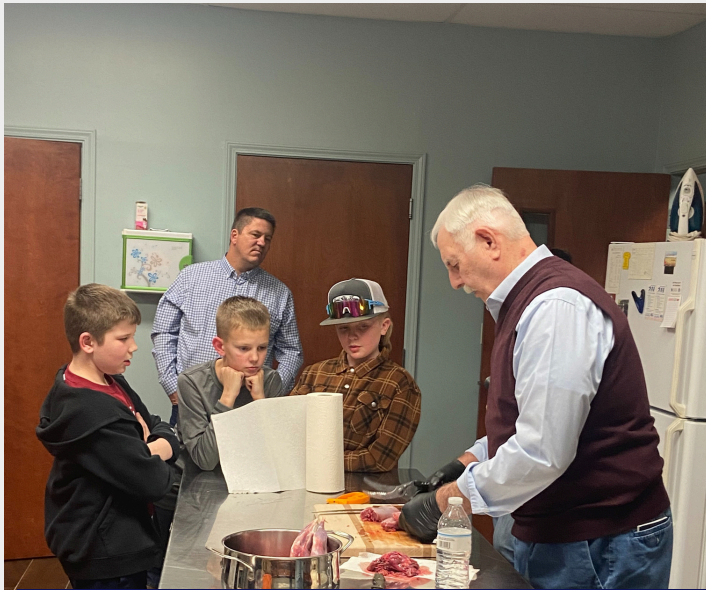


Disc Golf

Disc Golf is a growing sport similar to regular golf, but with weighted discs aimed at wire baskets. Many communities offer free public courses, and Henry County's Recreational Park installed a course that was underused. To increase awareness and participation, the Henry County 4-H program created a 4-H Disc Golf Club. The club promotes healthy lifestyles, a core focus of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. Members enjoy exercise, nature, fresh air, and social connection, all while learning a new sport. Disc golf has been shown to reduce stress and exercise the brain. Discs are provided for free to members who cannot afford them. The club meets weekly in April and May, with 9-12 participants on average. Now in its second year, several members have competed in youth competitions. The goal is to form a four-member team to represent the club. Members are also encouraging their families to join, promoting health and family bonding.



4-H & Youth Development



Cook Wild

According to Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry, an estimated 684,000 people live in poverty in the state, with one in four children affected. In response, the Henry County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences created the Cook Wild series to introduce hunting and wild game to local families. This six-week program focused on various types of game, including deer, turkey, fish, waterfowl, rabbit, squirrel, and mushrooms. Weekly sessions featured experts who discussed hunting methods, habitat, harvest, and cooking techniques, along with tastings from the Cook Wild Kentucky recipes prepared by the FCS Extension Agent.

The series attracted 38 participants, including youth and families. Evaluation results revealed 80% of attendees hunt or fish to provide food, and 90% learned new ways to prepare wild game. Notably, 100% of attendees gained new knowledge and expressed interest in future sessions. Partners included the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, local experts, and Faul Family Farm.

Family & Consumer Sciences

In The Face of Disaster

Kentuckians know that natural disasters can strike unexpectedly, impacting many aspects of family life. To address this, the Henry County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Sciences hosted a disaster preparedness program focused on protecting families, food and water safety, and creating emergency disaster kits. The local Emergency Management Deputy Director contributed valuable insights, and participants were recruited through newsletters, social media, and local newspaper articles.

Post-event evaluations showed that all participants improved their understanding of disaster preparation steps. Seven learned how to access reliable disaster resources, and all participants identified essential items for their kits. Six participants planned to create a disaster response plan. Key takeaways included the importance of a family plan, knowing local contacts, and having an emergency health information card for each family member.

Participants expressed gratitude for the disaster kits and resources, noting the program's success in preparing them for future disasters.



Temporary Fencing School

The cost of permanent livestock fencing has risen dramatically in recent years. To address this, the Henry County Extension Office offered training on temporary and high-tensile electric fencing—two cost-effective options for livestock containment.

Modeled after the UK Forage Department's multi-day Fencing Schools, the Temporary Fencing School took place on a farm next to the Extension Office. Dr. Chris Teutsch and Jeremy McGill led the hands-on program for 24 attendees. Demonstrations covered testing fence faults, building quick offset lines, and using various reels and posts.

The training continued indoors with a presentation on electric fencing concepts. This program introduced a fencing approach that promotes rotational grazing and reduces fencing costs—both key to increasing farm profitability.



Waterer Field Day

Henry County, Kentucky, is home to 23,000 beef cattle, and the Agriculture Extension Office has tailored programs to support local producers. Despite typically low summer attendance, the annual June field day—hosted with the Henry County Cattlemen's Association—has been a success.

This year's event focused on cattle waterers. The ANR agent partnered with NRCS to discuss available cost-share programs, while Dr. Chris Teutsch demonstrated temporary watering systems for rotational grazing. Two local farm businesses showcased permanent watering systems, with Dr. Teutsch outlining their pros and cons. A local water company representative provided county-specific insights on pressure and meters, which farmers found especially valuable.

With 63 attendees, the event's impact will be long-term. Many plan to apply the knowledge when installing watering systems or using CAIP funds. Farmers left with practical advice, helping them avoid costly mistakes and improve their operations.



Ag & Natural Resources

NOTHING IS OUT OF REACH.



Healthy Families. Healthy Homes. Healthy Communities.



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...just a few ways Extension supports Kentucky

- 88551 individuals became involved in an existing local disaster preparedness program
- 17133 clientele increased agriculture awareness due to Extension Programming
- 6766 growers gained knowledge in commercial horticulture including: improved pest and disease management, improved soil management, how to interpret a soil test and apply fertilizer accordingly, recommended crop varieties, improved crop management such as trellising, pruning, harvesting, timing of operations, etc.
- 2045 individuals reported improved knowledge regarding disaster preparedness (such as emergency kit contents; daily water needs for survival; damage assessment; evacuation and sheltering in place plans)

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.