



2023

# REPORT TO THE PEOPLE

Boyle County Cooperative Extension Office

## Welcome to the Boyle County Extension Office!

99 CORPORATE DRIVE, DANVILLE KY

The Boyle County Extension Service officially completed its three-year long facility expansion in the fall of 2022.

Between COVID and the uproar of new construction and remodeling the original building, the community’s access was limited for much of that time. However, beginning in the summer of 2022, all spaces became fully accessible and COVID restrictions no longer limited use.

In the 6-month period from July 1 to December 31, Extension programs and partner groups conducted 154 meetings and events hosting more than 2,000 visitors. Non-Extension groups including local industry and service groups also used the facility for 18 educational events hosting more than 700 additional community members. Daily visitors to our front desk for information, soil samples, and sign ups brought in more than 1,000 additional clients.

The plaque on the new building reads “Built for the educational benefit of the citizens of Boyle County.” Our County Extension Council, District Board, and staff are excited to share a few examples of the educational programming happening as a result of this project.

## Programming Statistics

Number of people who gained knowledge in consumer and home horticulture

1,556

Number of people who gained knowledge on increasing fruits, vegetables and whole grains in their diet.

2,438

Number of agriculture soil samples advised on July 1st - April 30th.

99

Number of youth who served as group leaders or officers.

148







# FOR ALL YOUR EDUCATIONAL NEEDS



## Main Office

Rooms to fit 10-296 people  
9 kitchens

## Pavilion

Bathrooms, concessions  
Bleachers for 80 people

## Project Room

Seats 30, wipe down walls  
and floor drains

## Shooting Range

For air rifle and archery  
practice



**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, or physical or mental disability. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.  
LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities  
accommodated  
with prior notification.





## Family & Consumer Sciences

AGENT: ALETHEA BRUZEK

The Boyle County Farmers Market meets weekly, every Saturday, in Danville downtown at Constitution Square. This location is right in the middle of a food desert, accessible to many, but also a completely outdoor location. When the weather is bad, the market doesn't currently have an indoor or rain location that is suitable for their needs. The Boyle County Extension Office was able to respond to that need by offering the pavilion to the market for a rainy day location. Although The Boyle County Extension Office is not downtown, it is also in a food desert. It is also accessible by the DanTran public transportation creating an avenue for patrons of the market to continue to visit the market even on a rainy day.



The partnership with the Boyle County Extension Office and the Boyle County Farmers Market is a long standing and positive one. The Family and Consumer Sciences Agent sets up an educational booth monthly to hand out healthy recipes, samples, and to promote buying local. Each month the FCS Agent uses Plate It Up! KY Proud recipes to encourage good use of the commodities one may purchase at the market. Our market is especially accessible to low income/ limited resource audiences because of the Double Dollars, Senior Voucher, and SNAP/EBT programs. Individuals and families receiving these benefits can make their money go further at the market which is beneficial to both them and the farmer's.

## Farmers Market Rain Location

PAVILION







## Horticulture

AGENT: ALEXIS SHEFFIELD

With the COVID pandemic keeping many people home over the past two years, more and more families were able to rediscover homesteading skills they may not have had time or knowledge to do pre-pandemic. With this increased interest in all things homesteading, the Boyle County Horticulture and Family & Consumer Sciences Agents created a series of classes aimed at those clientele. The agents called this series Backyard Homesteading, as a way of letting people know that no matter how much land you did or did not have, you can use homesteading skills.

The series consisted of both classes and workshops including:

- Basketweaving
- Raised Bed Gardening & Composting
- Beekeeping
- Backyard Chickens
- Canning & Fermenting
- Fruit & Nut Production
- Backyard Meat Processing
- Wild Game Meat Processing
- Sewing Basics

The classes brought in expert speakers from KY Department of Fish and Wildlife and KY State University and through their workshops, allowed clientele to get hands on experience. Workshops like basketweaving, beekeeping, chicken slaughtering and breaking down a deer, had clientele reporting how much more comfortable they felt now to be able to perform such tasks. An attendee of the Wild Game Meat Processing workshop said “I’m glad you are teaching this so that younger generations can learn if they aren’t from the country.” Other participants of classes like the Raised Bed Gardening Course, left the course feeling confident with the most efficient and cost effective way to build beds and produce food for their families. A participant of the basketweaving workshop said “I now understand why homemade baskets cost so much at craft shows because they are so much work!”



## Backyard Homesteading Classes

PROJECT ROOM







## 4-H Youth Development

AGENT: KIM RAGLAND

According to the 2019 Kentucky Health Issues Poll, 52% of households in the 17 counties around Lexington, including Boyle County, keep firearms in or around the home. Of those households in Kentucky with children in the homes, 56% have firearms in or around the home. Of those, 15% reporting having a firearm in the home that is both loaded and unlocked. According to the CDC (2016), 104 American youth died of accidental death involving firearms.

Education about the safe handling, use, care, and storage of firearms is an important tool in preventing such deaths. The goal of the Kentucky 4-H Shooting Sports is to teach youth ages 9-18 about proper firearm safety and marksmanship, building safe habits and respect for the tools kept in half of all households. Boyle County educates youth about firearm safety both at 4-H summer camp and through local programming.

Boyle County 4-H teams with Lincoln and Mercer County 4-H to host a tri-county 4-H Shooting Sports Club. Ten volunteer coaches with state and some with national certifications conduct more than 50 practice sessions annually to educate youth in multiple disciplines including archery, air rifle/pistol, .22 rifle/pistol, shotgun, and black powder. The focus of all practices is safe handling and marksmanship.

The indoor range at the Boyle County Extension Office allows archery and air rifle/pistol practice to occur year-round. The other disciplines only occur May-September at the Mercer County Fish & Game farm when weather allows. In addition, the club meets monthly off the range at the Boyle County office to learn about and use standard business meetings, parliamentary procedure, leadership, communication, and teamwork by conducting business, fundraisers, field trips, and educational sessions.

In 2022, nearly 200 youth participated in Boyle County 4-H shooting sports programs, despite continuing COVID restrictions through much of the year.



## Shooting Sports Club

ARCHERY RANGE







## Agriculture & Natural Resources

AGENT: TYLER RAY

Boyle County there is over 80,000 acres dedicated to farming. To improve production practices, the Boyle County Cooperative Extension Service offers a free soil testing program for both farmers and homeowners. This program allows citizens to better understand the needs of their soil and properly manage nutrients for plant production. As well as aiding in the effort to maximize returns for farmers by not over or under fertilizing crop fields and pastures. Since July 1st, 2022, we've processed and provided detailed recommendations for 467 samples and helped many producers understand what is happening with their Boyle Co. soil. Producers and homeowners can visit the office for soil bags and have the option to checkout a soil probe free of charge. Once results are received the Horticulture and ANR agent will look at the sample and give appropriate recommendations for fertilizer applications.



## Soil Sampling

FRONT OFFICE

