

Technical Assistance

As we strive to increase food productivity and efficiency, one of the many services offered by the Woodford County Extension Service is one-on-one education with producers on various issues they may be facing on their farm. Everything from pasture evaluation and renovation recommendations, forage testing, soil diagnostic services, pest identification, and marketing or financial opportunities may be covered. Individualized farm visits allow us to meet the goals of the producer, and bring various ideas from a wealth of information provided by university specialists.



Participants attending a beef meeting.

Woodford County Cooperative Extension Service Staff

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Extension Program Assistant

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Extension Staff Assistant

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Extension At a Glance

- 118 Number of youth who participated in overnight, 4-H summer camp(s).
- 51 Number of youth who completed a speech or demonstration.
- 30 Number of volunteers addressing community issues by assessing needs, developing programs and/or implementing solutions.
- 80 Number of people who used Extension information to make decisions on site selectin, varieties and/or Maintenance.
- 200 Number of direct contacts made by Master Gardeners.
- 22 Participants reported intentions to improve healthy lifestyles and behaviors.
- 65 Number of certified Master Gardeners and active volunteers.
- 20 Participants reported adaption of physical activity practices.
- 25 Participants reported improved knowledge regarding life span behavior and decisions that affect health and well –being.
- 20 Participants reported improved lifestyle behavior skills
- 25 Number of people who used Extension Diagnostic services to identify plant disease.
- 30 Number of people who improved or maintained record keeping practices.
- 50 Number of producers who used Extension Recommendations to improve quality of haylage/silage storage.

It Starts With Us.
Healthy Families. Healthy Homes.
Healthy Communities.

Report to the People Woodford County • 2024

 Cooperative
Extension Service



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Woodford County Cooperative Extension Service Agents

Kyle Hamlin, CEA for 4-H Youth Development

Beau Neal, CEA for Agriculture and Natural Resources

Delia Scott, CEA for Horticulture

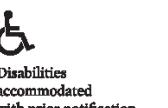
Hannah Thornsberry, CEA for Family and Consumer Sciences

Cooperative Extension Service

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

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

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Horticulture

The Horticulture Extension Agent, Delia Scott, provides educational classes, trainings, and technical assistance for individuals, farms, and horticulture businesses related to best practices of gardening, landscaping, and farming. Technical services include soil testing, disease diagnosis, and plant, weed, and insect identification. Contact Delia anytime with your gardening, landscaping, and farming questions!

Spring Gardening Workshop Blooms with Success

In light of the increase of severe weather events, evolving climate, and biodiversity crisis, homeowners are increasingly seeking methods to uphold aesthetically pleasing landscapes while minimizing their ecological footprint. To provide local citizens with pertinent information, the Woodford County Extension Office hosted its 6th annual Spring Gardening Workshop.

The workshop featured educational sessions led by Extension specialists and industry professionals. These sessions delved into low-spray pest control methods, plant choices that support local biodiversity and reduce maintenance needs, gardening techniques for smaller spaces, and strategies for recovering from and preparing for extreme weather events.

The program proved to be a resounding success. Out of 60 participants, 39 responded to a follow-up survey, and all reported a significant increase in their knowledge of each covered topic when compared to a pre-workshop survey. Notably, 16 of the respondents were new to the program, highlighting its reach within the Woodford County and Central Kentucky communities. This initial surge in knowledge paves the way for residents to implement sustainable

practices in their own gardens, contributing to a greener and more resilient future.

Family and Consumer Sciences

The Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agent, Hannah Thornsberry is a resource for individuals and families on topics related to life skills, including leadership, financial stability, food preservation and cooking, sewing, and overall healthy lifestyles. Family and Consumer Sciences offers opportunities for all ages to learn and develop many skills in these areas. They also oversee the training and use of the commercial kitchen located at the Ag. Resource Building, which is available for people to use to make and sell their value-added food products.



Woodford County FCS Agent teaches about health and nutrition during our rest time.

Bingocize

Dr. Jason Crandall created Bingocize, a socially engaging group-based game that combines health education and exercise in the format of BINGO.

Dr. Crandall and his research team have tested the program and demonstrated that older adults who play two times a week for 10 weeks significantly reduce the fear of falling, increase levels of physical activity, and decrease feelings of social isolation. The Family and Consumer Sciences Agent in Woodford County conducted four Bingocize

programs over the past year, two at the Woodford County Senior Center and two at the Woodford County Library Midway Branch.

4-H Youth Development

The 4-H Youth Development Extension Agent, Kyle Hamlin, provides positive youth development experiences related to agriculture, communications and expressive arts, family and consumer sciences, health, leadership, natural resources, and science engineering and technology through clubs, camps and conferences for ages 5-18.



Youth Connect to Community through Woodford Leadership Tomorrow

Engaging youth within their community is something that many communities know is both an important aspect of developing a vibrant community and a challenge that has to be overcome. According to the U.S. Census data, over 1800 persons between the ages of 15-19 reside in Woodford County. One barrier that faces youth engaging with their community is their limited access to the people and knowledge necessary to make change and impact their county. In response, Woodford County Extension partnered with the Woodford County High School to provide the Woodford Leadership Tomorrow program. Modeled after many county leadership programs Woodford Leadership Tomorrow (WLT) offered high school sophomores seven all-day sessions that featured different aspects of Woodford County in hopes to connect, educate and empower them to enact the changes they want to see in

their community. These sessions included Local Government Day, Health Day, Law and Justice Day, Business and Industry Day, Agriculture Day, Local Nonprofit Day and State Government Day. 18 youth participated in 2023-2024 and of participants described the experience as “engaging”, “educational” and “eye-opening”. Participants also reported when asked what the best part of the WLT experience that “The best part of my experience of WLT is that I have becoming better at sharing my thoughts and opinions” and “Learning more about Versailles. I thought this was a boring old town but I've come to love it and its small town charm. I love how tight-knit we are” and “I really loved making new connections not only to the people who help make Versailles but WLT helped connect me to Versailles.”

Agriculture and Natural Resources

The Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Extension Agent, Beau Neal, provides assistance to farmers and agriculture businesses related to the production of agriculture and natural resources. Beau helps provide oversight for local cost-share programs and coordination between other agricultural agencies to support agricultural producers in Woodford County. He also works with farmers regarding soil testing, disease diagnosis, and plant, weed, and insect identification for field crops, livestock, and pastures. The ANR program serves as a resource in disseminating information developed by university specialists to local producers through local field days, research projects, and classes. Beau is available for one-on-one consultation with individuals in whole farm management and planning.