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NOVEMBER 2024

RY COUNTY ENSION SERVICE



933 Perry Park Road, Hazard, KY 41701 606.436.2044



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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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Meet Our New Staff Members!

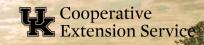
My name is Jacob Singleton, and I am thrilled to introduce myself as your new 4-H Agent! I received my bachelor's degree in Agriculture from Morehead State University in 2021, and for the past three years, I have had the privilege of working as the Program Assistant for 4-H Youth Development in Breathitt County. I hope to help all youth discover their passions and build the lifelong skills they need to succeed in both college and their future careers.

I look forward to collaborating with all of you to create meaningful experiences for students in Perry County. Let's "Make the Best Better" together!





Hello, my name is Morgan Goble and I am thrilled to be joining the Perry County community as your All-Programs Assistant! I have nearly three years of experience in extension work, previously serving as an Agricultural and Natural Resources Program Assistant in Johnson County. Originally from Magoffin County, I have recently relocated to the beautiful mountains of Leslie County with my two beloved horses, Blaze and Ezmae. I am eager to connect with all of you across our various program areas and am excited for the opportunities that lie ahead. Let's make a positive impact together!



NOVEMBER 2024

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

THIS MONTH:

- KENTUCKY MAPLE SCHOOL
- MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION MEETING
- CARBON CREDITS FOR WOODLAND OWNERS
- NOVEMBER TO-DO LIST: PREPARING YOUR HOMESTEAD FOR WINTER

Welcome to November and the start of the Holiday Season.

If you've ever thought about making maple syrup, there's an upcoming school in Berea, KY-details are in the enclosed flyer. For those in the hay testing program, the awards event will be held at the UK Robinson Center in Quicksand, KY, alongside the Mountain Cattlemen Association meeting. Also, mark your calendars for an upcoming Carbon Credits for Woodland Owners Workshop at the Breathitt County Extension Office. Be sure to check out this month's exclusive on preparing your homestead for winter, and don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions!

> Charles May County Extension Agent Agriculture & Natural Resources <u>cmay@uky.edu</u>

Charl E M



Cooperative Extension Service

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

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Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Maple Syrup Making

If you've ever considered learning how to make maple syrup, there's an upcoming Maple Syrup School in **Berea**, **KY** on **November 1st and 2nd**. Go to <u>kymaplesyrup.com</u> to register.

Mountain Cattleman's Association & Hay Testing

If you had your hay tested for the annual hay testing program and contest, we will be having an awards program on **Tuesday**, **November 26**, **2024**, beginning at **6:00P.M.** This event will be held in conjunction with the fall Mountain Cattlemen Association Meeting. It will be held at the **UK Robinson Center** at Quicksand, KY. We will be having a meal at the event, so you need to register. To register call **606-666-8812**.

For the Hay testing contest, 1st, 2nd & 3rd place ribbons will be awarded in eleven categories, Alfalfa, Alfalfa Grass, Mixed Hay, Grass and Summer Annual, Alfalfa silage, Alfalfa/grass silage, Mixed grass/legume silage, grass silage, small grain silage and summer annual silage. If you had your hay tested and cannot attend this event, your results will be mailed to you.

Carbon Credits for Woodland Owners

We will be having another Carbon Credits for Woodland Owners workshop on **Tuesday December 3, 2024.** It will be held at the **Breathitt County Extension Service Office** and will begin at **5:30PM**. Some things on Carbon Credits have changed since the last meeting and it appears that these credits are more profitable for Woodland Owners now. Call **606-666-8812** to register.



November To-Do List: Preparing Your Homestead for Winter

With the arrival of November, Winter is on it's way. Here are some things that need to be done around the old homestead this month.

Lawns need an annual application of fall nitrogen. Fertilizing your lawn in the fall will help it grow stronger, thicker and greener. Cool-season grasses should be fertilized with nitrogen in late October and again in four to six weeks. Use either farm fertilizers such as ammonium nitrate, if you can find it or urea, or use specialty fertilizers found in garden centers. The normal rate is 1 to 1.5 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of lawn. This would be equal to applying 3 to 4 ½ pounds of ammonium nitrate per 1000 square feet of lawn. Remember to spread it evenly over your lawn.

Ammonium Nitrate is almost impossible to find these days so you may have to use urea or some other fertilizer that has nitrogen in it. Just be sure you apply the correct amount for what formulation you are using. The percent nitrogen that's in the bag is the first number in the blend. Urea has more nitrogen 46% (46-0-0) compared to 34% nitrogen (34-0-0) for ammonium nitrate. You don't need to apply as much urea. 2 or 3 pounds of urea per 1000 square feet of lawn compared to the rate for ammonium nitrate. If you need assistance figuring out how much to apply, give me a call.

If broadleaf weeds such as clover, dandelion, plantain, ground ivy and chickweed are growing in your lawn, fall is the best time of year to get them under control. Almost all broadleaf weeds can be controlled selectively in turfgrass by applying a three-way mix of 2, 4-D, MCPP and Dicamba. This mix is sold in many garden centers under a variety of trade names. There are also other mixes on the market but generally are not as effective. For the best results, apply the mix on any relatively warm day in October or November.

Remember to continue mowing your lawn as long as the grass is growing. You might want to lower the height in the fall to 1.5 to 2 inches. This tends to keep the grass greener longer in the winter and will help the lawn to green up earlier next spring. It might even help increase turf density. Once you are finished with your mowing, winterize your lawn mower and lawn equipment. Empty the fuel tank or add a fuel stabilizer. Change the oil, replace belts, spark plugs, and air filter as needed. Sharpen the blades, tune the engine and clean off soil and matted grass. Then store the equipment in a dry area.

Mulch your strawberry bed with clean wheat straw once plant growth has ceased after a week of 20 to 40 F temperatures, but before temperatures plunge to 5 to 10 F. Use a bale of straw for each 40 feet of row.

Continue to water shrubs, trees and especially evergreens until the soil freezes. Plants need to go into winter with moisture around their roots. The dry weather we have been having makes this especially important this year.

Be sure to pick bagworm cases from evergreens and destroy them. They contain eggs for a new generation of pest next year.

Move your houseplants to the sunniest window. South or West exposures are usually best. Low light results in poor growth, leaf drop and increased susceptibility to over watering. Too much fertilizer and water and too little light are the main causes of poor houseplant performance in the winter.

As temperatures go down this fall, you may notice more insects around your home. Insects often retreat indoors to escape the cooler temperatures as a part of their overwintering strategy.

As pests mistake your home for a heated pile of rocks, you may see hundreds, even thousands, of insects around your home this fall and winter. The most common autumn home invaders you may see are multicolored Asian ladybeetles and the brown marmorated stink bug. Brown marmorated stink bugs tend to be the first invader with the multicolored Asian lady beetle following about a month later. The lady beetle is sometimes called the Halloween beetle for its coloration and the fact that people usually start to notice them in October.



Brown Marmorated Stink Bug



004 M. Potter University of Kentucky Asian Lady Beetle

While cooler temperatures have begun, you still have ways to pest-proof your home before pests make their mass exodus to warmer hideaways. Inspect the exterior of the property and look for gaps in windows and doors, holes in screens, openings in caulk or other sealants and fix them. Without these easy entry points, insects have a tougher time coming inside.

Pesticide applications on the outside of the home may also provide some relief but timing is crucial. When using pesticides, focus on doors, windows, utility openings and banding around the foundation. Make sure to check the label of the pesticide to make sure you can apply it to the necessary areas.

Since the primetime for pesticide application has passed, if you see clusters of pests on the exterior of your home, you may also spray them with soapy water to kill them before they start squeezing their way inside.

Once the pests have come into your home, it is best to manage them simply by vacuuming or sweeping them up for disposal. Interior pesticide applications are usually unnecessary, especially "bug bomb" type applications which usually don't reach the hiding spots of overwintering pests.

Wishing you and your family a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!



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130 Robinson Road

Jackson, KY 41301

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FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE











Welcome to November!

As we step into November, we're excited to bring you a full lineup of programs and important updates! We have a lot of great programs lined up this month, so read ahead for more details on upcoming workshops and events. Looking ahead, we have some December events in the works, so be sure to save the dates. If you're ready, you can call to register early and secure your spot.

This month's Moneywise Bulletin will feature budgetfriendly tips for pet owners, helping you manage your furry friends' needs without breaking the bank.

A quick reminder: Homemaker Applications need to be turned into the office as soon as possible. Please note that you must re-register each year to stay involved in this wonderful program.

Kelsey Sebastian County Extension Agent Family & Consumer Science <u>kelsey.sebastian@uky.edu</u>

Kelsey Lebastic

Cooperative Extension Service

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

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NOVEMBER 2024

- Upcoming Events
- Homemaker Applications
- New Recipe
- Health Bulletin
- Money Wise





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This Month's Events

<u>Charity Sewing -</u> <u>First Monday of the Month</u>

The next date is November 4th upstairs in the Perry County Extension Service office building at 9 a.m.

<u>Perry County Homemakers Meeting -</u> <u>First Monday of the Month</u>

The next Homemaker Meeting will be Monday, November 4th at 12 p.m. I will provide turkey and dressing for a traditional Thanksgiving meal. Please bring sides, desserts, or drinks. *Call the office at 606-436-2044 by November 1st to register and let us know what you are bringing.*

<u>Cooking Through the Calendar -</u> <u>Once a Month</u>

Cooking Through the Calendar explores new recipes each month. This months class will be November 7th at 11:30 a.m., and we'll make and sample a Hearty Harvest Bowl. *Please register by November 4th.*

FCS Council Meeting

Family and Consumer Science Council Members, please be on the lookout for a letter concerning our upcoming Fall meeting on November 12th at 1 p.m. We will be discussing our Plan of Work and electing new officers. Lunch will be provided.

<u> Open Sewing Day -</u> <u>Second Friday of the Month</u>

Feel free to catch up on quilt blocks or personal projects. This is open to anyone! November 8th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

<u> "Sew" Simple -</u> <u>Third Tuesday of the Month</u>

Join Master Clothing Volunteer, Nancy Pratt, as she teaches us how to use our scraps to make a quilt. This class will be held on November 19th beginning at 9 a.m. You must register by November 13th!

<u>Bingocize -</u> Dates Vary Month to Month

Want to start an easy exercise routine and have fun playing Bingo at the same time? Join us at the Perry County Senior Center for Bingocize! Come to 16 or more session and receive a prize pack upon completion. Check the calendar for upcoming dates and times!

<u>Cultural Passport Program -</u> <u>Once a Month</u>

Join us on as we explore different holidays, cultures, and countries. This month we will take a closer look at India! This class will be on November 26th at 1 p.m. *Please register by November 22nd!*

ATTENTION HOMEMAKERS!

Homemaker applications are due to the office as soon as possible! Remember, you <u>MUST</u> re-register every year to stay on as an active member!

This Month's Events

<u>Quicksand Area Annual</u> <u>Holiday Roadshow</u>

Join us at the Perry County Extension Office for the Quicksand Area Annual Holiday Roadshow on November 14th beginning at 10 a.m. This is a day filled with wonderful holiday craft projects and recipes to sample. *Please register by November 8th!*

<u>Holiday Entertaining on a Budget:</u> <u>Make & Take Decorations and Sweets</u>

Join us for "Holiday Entertaining on a Budget" on December 16th at 10 a.m.! Discover creative ways to craft festive decorations and delicious sweets without breaking the bank, and take home your handmade creations to elevate your holiday celebrations. *Please register by December 11th!*

Wits Workout - Twice a Month

Join the Wits Workout program to engage in all kinds of guided challenging puzzles, learn what you can do in your daily life to keep your brain healthy while interacting with others. This program will be offered twice a month, with this month's dates being November 11th and 25th at 1 p.m. in the Annex building. Please call our office to sign up.

Live Greenery Wreath Workshop

Join us Thursday, December 5th or Friday, December 6th at 1 p.m. for a wreath making workshop! All material for the wreath will be provided as well as bow material. There will be a \$10 fee as these wreaths will be larger than last year. Payment is due at the time of registration. You must preregister by November 25th!

Season's "Eatings"

Join us Monday, November 18th as we explore a variety of mouthwatering dinner recipes to complete your perfect holiday feast. From traditional favorites to unique festive dishes, you'll learn techniques to elevate your holiday meal and impress your guests You must pre-register by November 14th!

Summer Sausage Workshop

We will be offering a Summer Sausage Workshop in partnership with Breathitt County ANR Agent Reed Graham on December 10th. You have the option to choose between the 10 a.m. class and 2 p.m. class. During the class we will not only be creating our own summer sausage, but we will be going over how to add that sausage to your holiday charcuterie board! Snacks will be provided. There is a \$10 fee and spots are limited. Payment is due at the time of registration. *You must pre-register by December 4th!*



Enrollment Form for

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Address					
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Phone:	Home ()				
	Cell ()	1	Fax ()		
Birth year	r (Optional):				
Race (Op	tional – circle one):	White Black or A	African Amer	ican	
	Asian/Pacific Isla	inder American	Indian	Hawaiian	Other
Ethnicity	(Optional - circle one	e): Hispanic Nor	n-Hispanic		
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> Appendix 11 June 2022



Recipes from the 2024 Food and Nutrition Recipe Calendar



Hearty Harvest Bowl

- 2 cups brown rice, cooked • 1 small head broccoli, cut
- into bite-size pieces • 3 medium carrots, peeled
- and thinly sliced 1 medium sweet potato,
- peeled and diced
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 2 cans (15.5 ounces) chickpeas rinsed, drained, and patted dry
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup parmesan cheese, optional

Dressing

- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 3/4 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1. Wash hands with warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds.
- 2. Wash fresh produce under cool running water, using a vegetable brush to scrub veggies with a firm surface. Dry and cut to prepare for this recipe.
- 3. Preheat oven to 425 degrees F. Line two large baking sheets with aluminum foil or parchment paper. Set aside.
- 4. Cook rice according to package directions.
- 5. While rice is cooking, place broccoli, carrots, sweet potato, and onion on one baking sheet and drizzle with 1 tablespoon of olive oil, sprinkle with a pinch of salt and pepper. Spread out into one even layer.



Don't overcrowd the pan or the veggies will steam instead of roast.

- Toss chickpeas with the remaining 1 tablespoon of oil, sprinkle with salt and pepper. Spread out into one even layer on the other prepared baking sheet.
- 7. Roast vegetables and chickpeas for 20 to 25 minutes, turning the pans and giving them a shake from time to time. Vegetables should be slightly browned and fork tender when done. Chickpeas will be slightly browned and toasted.
- 8. While vegetables are roasting, combine Dressing ingredients in a small bowl or cup. Whisk until smooth. Set aside.
- 9 Divide ingredients into six servings. Place rice in a bowl, top with roasted vegetables, and chickpeas. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese if using.
- 10. Drizzle with dressing before serving. 11. Refrigerate leftovers within 2 hours.

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Makes 6 servings Serving size: 1 cup Cost per recipe: \$7.71 Cost per serving: \$1.29



This institution is an equal opportunity provider. This material was partially funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP.

460 calories; 17g total fat; 3g saturated fat; Og trans fat; 5mg cholesterol; 570mg sodium; 62g total carbohydrate; 14g dietary fiber; 10g total sugars; Og added sugars; 16g protein; 0% Daily Value of vitamin D; 15% Daily Value of calcium; 15% Daily Value of iron; 15% Daily Value of potassium

Source:

Brooke Jenkins. Extension Specialist, University of Kentucky Cooperative **Extension Service**

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FAMILY CAREGIVER ALTH BULLETIN Extension Service



NOVEMBER 2024

of the Adult, Youth, Parent, and Family Caregiver Health Bulletins Download this and past issues content/health-bulletins http://fcs-hes.ca.uky.edu/

NAME County (000) 000-0000 Zip City, KY 000 Street Road Extension Office

HONOR A CHILD CAREGIVER THIS MONTH'S TOPIC



is a responsibility most young kids do if their family cannot afford or find care. not have to face but some are forced to grandparent, and/or sibling or other approximately 5.4 million children, relative who is sick or has a disability. This under the age of 18, care for a parent Association of Caregiving Youth,

care and emotional support to not medications, and provide physical caregivers cook, clean, manage increased risk for health problems takes its toll, young caregivers are at loved ones who need help. As stress just one, but in some cases multiple Before and after school, young

Continued on the next page 😑

including headaches and digestive

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Continued from the previous page

result, their participation in school suffers. worry, and in some cases depression. As a issues. These kids go to school with anxiety

Young caregivers are at increased risk for:

- Inability to focus
- Earning poor grades
- Getting in trouble
- Inability to relate to peers
- Failure to participate or fully engage in extracurricular activities

out of school to care for a family member. Caregiving Youth (AACY), is concerned that young caregivers are going unnoticed. One of who founded the American Association of her studies showed that 22% of youths dropped Connie Siskowski, a nurse and researcher

be with friends, play a sport, or just breathe. support. These kids also need a break. If you know the child can have some time to complete homework offering to make a meal or help with physical care so a young caregiver, create an opportunity for rest by believes they need more financial and emotional and help kids be kids as well as caregivers, Siskowski To help ease the burden of care on young people

> the following resources for young caregivers: purpose, joy, empathy, and time management. positive impacts on caregiving youth, including The National Alliance on Caregiving recommends Proper services for young caregivers demonstrate

- American Association of Caregiving Youth: https://aacy.org
- have cancer: https://www.kesem.org Kesem, support for children whose parents
- Lorenzo's House support for children whose parents have early-onset
- dementia: https://lorenzoshouse.org
- National Alliance for Caregiving:
- https://www.caregiving.org

REFERENCES:

American Association of Caregiving Youth https://aacy.org American Heart Association. (2021). A Growing Phenomen 2024 from https://www.heart.org/en/news/2021/11/03/a-growing phenomenon-youth-caregivers-need-recognition-support Youth Caregivers Need Recognition, Support. Retrieved July 15,

HEALTH BULLETIN

Edited by: Alyssa Simms Adobe Stock Designed by: Rusty Manseau Adult Development and Aging Stock images: Associate Extension Professo Written by: Amy F. Kostelic

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

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Extension Service

VALUING PEOPLE. VALUING MONEY. NEY

Nichole Huff, Ph.D., CFLE | Assistant Extension Professor Family Finance and Resource Management | nichole.huff@uky.edu

NOVEMBER 2024

BUDGET FRIENDLY TIPS FOR PET OWNERS THIS MONTH'S TOPIC:

care more affordable. can really add up. As a pet owner, there are and ongoing expenses, like food and initial cost of the pet, one-time purchases of your life for many years. Between the decision because a family pet will be part four cost-saving strategies that can make pet vet bills, housing, and grooming. Below are throughout your pet's lifetime, including food, many financial decisions that you will make veterinary bills, the costs of pet ownership Choosing to care for a pet is a big financia

DO IT YOURSELF (DIY)

\$90 per session. The price of grooming can needed to groom your pet at home. how to brush your pet's teeth, or buy the tools expenses. Watch online video tutorials to learn (DIY) skills can help save money on these and how often it must be done. Do-It-Yourself fluctuate depending on the breed of animal and nail trims can range between \$30 and Grooming costs that include baths, haircuts

> circulars or emails, and make purchases when local vet, pet store, or rescue organization Be on the lookout for promotions at your

additional cost savings on initial pet expenses, items are on sale. Discount days can provide Note sales and coupons in weekly savings

vaccination costs, grooming, and spay or

SALES AND SECOND-HAND

neuter services.

other pet essentials (e.g., toys, crates, collars, second-hand or borrowing items (e.g., pens, priced or nonessential. Buying pet accessories deals. Avoid or limit buying items that are fullleashes) to make sure you're getting the best Compare costs at different stores for food and

also include them in the family's budget.

incorporates recurring pet costs and saving for This means developing a spending plan that part of the family, which means you should Most pet owners consider their pets to be a

unexpected pet expenses

4-H Youth Development Community and Economic Developmen Agriculture and Natural Resources Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Service Cooperative

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ormentation, genoer sectory, genoer expression, preg it or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for ma available with prior notice. Program information ma sity of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Deg

Lexington, KY 40506



HAVING A PET COMES WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE CARE FOR MANY YEARS



decision-making skills to children and youths. Protection Bureau that can teach planning and care activities from the Consumer Financial tackle together. Below are examples of pet pets offer responsibilities for the family to have a beloved furry companion, family Whether you're a new pet owner or already

Ages 3-5: Goal Setting. Practice financial toy for the pet. goal setting to save for a special treat or

crates, kennels) can also keep costs down.

Search free- and for-sale groups online or in

have that you could repurpose for a pet

before use. Consider items you may already your neighborhood, and wash or sanitize items

DISCOUNT DAYS

- Ages 6-12: Building Values. Oversee time as the family's meal. putting the pet's food down at the same
- Age 13+: Comparison Shopping deals on food, treats, and toys Compare prices at different stores to find

LIFETIME COMMITMENT

a monthly pet rent that can add to the overal care for them yourself. who will care for the pet when you're out of expense of pet ownership. Create a plan for move, pets can affect your housing options. town, when you move, or are no longer able to restrictions, require pet deposits up front, or Property managers may have animal breed inconvenient times. For example, when you provide care for many years, including during Having a pet comes with the responsibility to

REFERENCES:

financial-decisions/getting-pet/ tools/money-as-you-grow/talking-abouthttps://www.consumerfinance.gov/consumer-

FAQs/Article/3624131/pet-transportationhttps://www.travel.dod.mil/Support/ALL-

Military Famiy Spotlight

allowance/

expenses eligible for reimbursement. U.S. and \$2,000 for military relocations outside the continental U.S.). Visit the Office of change of station move (e.g., reimbursement of \$550 for one pet moved within the continental Transportation Allowance reimburses military families for costs incurred during a permanent Military families have additional financial considerations for pet ownership. The Pet Financial Readiness (https://finred.usalearning.gov/Trending/Blog/PetCosts) for a list of

Nichole Huff, Ph.D., CFLE | Assistant Extension Professor Family Finance and Resource Management | nichole.huff@uky.edu Written by: Kristen Jowers | Edited by: Nichole Huff and Alyssa Simms | Designed by: Kelli Thompson | Images by: Adobe Stock

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4-H YOUTH & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

November 2024

Hey Perry County!

I'm excited to share that we're kicking off a busy and fun-filled season of programming, and I'm looking forward to getting into the schools to bring 4-H activities directly to the students. If there's a program you'd like to see at your child's school, don't hesitate to reach out to me or your child's FRYSC contact – we'd love to hear your ideas!

Also, big news! The dates for 4-H Camp have been released, so be sure to mark your calendars and start preparing for another unforgettable camp experience.

And don't miss this month's exclusive feature on Shooting Sports! Check it out for all the details on how your child can get involved in this exciting program.

Let's make November an awesome month with 4-H!

Jocab Singletan

Jacob Singleton County Extension Agent 4-H Youth & Community Development jacob.singleton@uky.edu



Kentucky 4-H Youth Development

THIS MONTH:

- Program Updates
- 4-H Camp Save the Date!
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SAVE THE DATE 4-H CAMP 2025 JULY 22-25, 2025

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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4-H Youth & Community Development

4-H Exclusive: 4-H Shooting Sports Hit the Mark for Positive Youth Development

Young people across the Commonwealth are invited to sharpen their shooting skills while engaging in healthy competition, service, leadership and education through the Kentucky 4-H Shooting Sports program.

The nationally recognized program, which is open to all youth in Kentucky aged 9 to 18, focuses on fostering life skills and positive youth development through a variety of shooting disciplines, including:

- Archery
- Muzzleloading
- Pistol
- Rifle
- Shotgun



Each discipline is taught by a certified instructor, ensuring that participants receive high-quality education and training. Through club activities, and with guidance from knowledgeable adults, youth participants not only learn firearm/archery safety and marksmanship but also develop skills such as teamwork, self-confidence, personal discipline and responsibility.

The 4-H Shooting Sports program provides participants with a safe environment to explore their sparks, share a sense of belonging, and form healthy relationships with caring adult mentors. In the 2023-2024 program year, more than 5,000 Kentucky youth members took part, engaging with over 1,000 certified instructors across the state.

Enrolled youth have opportunities to participate through competitions and teen leadership roles at not only the county level but also statewide and nationally. The Kentucky program's annual statewide competition provides a culminating event for youth to strive for each year. Kentucky teens can also hone their leadership skills by serving as Shooting Sports Ambassadors or becoming certified apprentice-level instructors.

Since 2022, Kentucky has also taken part in the National 4-H Shooting Sports Championships, hosted yearly in Grand Island, Nebraska. Two teams (muzzleloading and shotgun) have represented the Bluegrass state in the national competition, and Kentucky plans to expand its participation to four teams (muzzleloading, shotgun, compound archery and recurve archery) in the summer of 2025.

Through participation in the Kentucky 4-H Shooting Sports program, young people can equip themselves with the tools they need to succeed—both on and off the range.

To learn more about the program and how to participate in your community, contact the Perry office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.



Kentucky 4-H Youth Development



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