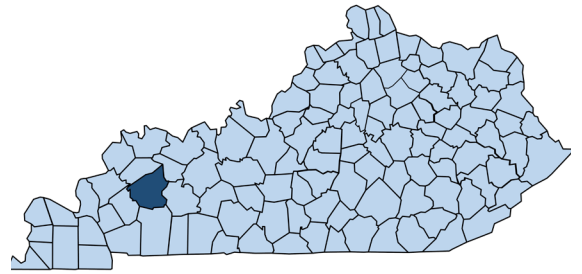


# REPORT TO THE PEOPLE



## Hopkins County 2021



**DID YOU KNOW...** During the Covid pandemic 2020, Hopkins County 4-H had 230 entries into the Hopkins County Fair.



**Website:** <http://hopkins.ca.uky.edu/>



**Facebook:** Hopkins County Extension Family and Consumer Science

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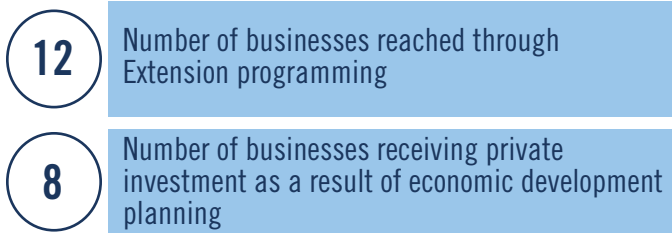
**For More Information, Please Contact us at:**

**Hopkins County Extension Office • 270-821-3650 • HOPKINS.EXT@UKY.EDU  
75 Cornwall Drive, Madisonville, KY 42431**

## Community Economic Development



Danny Peyton Outdoor Education Center and Farmers Market



## Agriculture and Natural Resources

Educating local beef producers is a high priority in the Tri-County area. Local Ag Advisory council meetings from the Tri-County area hosted discussions recognizing the need for beef producers to take herd and forage management to another level. Field days served to educate cattlemen regarding important production principles while demonstrating practices in a practical, on-farm setting.

With these facts in mind, Agriculture Extension agents in Webster, Hopkins, and McLean Counties organized and held a Regional Beef Field Day for beef producers in the Tri-County area. These field days offered producers an opportunity to see how production practices are implemented on local farms. Field days also promoted adoption of new practices that improved production efficiency while protecting natural resources, which are goals outlined in the county plan of work. Sixty-two producers indicated their desire to make changes in their operations.

In August of 2019, the Hopkins County Extension Service had a ribbon cutting on the new Danny Peyton Educational Center and Farmers Market. In a matter of months, the excitement for the market season shifted to panic as COVID-19 became present in the U.S.A. For a full year programs with Hopkins County Extension were forced to either halt or be transitioned to an online format. The same trends happened at the schools. One of the things that youth lost out on this time was their end of school dances.

Through 2020 Hopkins County saw the numbers of COVID-19 decrease. As numbers decreased the desire to hold proms and dances went up. However there was still a problem, the Health Department still felt it unsafe for a dance to be held inside. With guidance from the Health Department, local schools attained permission to use and Famers Market as a venue. Through this partnership we have been able to give a sense normalcy back to over 500 youth.



Producers Participate In A Pasture Walk.





## Horticulture



Master Gardener Volunteers at the Spring Plant Swap.



## 4-H Youth Development

Hopkins County 4-H hosted a natural resource day camp at Mahr Park Arboretum. The goal of the camp was to offer a fun and exciting way for youth to understand the impacts they have on the environment and how they can help improve it.

At the day camp, we had guest speakers from Madisonville Community College and Reptile Zoo of Kentucky. The lessons covered water usage, water filtration, soil erosion, and how reptiles play into the environment as well. At the end of the day, we surveyed the youth to gather results of their experience.

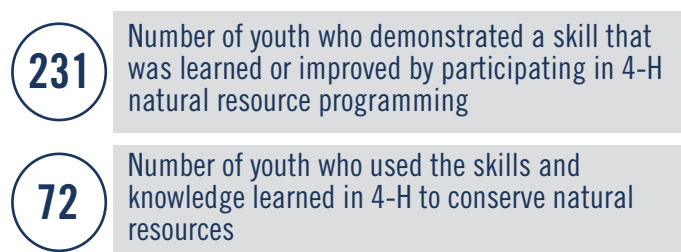
Of the 18 youth who came, 15 took our survey. We learned that of the 15 youth only 1 person had never been to Mahr Park. 14 of the youth learned something and felt they knew how to make a difference helping protect the Earth. 10 of the 15 youth indicated that they wanted to learn more about natural resources and the environment!

The purpose of the spring plant swap was to give the community an opportunity to trade plants with one another. Participants brought plants they were willing to give away and then could pick from plants donated by other participants to take home. Plants brought to the swap included the following: herbaceous perennials, seeds, herbs, vegetables, and houseplants.

Master Gardener volunteers were present at the plant swap and assisted people with plant identification and any questions they had about the care and maintenance of the plants. A survey was completed by the participants, and 100% of the participants indicated that they were happy with the selection of plants. 96% of the participants indicated that they had learned more about the different kinds of plants as a result of attending the plant swap. 100% of the participants said that they are or maybe interested in attending future plant swaps.



Kentucky Reptile Zoo



# NOTHING IS OUT OF REACH.



Healthy Families. Healthy Homes. Healthy Communities.



**Website:** [extension.ca.uky.edu](http://extension.ca.uky.edu)



**Facebook:** @UKCooperativeExtension



**Twitter:** @UKExtension



**YouTube:** @UKAgriculture

*... just a few ways Extension supports Kentucky*

- *23,971 Kentucky youth who participated in a project, activity or event in science, engineering and technology through 4-H programming.*
- *4,890 Kentucky producers adopting new technologies in agriculture production.*
- *3,399 Kentuckians who improved or maintained health from participating in gardening.*
- *3,898 Kentucky families who supplemented their diets with foods they grew or preserved.*
- *4,161 Kentuckians participating in community trail projects.*

## COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



## University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension

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