

2022

Report TO THE PEOPLE

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



Boyd County

Boyd County

At A Glance

In Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022), Boyd County CES staff made the following impacts to their community:

- 9,118 total hours contributed
- 39,565 contacts with local stakeholders
- 47 hours of multistate efforts
- 4,654 volunteers engaged

Source: Kentucky Extension Reporting System (KERS)

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Horticulture Extension Agent Lori Bowling presents a program on how to decorate porch planters for the holiday season.

Welcome to Boyd County Cooperative Extension Services. We are part of the off-campus information network for the University of Kentucky and Kentucky State University. Our purpose is to deliver information, education, and solutions in the areas of agriculture, natural resources, horticulture, family and consumer sciences, 4-H Youth Development, and the Nutrition Education Program.

Every year, counties throughout Kentucky submit their respective Reports To The People, conveying important information to their communities and stakeholders. In this edition, the Boyd County staff elaborates on the successes we achieved in our program areas during 2022.

Top Major Programs

- **Agriculture**
2,582 Contacts/336 Hours
- **Family and Consumer Science**
2,410 Contacts/240 Hours
- **Local Food Systems**
1,969 Contacts/196 Hours
- **Community Engagement**
1,865 Contacts/11 Hours
- **Community Vitality and Leadership – 4-H Youth Development**
1,226 Contacts/199 Hours
- **Nutrition and Food Systems General**
893 Contacts/196 Hours

Source: Kentucky Extension Reporting System (KERS). Statistics are for Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021 thru June 30, 2022).

Social Media

The Boyd County CES Facebook page currently has 2,680 Followers. Our most popular posts related to the farmers market (26,203 people reached), Wreath Week (11,955 people reached), and the senior farmers market nutrition program vouchers (9,413 people reached).

The Boyd County Farmers Market Facebook page has 1,200 Followers. Boyd County Master Gardeners has 841 Followers. Boyd County Agriculture has 445 Followers. Boyd County Nutrition Education Program has 416 Followers. The Boyd County Homemakers have a Facebook group with 56 members.

Family and Consumer Sciences

Jacqueline Doucet started in 2022 as the new Boyd County FCS Agent. She is originally from Carter



The Boyd County Extension office is all set up and ready for students of the Charcuterie Board program Dec. 9.

County and attended college at the University of Kentucky where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Services, as well as a Master of Library Science.

The Boyd County Extension Office held two Charcuterie Board classes in December 2022. Forty-one participants were taught the food trend and history of charcuterie boards, the elements of charcuterie boards, how to consider the use of charcuterie meats and accompaniments for a healthy diet, and, how to demonstrate by creating their own charcuterie board.

Other fun activities for the Boyd County Homemakers in 2022 were Longaberger Basket Bingo in May, and a trip to Jungle Jim's in Cincinnati in September.

Boyd County FCS currently hosts five homemaker clubs, as well as several junior homemaker clubs at local schools. Membership dues are \$8/year.

The Homemakers' Mat Project continued in 2022, using plastic grocery bags to crochet mats for the unhoused. The group meets every Thursday at 10 a.m. at the Extension office.

Nutrition Education Program

The SNAP-Ed Assistant in Boyd County made 15,657 total contacts by either teaching programs or providing nutritional materials.

Using a variety of hands-on activities, 89% of the participants showed a positive change in their diets. Most participants found it easiest to "grab a can of pop" instead of thinking about their beverage choices and making wiser decisions. Research shows this can lead to chronic diseases prevalent in this area.

A successful program was the lesson "Making Better Beverage Choices." Participants were given a reusable water bottle with an insert in which they designed their own water bottles. Participants were proud to be able to use their custom designed water bottles and were drinking more water. By the end of the series of lessons, 57% had reduced their consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages by making water their beverage of choice.

Participants in a Boyd County SNAP-Ed program designed reusable water bottles.



Horticulture

For the first year since the program began, the Farmers Market Senior Nutrition Program went from paper vouchers to a loadable debit card. Although many seniors still like to pay for things using cash or checks, a process that took 4 days to distribute in 2021 only took 1½ days for the 2022 season. Many seniors waited for several hours to be issued their market cards due to the steps required to get the applications put into the system to issue their benefits, but all seniors commented how valuable these benefits were to them and their families. Many of the recipients commented on how these benefits were used to buy produce to can and freeze fruits and vegetables for the winter months, which was a huge help with their grocery bills during the winter. Overall, the program was successful and farmers and seniors both were very pleased with how it went.

Over the past 20 years, the Boyd County Horticulture Agent has grown a holiday wreath workshop for 10-12 people into a program that serves over 700 people from the tri-state area of Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia. Those that come learn how to make a wreath and also learn about the types of greenery that are best for holiday wreath making, how to identify praying mantis egg cases, cedar apple rust overwintering galls and how to help prevent the disease from spreading. This has been a great source for the



The Holiday Wreath Program has grown from 12 people to 700.



The Boyd County Farmers Market offers seniors voucher cards to help pay for their purchases.

Extension Office to advertise other programs we offer, and this year alone we had 15 people sign up for the Master Gardener Course after watching the Boyd County Master Gardeners volunteer to help make this a county-wide and tri-state area success.

4-H Youth Development



Boyd County 4-H offers opportunities in seven core curriculum: agriculture, communications/expressive arts, family consumer science, health, leadership, natural resources, and science engineering and technology. Some Boyd 4-H Clubs are: horse, dog, livestock, Cloverbuds (ages 5-8) and teen council. These clubs represent our area in local county fair and the Kentucky State Fair along with our country ham projects. There are over 1,100 participants in Boyd County 4-H events and programs so far this fiscal year.

Community service projects by clubs included: decorating the senior center, donations to The Neighborhood, filling the 4-H Blessing Barn, and Valentines for community members.

Our community members who serve as volunteers are the lifeline of 4-H. We have many club leaders and event volunteers who give tirelessly of their time and talents. Boyd County 4-H thanks those volunteers tremendously! Please contact our office if you are interested in joining the fun!

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Several new ag programs have been offered this year in addition to some of our annual programs, including programs on diseases transmitted by insects, ID and quality of hay, and winter weed control.

In the fall, a couple of programs were offered in response to requests from county clientele, specifically the Boyd County Saddle Club. This included a program titled "Insect Vectors of Diseases of Cattle and Equine," which was offered with very good attendance and audience participation, with much good feedback from those attending.

The other program, titled "Hay ID and Quality," dealt with classroom and hands-on sections, seen in the picture on the right, that helped the participants better identify hay in the bale and what to look for in quality of hay, depending on what you intend to feed it to. Both of these were such successes that they are going to be offered again in the future.

The third new program is "Winter Annual Weed ID and Control in Pastures and Hay Fields." It was held on a local farm and dealt with how to identify locally problematic winter annual weeds in their young vegetative state when they are easiest to control and how to do so. Most people do not think about weed control in February

or early March, but that is when weeds such as buttercup and poison hemlock can be controlled.

We again participated in the 26th Annual Easy Kentucky Hay Contest, and brought home a few ribbons. But the main reason for this program is to help hay producers, whether they are raising hay for their own use or to sell, know what the quality of that hay is and how they can improve it going forward. Over 500 samples were tested this year from across 16 Eastern Kentucky counties.



On Dec. 16, the Boyd County Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent presented a program about hay identification and quality.



State of Kentucky map with Boyd County highlighted

Meet your Boyd County Extension Agents

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