

WHAT'S

21
years!

Happening!

in Kenton County, Kentucky TM

Summer/Fall 2021



Design of new 225 acre Kenton County park underway

At 225 acres, the new Kenton County Park in Independence is the largest addition to the County's park system in history. This year, Kenton County hired Human Nature to design a master plan for the park.

"We are excited to see the continued development of this new Kenton County Park, with strong emphasis on the input of residents," stated Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann. "Their feedback is critical in creating the best park in the region."

Continued on page 3

For more information about the Kenton County Fiscal Court, see pages 2-5.

In this issue:

KC Alliance: 16
KC Clerk: 20
KC Conservation Dist: 17

KC Extension Service: 9-12
KC Fiscal Court: 1-5
KC PVA: 19

KC Public Library: 6-7
KC Solid Waste Mgmt: 5
No. KY Health Dept: 15

PDS: 18
St. Elizabeth Healthcare: 13
SD1: 8
TANK: 14

Kenton County Fiscal Court makes high-speed internet available to all residents

Significant economic development victories stack up since 2020



Kris Knochelmann
Kenton County Judge/Executive

One of Fiscal Court’s top priorities is to deliver access to high-speed broadband internet to all of Kenton County’s families and businesses. That goal is now becoming a reality as Kenton County signed a contract with Cincinnati Bell to make fiber-to-the-premises available to all residents in the next 24-36 months, offering one gigabit internet to more than 37,000 addresses.

The COVID-19 pandemic fully exposed the deficiency of broadband connectivity across the Commonwealth. Broadband has become, in this time of technological innovation, an essential lifeline to education, healthcare and employment. In areas where the digital divide is greatest, residents are disconnected from services and opportunities vital to their health and welfare.

Kenton County negotiated a contract with Cincinnati Bell to assure construction of fiber-to-the-premises broadband to every dwelling in the county, from those overlooking the

Ohio River to those on the border of Grant County, in the next 24-36 months. Providing quality internet to unserved and underserved areas of our community is vital to the county’s future. As importantly, fiber-to-the-premises assures that this initiative is “future proofed” and will hold up over time!

This effort will directly address medical and public health needs through tele-medicine, as well as educational and economic support to those in need. In addition, it will provide direct access to employment, promote economic growth, and mitigate the negative impacts that COVID-19 has had on entrepreneurship and the agricultural community.

It’s a very exciting development for Kenton County, and as historic as any initiative ever undertaken here in our community. Most importantly, I believe in our people, and I know delivering fiber-based broadband to all of them will empower our fellow residents to pursue their dreams.

While we drive forward toward fiber-based broadband for everyone, we’ve also been enjoying some great successes on the economic development front. Here are just a few of the victories since the start of 2020:

- Diversey Holdings, Ltd. – 150+ Jobs / \$88 Million Investment
- R.A. Jones Expansion – 20 Jobs / \$2 Million Investment
- Protective Life Corporation – 100 Jobs / \$17.1 Million Investment
- DAV Headquarters – 175 Jobs
- IT Supply Solutions – 15 Jobs / \$1.9 Million Investment

- Gentis Solutions – 80 Jobs / \$2.7 Million Investment
- Fidelity Investments – 600 Jobs

These reflect a good mix of expansions and new-to-market projects, primarily office-based and high wage. Northern Kentucky Tri-County Economic Development (NKY Tri-ED) continues to evolve under its new leadership, but it still is recognized nationally for its work in site selection and marketing the region.

NKY Tri-ED also does strong work in supporting existing businesses, and three new initiatives are currently underway that I believe will elevate its performance.

- Developing a community dashboard to ensure that data guides our decision-making.
- Creating a strategy to ensure that land development brings high-wage jobs.
- Analyzing incentive programs to keep Northern Kentucky competitive.

Successful economic development is a team endeavor. Look for opportunities in the near future to join Team Kenton County as we work to help our community reach its full potential as the best place to live, work, and raise a family.

Kenton County Fiscal Court

Fiscal Court

Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann

Kris.Knochelmann@KentonCounty.org

Commissioner Beth Sewell - District 1

Beth.Sewell@KentonCounty.org

Commissioner Dr. Jon Draud - District 2

Jon.Draud@KentonCounty.org

Commissioner Joe Nienaber - District 3

Joe.Nienaber@KentonCounty.org

Administration: 859/392-1400



**Stay connected with
Kenton County:**
<https://i.ead.me/bcE90v>

Amber Constantino appointed Coroner



Kenton County Coroner Amber Constantino, RN, BSN, FNE

Following the retirement of Kenton County Coroner Dr. David Suetholz, Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann appointed Deputy Coroner Amber Constantino, RN,

BSN, FNE as Coroner, effective June 8.

“Amber Constantino has demonstrated clear knowledge of the responsibilities of the Coroner’s

position,” said Judge/Executive Kris Knochelmann. “Besides most recently serving as Deputy Coroner, she has over 20 years of health care experience. I am confident she will serve the citizens of Kenton County well.”

“She’s qualified, she’s got the education, she’s got the enthusiasm, and she’s got the compassion to be the Coroner in this County and I think you are going to be very pleased with the representation that she is going to give you from here on out,” commented Dr. Suetholz during Constantino’s appointment.

Amber Constantino received a degree in nursing from Good Samaritan in 1999. Prior to joining the Kenton County Coroner’s Office, she worked at St. Elizabeth Healthcare as a Forensic Nurse Examiner providing care for victims of sexual assault, human trafficking, elder abuse, child abuse, and interpersonal violence. Each patient she served as a forensic nurse required the use of triage skills as well as obtaining an extensive medical history and performing a physical examination. She also continued her education and received a Bachelor’s Degree of

Science in Nursing from Northern Kentucky University in 2018.

Constantino was appointed Deputy Coroner in 2020 where she was responsible for investigating deaths, collecting and examining history of the decedent, documenting normal and abnormal findings, identifying human remains, supervising the transportation of corpses, operating crime scene equipment, completing death certificates, and notifying next of kin. She received Certifications in Death Investigation from both St. Louis University and the University of North Dakota.

Coroners perform post-mortem examinations and investigations for a variety of death circumstances including, but not limited to, deaths that appear to be caused by homicide or violence, suicide, drugs or poisons, motor vehicle accidents, fire or explosion, or any death that is sudden and unexplained (KRS 72.025).

“I am excited and grateful for this opportunity to step into this position and serve my community,” stated Constantino. “I will embody the duties of this role with dedication, integrity, and compassion.”

Design of new 225 acre Kenton County Park underway, *continued from p. 1*

In April, Kenton County hosted the first public meeting for the project and received over 200 submissions and ideas from attendees. The second meeting was held on August 4. For those who were unable to attend the second public meeting, a copy of the presentation and survey can be found on the Kenton County website’s New Park project page at: <http://bit.ly/newkcpark>. The survey will remain

open until August 19. Paper copies are available at the Parks & Recreation Office located at Lincoln Ridge Park (420 Independence Station Road in Independence).

The final meeting for the new Kenton County Park Project will be held in the fall. Meeting information will be available on the project page.

“Transforming 225 acres into a new park is an exciting challenge

and responsibility,” Judge/Executive Knochelmann said. “This project will be the centerpiece of Kenton County’s parks system for generations to come.”

Located at 604 Independence Station Road in Independence, the new Kenton County Park is currently open to the public for recreational activities such as hiking, fishing and biking.

Project Updates:

Kenton County residents can learn more and be involved with the project by visiting <https://bit.ly/newkcpark>.



Detention Center Substance Abuse Program marks sixth year of success

Since 2015, the Jail Substance Abuse Program (JSAP) at the Kenton County Detention Center (KCDC) has worked with nearly 500 inmates a year.

JSAP treats inmates with substance use disorders and prepares them for life outside the Detention Center. The program accomplishes this by using an innovative mix of behavioral therapy, education, and medication.

KCDC handles approximately 12,000 inmates a year, with nearly 85% of them detained for drug-related issues. An average of 500 of them enroll in JSAP, with several hundred more seeking help through employment and aftercare services. The program has delivered positive results, with 74% of the participating inmates not returning to jail within a year of their release.

A follow-up study conducted by the Kentucky Department of Corrections in 2016 interviewed participants post-program and found that 52.1% did not use any illicit substances in the years since release. The study also found that 66.4% of participants were employed, 76.6% still attended recovery meetings, and 77.7% reported providing financial support to their children.

“We serve the residents of Kenton County. Our programs are designed to create a safer, stable, and more financially-sustainable community,” stated Jason Merrick, Director of Addiction Services at KCDC. “The men and women who complete our programs don’t come back to jail. They go on to be contributing members of our community by taking financial responsibility for their

families, by maintaining full-time employment, and by giving back to those who are in need.”

“These programs have shown that a different approach to incarceration can be successful in changing lives,” Kenton County Jailer Marc Fields stated. “We have, and will continue to expand, programs and services so that inmates have the opportunity to become contributing members of our community.”

According to the University of Kentucky’s Center for Alcohol and Drug Research, for every dollar spent on the treatment of substance use disorders, there is a return benefit in future reduced costs to government of \$4.56.

In this instance, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Authority (SAMSHA) is the lead funder

for KCDC’s programs, providing the majority of its annual budget. Additional support from Kentucky’s Opioid Response Effort (KORE), Kentucky Agency for Substance Abuse Policy (KY ASAP), and the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation allows KCDC to provide various levels of care, medications for opioid use disorders, and a robust aftercare programs where clients are supported through sober living, bus passes, nutritional items, and job training & placement.

Partners such as Life Learning Center, St. Elizabeth’s Journey Recovery Center, and Transitions Inc. also make the program’s holistic approach possible by bridging services as inmates transition back into society.



Above, KCDC JSAP Staff

Kenton County Jailer Marc Fields

Kenton County Solid Waste news and events

Kenton County's Trash for Cash program

Spots in the Kenton County Trash for Cash program are still available for interested federally-recognized 501(c)3 non-profit groups. Funds are limited each year and the program is first come, first serve. Applicants must have all proper paperwork completed and approved by Kenton County Solid Waste Management before beginning the program each year. This program runs from April 1 through September 30.

Learn more & apply:

<https://bitly.com/kctrashforcash>

Annual Fall Clean-Up: October 1-2, 8 am-6 pm

Location: Kenton County Public Works (420 Independence Station Road in Independence)

Clean-ups are intended for Kenton County residents only. Please

bring proof of residency such as a driver's license with current address or a current trash bill. No businesses, including side junk/ construction removal, are permitted. All participants are required to unload their vehicle.

NOT ACCEPTED: hazardous materials, chemicals, paint, liquid waste, boats, sheds, large propane tanks or cylinders, concrete, brick, shingles, or dirt.

Learn more:

<https://www.kentoncounty.org/>

Freon disposal change effective November 1

Effective November 1, 2021, there will be a \$25 per unit charge for any Freon-containing item dropped off at Kenton County Public Works. These types of items include, but are not limited to, refrigerators, freezers, AC units, and dehumidifiers.

These items will still be accepted Monday-Friday from 7:30 am - 3:30 pm. Proof of Kenton County residency will be required at drop off.

NKY Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

The Northern Kentucky Household Hazardous Waste Coalition and the Solid Waste Coordinators of Kenton, Boone, and Campbell Counties partner to host this waste collection event for residents of the three counties. The event is Saturday, November 6, from 9 am - 2 pm at the

UC Health Stadium (7950 Freedom Way in Florence).

Learn more:

www.NKYHHW.org

Please bring a completed Household Hazardous Waste Registration Form with you on November 6. This will help with the flow of traffic and reduce wait times.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT REGISTRATION FORM November 6, 2021 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

City you live in: _____

County you live in: Boone Campbell Kenton

Place a check in the box next to the type of waste you will be recycling (select all that apply).

- Batteries**
(auto, rechargeable, single-use, etc.)
- Bulbs**
(fluorescent tubes, etc.)
- Cylinders/Tanks**
(propane tank, fire extinguisher, helium, acetylene, and oxygen cylinders)
- Electronics**
(computers, DVD players, TVs, etc.; Limit of 2 TVs per vehicle)
- Hazardous Materials**
(flammables, combustibles, corrosives, fuel, kerosene, aerosol cans, pesticides, etc.)
- Oil/Antifreeze**
(all types)
- Paint**
(all types; Limit of 10 cans per vehicle)
- Toner/Ink Cartridges**

Please bring this completed form with you to the recycling event.

UC Health Stadium, 7950 Freedom Way, Florence, KY 41042



Kenton County residents take advantage of the Annual Fall Clean-up.

Kenton County Solid Waste Management

Melissa Grandstaff

Solid Waste Management Coordinator

Melissa.Grandstaff@kentoncounty.org • 859/392-1919

New and updated Library spaces

Visit the newly renovated Durr Branch in Independence for all the exciting changes including:

- New layout
- Community arts display area
- Improved reading, meeting, and remote workspaces
- Business services area with printing, copying, faxing and notary* (*appointment needed)
- Engaging children's play and hands-on activity area including a new home for the bunnies
- Outside visit the:
 - Community garden
 - Chicken coop
 - See where the Durr bunnies graze
 - Programming patio
 - Drive-thru window

Visit the Durr Branch during the Kenton County Farm Tour on Saturday, September 18 for fun programs and giveaways.

Later this year visit the Library online on the updated catalog, website, and calendar. Finding your favorites has never been easier!



Volunteers needed for book sales



The Friends of the Kenton County Public Library have started conducting in-person book sales again! The first book sale will be in conjunction with the Farm Tour at the Durr library on Sat., Sept. 18. Volunteers are needed a few days prior to each book sale to help move books from

the Durr branch to the sale location and then help set up the thousands of books available at the sale. If you are able to lift a box of books and can give a few hours of your time throughout the year, please ask a staff member or call 859/962-4000.

Did you know the Library is a how-to hub?

With your library card, you can:

- Learn how-to relax with yoga classes
- Finish a project with tools borrowed from Empower Tools
- Learn how-to navigate your job search with online and in-person classes
- Try something new like a 3D printer
- Support your business by using the oversized printer or business center

- Save money by borrowing items
- Find a new friend (book clubs, pet adoption events)
- Let loose with concerts
- Learn something new with online classes (Gale Courses)
- Learn how to take a break from the world by opening a book...

Free library cards for all Kentucky residents and those in the Greater Cincinnati area with current ID at kentonlibrary.org/library-card.



SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

All programs are no cost. Register when noted with an *. Full event list at kentonlibrary.org/events

Get Started: Begin Your Career Transition with Us*

Tues., Sept. 7 & 21, 9:30-11 am
Erlanger

Join Project Coach Sherry Mays for an orientation on getting started looking for your next job. Learn what to consider first to get yourself moving on an upward trajectory for your future.

Yoga with Rabbits

Tues., Sept. 7, 6-7 pm
William E. Durr

Join us for a gentle yoga session with our favorite Library bunnies: Luna and Lola.

Yellow Submarine String Art*

Erlanger STREAM Center
Tues., Sept. 14, 6-8 pm

Come make a string art yellow submarine to celebrate the Beatles!

Chair Yoga*

Thurs., Sept. 16, 11 am-noon
Covington & Online

Unstuck*

Sat., Sept. 18, 11:30 am-1 pm
Erlanger

Are you stuck in a job you don't like? Learn about how to navigate a new career path. Listen to stories

from professionals in varying stages of their workforce journeys.

The McCartney Project: Tribute Concert to Paul McCartney, Wings, and The Beatles*

Sat., Sept. 18, 6:30-8 pm
Erlanger

Join us for The McCartney Project (TMP) featuring Tony Burlingame as Paul McCartney. This tribute show will highlight the music of Paul McCartney, Wings, and The Beatles. Recording not permitted.

Art Supply Free Store

Thurs., Sept. 23, 4-6 pm
William E. Durr

Take your pick of our gently used materials and supplies at no cost! Have supplies you're done making art with? Bring them along for swapping!

¡Cuéntame un Cuento! / Spanish Storytime Toddlers & Preschool

Friday, Sept. 24, 10:30-11 am
William E. Durr

Acompañanos junto a tus niños a nuestra hora del cuento completamente en español mientras escuchamos historias y hacemos divertidas actividades.



Tour of St. John Cemetery

Sat., Sept. 25, 9-11 am
Off Site

Join Local History & Genealogy staff for a walking tour of St. John Cemetery and learn about the people and families of Northern Kentucky. Meet at: 1 Saint Johns Road, Fort Mitchell, KY 41011.



Cook-A-Book* Preschool & School Age

Covington
Wed., Sept. 8 & 15, 7-8 pm

9/8: "Should I Share My Ice Cream" by Mo Willems
9/15: "The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog" by Mo Willems

Join us for our cooking series where we'll read a book and then prepare a yummy treat!

Cat Yoga!

Thurs., Sept. 30, 6:30-7:30 pm
Erlanger

Relax with adoptable cats from Ohio Alleycat Resource during a yoga session led by a certified instructor. Please bring your own yoga mat and water bottle.

Kenton County Public Library



All three branches: 859/962-4000

Covington Branch Library 502 Scott Blvd., Covington, KY 41011

Durr Branch Library 1992 Walton-Nicholson Rd., Independence, KY 41051

Erlanger Branch Library 401 Kenton Lands Rd., Erlanger, KY 41018

Stay Connected! Follow the Library on these sites:



SD1 lowers storm water rates, enters third year of wastewater rate realignment

SD1 has lowered storm water rates for fiscal year 2022 while moving forward with the third year of a four-year sanitary sewer rate realignment.

SD1 Executive Director Adam Chaney noted that SD1 has taken significant steps to reduce the costs associated with both storm water and wastewater management. “We keep customers at the center of every spending decision,” Chaney said. “And a number of cost-cutting measures implemented over the past several years have allowed us to become much more efficient with ratepayer dollars.”

The monthly storm water fee for residential customers will decrease by 10 percent, from \$5.04 to \$4.454 beginning in July, and the utility will move forward with year three of a

sanitary sewer rate realignment aimed at limiting the effects of declining water usage on SD1 revenues and aligning sewer rates more closely with the actual cost of providing service.

In accordance with a plan approved by the county fiscal courts in 2019, SD1 charges a base rate for the first 2 hundred cubic feet (HCF) of wastewater treated and a variable rate for each additional HCF of wastewater treated. Under the four-year plan, as the base rate increases, the variable rate decreases.

In July, the base rate will increase from \$19 to \$23 per month and the environmental surcharge, which helps fund SD1’s Clean H2O40 amended consent decree sewer overflow mitigation program, will increase from \$6 per month to \$7 per month.



The variable rate will decrease from \$6.05 to \$5.24 per HCF. The sanitary sewer rate realignment is anticipated to result in a five percent revenue increase needed to fund the obligations of SD1’s nearly \$1 billion long-term capital program.

Depending on the total volume of water used, individual sanitary sewer

ratepayers may see their bills increase or decrease, while all storm water customers will see their storm water bills go down beginning with the August bill.

For more details about rates and fees for fiscal year 2022, visit <http://www.sd1.org/408/Understanding-Your-Bill>.

Understanding the risks of storm water inlet structures

SD1 is encouraging local residents to avoid storm water inlet structures across the region.

A storm water inlet is any device that admits surface waters into the storm water drainage system. Most people are familiar with inlets in curbs and roads – these tend to be small and connect to storm water pipes that are generally smaller in diameter than a manhole cover. Inlets that are smaller than 24 inches in diameter usually have grates associated with them.

But there are other less noticeable inlets that are much larger. These inlets take storm water away from large surface areas and are usually located away from roadways, so people might be less familiar with them. Most of the time, these inlet structure have little to do, but when rains fall, they carry water away, making them critical in the effort to control overland flooding.

“SD1 is being proactive about the risks associated with storm water inlet structures because part of our mission is to protect public health,” said SD1 Executive Director Adam Chaney. “These structures play an important role in storm water management, and we want to make sure that Northern Kentucky families have the information they need to be safe during and after rainfalls.”

Chaney said that maintenance of these inlets is very important – if debris blocks an inlet, it can stop the flow of water, which can cause flooding. With larger inlets, the flow can become strong enough to carry away a person or even a vehicle. During rainfall, never walk, play or drive near storm water inlets.

SD1 emphasizes three simple steps everyone can take to help keep their family and their community safe during and after heavy rainfalls.

1. Keep storm water inlets clear of things like trash, grass clippings, leaves and branches.
2. During rainfall, never walk, play or drive into flooding areas or near storm water inlets.
3. Be aware of severe weather warnings and watches. Take them seriously and familiarize yourself with your neighborhood so that you know where the risks are during severe weather.



SD1



1045 Eaton Drive
Fort Wright, KY 41017
phone: 859/578-7450

Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday
8 am - 4:30 pm
www.sd1.org

EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE *Changing Lives*

Kenton County Extension Stays in Touch

Your Kenton County Extension Service provides research-based educational programs in the areas of Family and Consumer Sciences, Agriculture, Horticulture, 4-H Youth Development and Community Development.

Fall programming with the Kenton County Extension Office

As we transition into our fall programs, your Kenton County Extension Service staff is working on several options to present their fall programming. Many of our programs will be back to “live,” in-person classes, while we continue to implement some virtual options as well. Be sure to note in our class listings the locations of each program. Either way, we are anxious to see you!

Many of our programs will be back to “live,” in-person classes, while we continue to implement some virtual options as well.

Did you know that your Kenton County Extension Office has many educational videos to assist you on a variety of topics for home and family? Check out our YouTube channel: @UKKentonExt or simply visit our website at kentoncountyextension.org and click on the YouTube icon.



Kenton County Nutrition Assistants Angela Baldauff (right) and Dorisa Johnson (left) welcome partnerships with agencies and individuals that may benefit from this FREE program. They are seen here presenting online and delivering materials to participants to encourage being “healthy at home.”

SNAP-Ed works in Kenton County

The goal of the Nutrition Education Program (NEP) is to reach SNAP recipients and eligible individuals with nutrition education and teach them how to plan nutritious meals on a limited budget, acquire safe food handling practices, and improve food preparation skills to have a healthy lifestyle. NEP Assistants in Kenton County pivoted programming during the pandemic to online programs and taught 1,526 participants last year. According to a national data evaluation system,

in Kenton County: 92% of adult program participants showed improvement in one or more nutrition practices and 97% also show positive change in food group choices. The program works because Nutrition Assistants reach people where they are with educational programs based on the nutritional needs of participants. To find out more about local Nutrition Education Program educational offerings, contact 859/331-1712 and visit PlanEatMove.com, [facebook.com/NKYNEP](https://www.facebook.com/NKYNEP) or [YouTube.com/UK-KYNEP](https://www.YouTube.com/UK-KYNEP) for healthy at home tips and recipes.

Don't miss the 2021 Kenton County Farm Harvest Tour

*Saturday, September 18
9 am - 5 pm*

Kenton County farms will open their farm gates to the public for the annual Kenton County Farm Harvest Tour, a festive day of down-on-the-farm family fun. This self-guided tour features some of Kenton County's finest farms, exciting interactive activities, and the chance to discover the roots of food grown in our region. On this year's tour:

- Milestones, Inc.
- Free Radical Ranch
- Kenton County Library Durr Branch
- Redman's Farm and Winery
- Poverty Hollow Farm
- Triple J Beef and Goat Farm
- Atwood Hill Winery
- Ed-Mar Dairy
- Kenton County Extension Office
- Independence Farmers' Market



Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service



“Fall into Bunco”

Join Kenton County Homemakers in this fun day to benefit our Marie Rich High School Scholarship Fund.

Saturday, September 25, 11 am - 2 pm

Kenton County Extension
10990 Marshall Rd., Covington

Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door.

Contact us at 859/356-3155 for ticket purchasing information.

Homemakers prepare prizes for their Bunco Scholarship event. The next event is Sept 25. Come join us!
EXE # 0002247

4-H Highlights



Jimmy is preparing his 4-H lamb to be exhibited at the County Fair. The livestock education schedule is included in this publication.



4-H Blazin' Bridles club members compete in an equestrian field day.

4-H Farm to Table Dinner Fundraiser

Saturday, September 11

Check-in: 6 pm; Dinner begins at 7 pm

You are invited to the Kenton County 4-H Farm to Table Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, September 11 at Honey Locust Farm. Check-in begins at 6 pm, with dinner served at 7 pm. Come enjoy dinner prepared using food from our local farms. Live and Silent Auctions will take place. Visit our website to purchase tickets. All money raised will go to support Kenton County 4-H. Cost \$40/individual or \$70/couple.



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.

CLASSES

KENTON COUNTY EXTENSION CLASS SCHEDULE

Fall 2021

Visit

www.kentoncountyextension.org
for class descriptions.

Exciting Opportunities with 4-H!

Registration required for all classes. Some classes may require a fee.
Register online at kentoncountyextension.org, in person, or call 356-3155.

County Fair Animal Projects

Sept. 21, 6:30 pm, Marshall Rd

Are you curious what it would take to show a pet or livestock project at the county fair? This information-filled class is designed to help you decide. In addition to learning about the different projects from leaders and 4-H members, you will learn about community 4-H clubs that are specific to pets or farm animals.

4-H Clover Bud Meetings

Third Thursday of each month beginning Sept. 16, 7 pm, Kenton Lands Rd

Do you have a child who wants to join 4-H but is not 4-H age? This club is for you. Children in school grades K – 3 are invited to become a Clover Bud. We will do fun activities such as crafts, cooking, and science each month.

4-H Horse Programs

All interested youth desiring to participate in horse programs must enroll in 4-H and complete six hours of instructional training to be eligible for horse participation. Certified horse hours are offered September- March. Youth must complete the educational programs during this time period. Please contact the Extension Office by October 1 to become involved in horse projects. If you are new to 4-H, please call us for additional information.

4-H "It's Your Reality"

Offered October- April to school's 8th through 12th grades.

Please call for additional information, two months prior to scheduling. 4-H "It's Your Reality" allows youth to receive a career based

on their educational goals. Participants then visit "stores" to provide for their needs and the needs of their family. The store process helps young people determine whether their career aspirations provide the income for their desired lifestyle as an adult.

4-H Livestock Educational Programs

All Livestock Educational Programs will be held at Marshall Rd on Sat., Oct. 30, 8:30-11:30 am; Thurs., Nov. 11, 6-8 pm; Tues., Nov. 23, 6-9 pm; Mon., Dec. 13, 6-8 pm; Sat., Jan. 8, 8:30-11:30 am; Wed., Jan. 12, 6-8 pm; Sat., Jan. 15 (snow date if needed).

If you would like to participate in showing livestock, beef, sheep, swine, dairy, goats, or country ham next summer, educational meetings must be completed before your animal is tagged and weighed in.

4-H Rough Riders Club

Third Thursday of each month beginning Sept. 16, 7 pm, Kenton Lands Rd

This 4-H Community Club meets once a month and focuses on projects that can be entered in the Kenton County Fair. These projects include Crafts, Fine Arts, Home Environment, Photography, and many more.

4-H Sewing Bring a Buddy

Mondays for 6 weeks beginning Jan. 24, 2022

This is the first 4-H sewing unit, completion of this class is required for youth to participate in more advanced sewing projects and special sew-

ing days. Youth ages 9-18 and an adult buddy will learn how to operate a sewing machine, choose fabric, cut out a pattern, and sew seams. Youth will complete a pillowcase and tote bag during the class. Sewing machines are provided. Participants will purchase fabric and matching thread during the class. Class fee is \$15 per youth. Please call the office to indicate interest in this class.

4-H Shooting Sports Club

Orientation/New Season begins Jan. 18, 2022, 6 pm, Kenton Lands Rd

Taking new members! 4-H Shooting Sports is an introduction to the safe, responsible use of firearms and archery equipment – a valuable life skill. Youth are trained by a certified leader on how to handle and shoot firearms safely. While competition is not the main focus, the program offers opportunities to participate in shooting events. Please call the office after Jan 3, 2022, for location details.

4-H STEM Club

Mondays, Sept. 27, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, 6 pm, Kenton Lands Rd

Interested youth who would like to complete 4-H Projects and learn about science are invited to 4-H STEM Club. Projects designed for youth 4th through 8th grade and teen volunteers are welcome. Please register online via PACE. Materials prep is needed, and group is limited to 10 youth participants.

***4-H programs are for youth aged 9-18, unless otherwise specified.**

Additional Fall 2021 Classes

Alzheimer's Disease:

Understanding the Value of Planning Ahead

Aug. 24, 6-7:30 pm, Kenton Lands Rd

Outlines the financial realities of dealing with Alzheimer's and other dementias while identifying ways to help you plan more confidently for your later years.

Understanding Alzheimer's

Aug. 25, 10 am, Kenton Lands Rd

Learn about the impact of Alzheimer's, the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia, stages and risk factors, current research and treatments available for some symptoms, and Alzheimer's Association.

WITS Workout

Mondays, Aug. 30-Nov. 15, 1-2:30 pm,

Boone Co Extension, Camp Ernst Rd

Did you know that social connectedness and intellectual engagement are two lifestyle factors that contribute to your brain's health? Engage in interactive puzzles and games to learn what you can do help keep your brain healthy. Registration required, call 859/586-6101 or visit boone.ca.uky.edu



Maximize the Flavor Series: Herbs, Spices, Salts, and Peppercorns

Tuesdays, 6:30-8 pm, Boone Co Enrichment Center, Patrick Dr

- Aug. 31: Herb,
- Sept. 28: Salts
- Oct. 26: Spices
- Nov. 30: Peppercorns

Join us as we explore history, uses, purchasing pointers, and storage tips. You may attend any or all sessions, but registration is required. Call 859/586-6101 or visit boone.ca.uky.edu to register.

Classes continued on next page

Registration required for all classes. Some classes may require a fee.

Register online at kentoncountyextension.org, in person, or call 859/356-3155.

Visit our website at www.kentoncountyextension.org for complete details.

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service

CLASS SCHEDULE, Continued

Brain Matters

Sept. 1, 9:30-11:30 am, Boone Co Enrichment Center, Patrick Dr
This 4-part series of lessons will teach participants: brain functions; exercising the brain; managing stress; MIND Diet basics and Prepare to Care.

The Grandfamily Book Club

Sept. 8, 15, 22, & 29,
10-11 am, via ZOOM
This 4-week virtual series will offer preregistered participants a free book which will provide wisdom and support for grandparents/relatives raising children through readings and discussion.



Developing a Mental Health Action Plan

Sept. 14, 6:30 pm, Kenton Lands Rd
This program is designed to help reduce the stigma of seeking help for mental health by teaching the facts, correcting our misconceptions, and knowing how to reach out to those in need. Facts, warning signs, risk factors, and resources for help will be provided.

Kitchen Appliance Series

Wednesdays, 1:30-3 pm, Boone Co Enrichment Center, Patrick Dr
Sept. 15: Air Fryers, Sept. 22: Slow Cookers, Sept. 29: Electric Pressure/Multi Cookers
Join us for any or all sessions in this series to pick up tips for selecting, using, and caring for these popular kitchen appliances. Call 859/586-6101 or visit boone.ca.uky.edu to register.

*Sessions will be repeated virtually, 6-8 pm on Sept. 14: Air Fryers; Sept. 22: Slow Cookers; Sept. 29: Electric Pressure/Multi Cookers. Registration required.

Beginning Computer Class

Thursdays, Sept. 16, 23, & 30,
3-4:30 pm, Kenton Lands Rd
This three-week class is designed for beginners with limited computer experience and will utilize Windows-based laptops. Focus will be on learning basic Windows operations and using OpenOffice to practice word processing (letters, cards, etc.). Registration required; limited to 6 participants. *This class will NOT cover MAC/Apple products.

Social Security Questions?

Sept. 23, 6:30-8 pm, Marshall Rd
Have questions on Social Security? Class will provide an overview of the basics of Social Security with an emphasis for farm owners.

10 Warning Signs

Sept. 28, 10 am, Marshall Rd
Learn about common warning signs of Alzheimer's and what symptoms to look for in yourself and others, as well as tips to approach someone who is experiencing changes in their memory, the benefit of early detection and diagnosis, and more.

Introduction to Sewing for Adults

Tuesdays, Sept. 28-Oct. 12,
9:30 am- Noon, Kenton Lands Rd
Join the Kenton County Extension and Master Clothing Volunteers for this 3-session series. We will review sewing machine basics, notions and fabrics, and finish by making a small fabric bag. There is no fee for the series, but class size is limited, and registration is required. All materials, including sewing machine will be provided.



Learn from Home: Vegetables — the Jewels of Health

Sept: Bok Choy; Oct: Eggplant;
Nov: Carrots; Dec: Beets
Vegetables are beautifully colored, nutrition filled foods. Learn in-depth information about some of these treasures. Each month you will receive a self-study package, recipes to explore four different vegetables, and a link for optional on-line video materials. You must register to participate. *Self-study package can be distributed on-line or through the US mail. *Provided by Kenton and Boone County Cooperative Extension.

Maintaining Family Traditions

Oct. 14, 10 am, Kenton Lands Rd
As families experience life stages and transitions, traditions often need to evolve to reflect the changing needs of the family. Participants will be given tools to learn how to honor old traditions and blend or create new traditions which will create stronger family bonds.

Medicare

Oct. 14, 6-7:30 pm, Kenton Lands Rd
Have questions on Medicare? Come to this class to learn about the basics of Medicare benefits from an Industry Professional.



Saving Savvy with Apps for Coupons and Grocery Lists

Oct. 19, 6-7:30 pm, Kenton Lands Rd
Learn how you can save time and money using apps. Beyond digital coupons, grocery apps can also help with lists, meal planning, comparison shopping, store loyalty rewards, and rebates.

Re-entering the Workforce

Nov. 10 & 17, 6-7:30 pm,
Kenton Lands Rd
This 2-part class will help participants interested in re-entering the workforce with tools to understand the current job market, new job application techniques, and interview do's and don'ts.

Portable Pastries for the Holidays

Nov. 12, 1:30 pm, Marshall Rd.
Small "hand pies" can be sweet or savory. Consider serving these at your upcoming holiday events. Join us for tips and recipe ideas.

What Do I Do with My Kentucky Country Ham?

Dec. 2, 1:30 pm, Kenton Lands Rd
Country ham is like no other. This Kentucky heritage food can provide a tasty addition to your meal any time of the day. Learn how to clean, plan, prepare, and preserve a whole Kentucky country ham and ham slices. You must register to participate.

Kenton County Cooperative Extension Service

Marshall Rd. (Main Office Location):

10990 Marshall Rd., Covington, KY 41015 • Office Hours: 8 am-4:30 pm, M-F

Durr Education Center: 450 Kenton Lands Rd., Erlanger, KY 41018
Office Hours: M:1-4:30 pm; T-TH: 8 am-Noon, 1-4:30 pm

phone: 859/356-3155 • fax: 859/356-0363

e-mail: kenton.ext@uky.edu

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



Follow us on social media!



Kenton County Cooperative Extension Agents

Dan Allen,
Agriculture and
Natural Resources

Joan Bowling,
Family and
Consumer Sciences

Kathy R. Byrnes,
Family and
Consumer Sciences

Diane Kelley,
4-H Youth
Development

Mary S. Averbeck,
4-H Youth Development

Linda Brown-Price,
Family and Consumer
Sciences

Denise Donahue,
4-H Youth Development

The Cooperative Extension Service is an educational organization that links the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, and Kentucky State University with area residents. They provide university resources, programming and expertise in community and economic development, agriculture, horticulture, food science and safety, family and consumer sciences, and 4-H youth development.

St. Elizabeth enhances access to cardiac care with multi-specialty outpatient building

St. Elizabeth Healthcare is increasing access to quality cardiac care with system-wide enhancements to the Heart & Vascular Institute (HVI), including the construction of a new, 67,000-square-foot facility in Edgewood and expansions to the Ft. Thomas and Florence facilities. Expected to be completed in November 2021, the new HVI building in Edgewood will bring more than 30 multi-specialty physicians and 30 advanced practice providers to one, centralized location.

“We opened the Heart & Vascular Institute six years ago with the goal of improving access to quality cardiovascular care for individuals in our region,

and since then, we’ve made impressive strides in service offerings and patient outcomes,” said D.P. Suresh, MD, Cardiologist and Executive Medical Director of the St. Elizabeth HVI.

When the HVI opened in 2015, St. Elizabeth set a goal to work with the community to decrease heart-related deaths 25 percent by 2025, coining the phrase “25 by 25.” At the end of 2020, the System reported a 12.57 percent decrease, based on the most recently available data from the Centers for Disease Control, tracking on target to meet the goal.

Over the last six years, St. Elizabeth has added specialists in

every field of heart care and adopted leading-edge technology, including pacemakers small enough to fit inside the heart, heart valves that can be replaced without open heart surgery and implantable heart pumps that extend life for patients with heart failure.

St. Elizabeth also achieved accreditation as a Cardiovascular Center of Excellence from the American Heart Association, and is the only hospital in Greater Cincinnati to hold this distinction.

To provide exceptional care all under one roof, the new HVI facility in Edgewood will include the following medical specialists and services:

- Cardiology
- Cardiac electrophysiology
- Cardiac surgery
- Cardiac rehabilitation
- Outpatient cath lab
- Advanced Heart Failure Management Center
- Structural Heart and Valve Center
- Cardiac diagnostic services
- Cardiovascular Genetics
- Cardiac Clinical Trials
- On-site lab

For more information on St. Elizabeth Heart & Vascular Institute and our commitment to cardiac care, visit stelizabeth.com/heart.

St. Elizabeth Physicians launches new NURSE NOW Helpline for after-hours medical advice

We have all been there before: it is the middle of the night or the weekend and you have hurt yourself or your child is not feeling well, and you do not know whether to seek emergency care immediately or to wait and see. From a high fever to a possible broken bone to a potential concussion, it can be difficult to evaluate how urgent the situation is and whether a visit to the emergency room or an urgent care is necessary. If only you had an expert to call to give you some guidance.

This type of question inspired St. Elizabeth Physicians to launch our new NURSE NOW helpline. Available to anyone and everyone in the community after business hours and on the weekends, simply call 888-4STE-NOW free-of-charge and a registered nurse trained to assess your needs over the phone will help determine the severity of the situation and advise you on next steps.

“The nurse can help you decide if the health concern requires immediate medical care or if it’s okay to

wait and see your provider,” says Sara Browne, Manager of Virtual Health at St. Elizabeth Physicians. “If an appointment is necessary the nurse can even schedule you for a virtual visit or in-person appointment while you are on the phone.”

The NURSE NOW helpline is available for all types of medical questions and concerns, including:

- Does my child need stitches?
- What type of doctor should I see for this problem?
- What is the correct dosage for

this medication?

- When is a fever too high?
- Should I be concerned about this rash?

Our nursing team can also consult with an on-call provider if additional expertise is needed.

In the event of a life-threatening condition or emergency, call 9-1-1. The NURSE NOW program is not meant to replace your healthcare provider or provide life-saving support.

St. Elizabeth Healthcare



St. Elizabeth Covington

1500 James Simpson, Jr. Way
Covington, KY 41011
859/655-8800

St. Elizabeth Dearborn

600 Wilson Creek Road
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025
812/537-1010

St. Elizabeth Edgewood

1 Medical Village Dr.
Edgewood, KY 41017
859/301-2000

St. Elizabeth Florence

4900 Houston Rd.
Florence, KY 41042
859/212-5200

St. Elizabeth Ft. Thomas

85 North Grand Ave.
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075
859/572-3100

St. Elizabeth Grant

238 Barnes Rd.
Williamstown, KY 41097
859/824-8240

Apply to drive with TANK

What makes TANK stand out from other employers?

At TANK, we want to help you get behind the wheel of a great career. You're not just driving a bus, you're also an integral part of keeping NKY moving, and supporting those who need our services. TANK bus operators receive paid training, competitive pay and benefits, retirement program and a supportive and positive work environment.

Enjoy a career that is guaranteed to take you places!

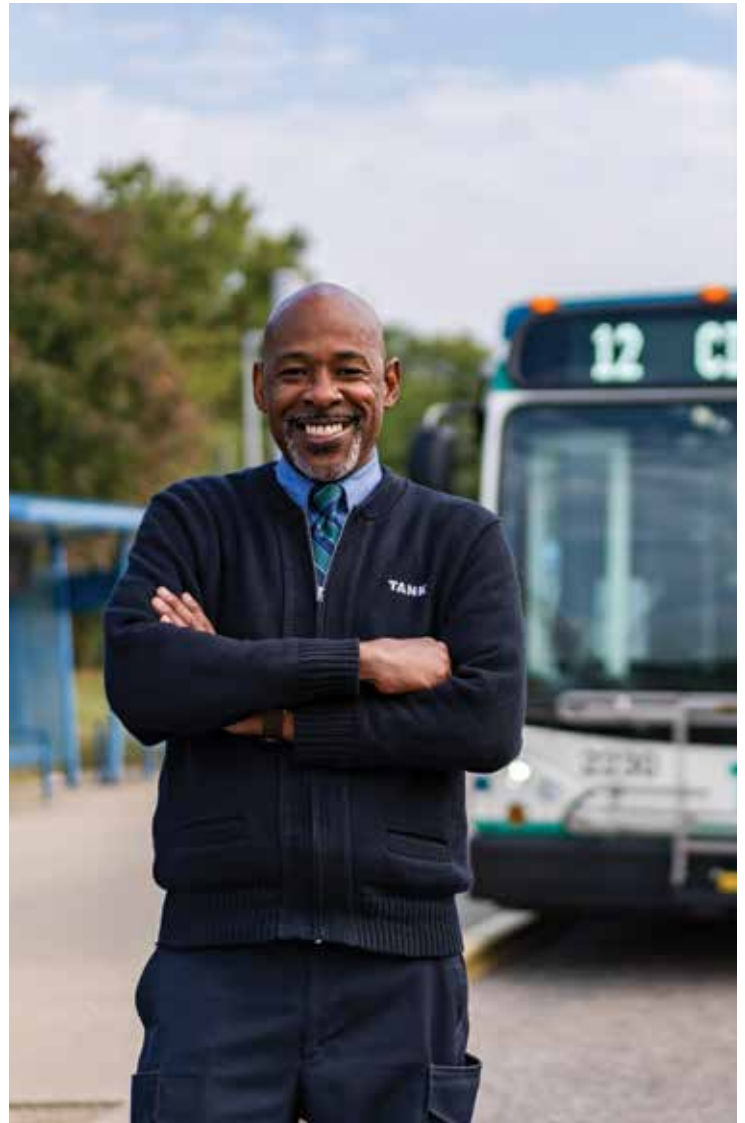
TANK bus operator pay begins at \$18.16 per hour for trainees, with raises every year for three years. You'll have a great career as you progress over three years to \$25.90/hour. Many of our bus operators have been a part of the TANK team for over 15 years and counting.

Do you have to know how to drive a bus to apply for a career at TANK?

TANK offers extensive training to all new hires. CDL Permit or License (Class B with passenger and air brake) is preferred, however applicants do not need a CDL to apply. Qualified applicants will receive fully paid training through the CDL process. Our trainers will walk you through the entire process to ensure you feel comfortable safely operating any of our buses.

If someone was interested in starting their career at TANK, what should they do?

Applying to drive with TANK is simple. Visit <https://www.tankbus.org/contact-us/careers> to apply online now.




Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky

TANK is the public transit authority that provides bus service in Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties and downtown Cincinnati.

Contact us! Phone: 859/331-TANK (8265) • Web: www.tankbus.org

Connect with TANK!



 Facebook TANK
(Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky)

 Instagram @tankbus

COVID-19 vaccine for children and teens

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends vaccination for everyone 12 years and older to help protect against COVID-19.

Why does my child need a COVID-19 vaccine?

COVID-19 vaccines help protect kids from getting COVID-19. Getting a COVID-19 vaccine will also help keep them from getting seriously ill even if they do get COVID-19.

When should my child be vaccinated?

All children who are 12 years and older should get a COVID-19 vaccine. If your child hasn't gotten their vaccine yet, talk to their doctor about getting it as soon as possible.

Are COVID-19 vaccines safe for my child?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccination provides safe and effective protection against the virus that causes COVID-19. COVID-19 vaccines have been used under the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history.

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine is now available for everyone ages 12 years and older. The clinical trial showed that the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was 100% effective at preventing COVID-19 with symptoms in children 12 through 15 years old. In addition, children's immune systems responded to the vaccine in a way



similar to that of older teens and young adults. To get the most protection, your child will need 2 shots given 3 weeks (21 days) apart.

Can my child get a COVID-19 vaccine during the same visit with other vaccines?

Yes. Your child can get a COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines at the same visit. Experience with other vaccines has shown that the way our bodies develop protection after getting vaccinated (immune response) and possible side effects of vaccines are generally the same when given

alone or with other vaccines. Talk with your healthcare provider to learn more.

Who is paying for COVID-19 vaccines?

The federal government is providing COVID-19 vaccines free of charge to all people living in the United States, regardless of their immigration or health insurance status. COVID-19 vaccination providers cannot:

- Charge you for the vaccine
- Charge you directly for any administration fees, copays, or coinsurance

- Deny vaccination to anyone who does not have health insurance coverage, is underinsured, or is out of network
- Charge an office visit or other fee to the recipient if the only service provided is a COVID-19 vaccination
- Require additional services in order for a person to receive a COVID-19 vaccine

Schedule your child's FREE COVID-19 vaccine today by contacting the Kenton County Health Center at 859/431-3345.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/adolescents.html>

NKY Health



Kenton County Health Center

2002 Madison Ave., Covington, KY 41014
phone: 859/431-3345

District Office

8001 Veterans Memorial Dr., Florence, KY 41042
phone: 859/341-4264

FOLLOW US!

- www.facebook.com/nkyhealth/
- [@nkyhealth](https://twitter.com/nkyhealth)
- www.instagram.com/nkyhealthdept/

Working to support drug free youth lifestyles

Kenton County Alliance to Prevent Substance Abuse is a substance abuse coalition working to support drug free lifestyles among Kenton County youth. Coalition meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at the Kenton County Public Library on Kenton-Lands Rd. Funding is received from the three following federal grants. Director Diana O'Toole has been working along with coalition members for the past four years to continue prevention efforts with Kenton County youth. Erlanger-Elsmere Schools continues to be a major partner in providing resources for a community wide prevention effort.

Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act (STOP Act)

The goal of this grant is to prevent and reduce alcohol use among youth and young adults ages 12-20 in communities throughout the United States. The activities implemented in the project aim to address community norms regarding alcohol use by youth, reduce opportunities for underage drinking by limiting youth access to alcohol, create changes in underage drinking enforcement efforts, address penalties for underage use, and/or reduce the prevalence of negative consequences associated with underage drinking (e.g., motor vehicle crashes, sexual assaults). KCA has partnered with Erlanger Schools, Holmes Middle School and Simon Kenton High School for many campaigns. These have included providing table games along with alcohol discussion starters for over 200 families. Our message is also being displayed on TANK buses across Kenton County. Other projects have included anti-drug slogans created by Lloyd High School Band members, and Holmes Middle School students. These have been displayed around the schools and on social media. Upcoming campaigns include refrigerator magnets that will display the dangers of being a social host for alcohol and youth. These

will be distributed to families across Kenton County. Look for our prevention messaging on TANK Buses across Northern Kentucky.

Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA)

The goal of this grant is to prevent and reduce the abuse of opioids, methamphetamines and the abuse of prescription drugs among youth ages to 12 to 18. The activities are to expand prevention and educational efforts — particularly aimed at teens, parents and other caretakers, and aging populations — to prevent the use of methamphetamines, opioids and heroin, and to promote treatment and recovery. Along with this we have continued to expand the availability of naloxone to law enforcement agencies and other first responders to help in the reversal of overdoses to save lives. Throughout the past decade we have placed eight prescription drug take back boxes in Kenton County. We have distributed over 600 drug disposal kits and provided 150 prescription lock boxes. These have been distributed at Community Health Fairs, Back to School Events and Town Halls. We have also distributed kits and boxes to foster homes, hospice outpatient centers, realtors, dental offices, funeral homes and schools. Most recently we have placed prescription lock boxes at Erlanger City Hall. We are using electronic communication through the schools and social media to promote Drug Take Campaigns. This has included signage at drug take back sites. We are also collaborating with courts to place the prescription lock boxes in at-risk homes. We are partnering with local businesses to promote prescription take back materials and boxes. Prescription lock boxes are available to limit the availability of drugs in the home. Youth (age 12 and over) report obtaining the drugs from the home of a friend or family member. KCA has prescription lock boxes and bags available, please contact Diana O'Toole if you would like one for your home or business.

Drug Free Community Grant

In December, Erlanger-Elsmere School District was awarded the Drug Free Community Grant. The Drug Free Communities (DFC) Support program was established under the Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997, P.L. 105.20. The purpose of DFC funding is to address two major goals:

1. Establish and strengthen collaboration among communities, public and private non-profit agencies, and Federal, state and local governments to support the efforts of community coalitions
2. Reduce substance use among youth and overtime among adults (specifically, underage drinking, tobacco/e-cigarettes/vaping)

Using evidence-based curriculums, youth-designed communication campaigns, family engagement and community advocacy, E3C is engaging youth as leaders, families and school staff as partners, and community members as advocates for substance prevention. Coordinator Amy Colley along with the coalition will work towards: Increasing infrastructures ensuring participation from 100% of 12 community sectors. Also Increase the number of youth receiving prevention services from 2,305 K-12 to 2,513 youth ages 0-18. Another objective will be to reduce 30-day alcohol use among students in grade 10 by 2%. Also our efforts include the reduction of 30 e-cigarette use among students in grade 10 by 2%. If you would like ad-

ditional information about E3C, please contact Coordinator Amy Cooley.



Chad Molloy

Chad Molloy, Superintendent, serves as Director for several of the prevention grants. "Substance Misuse

Prevention education in our schools is vitally important to meeting the mission and vision of the Erlanger-Elsmere Schools. Through prevention education we are eliminating an obstacle for many of our students that will allow them to reach their fullest potential," Molloy said.

Free confidential, 24/7, 365 day a year help for individuals and families facing mental/ and or substance misuse disorders.

TEXT CRISIS LINE
KY741741

SAMSHA's National Helpline
1-800 662-HELP

For more information:
Contact diana.otoole@erlanger.kyschools.us
or amy.cooley@erlanger.kyschools.us

Kenton County Alliance



Working to protect our natural resources

Kenton County Conservation District (KCCD) has been working hard to protect and restore the land, in conjunction with making areas compatible for public use. Morning View Heritage Area is open for passive recreation, including hiking, nature walks, wildlife viewing and bird watching. Take a hike on one of our four trails, ranging from easy to moderate difficulty. Do not miss the breathtaking view from the top of one of our trails of the entire Morning View valley or hike our easiest trail that loops around our five constructed wetlands. See the kiosk at the parking area for rules and open areas.



Visit the Morning View Heritage Area!

15168 Decoursey Pike, Morning View, KY 41063
Open to the public – 7 days a week from dawn till dusk!

Conservation District provides assistance

The Conservation District provides assistance to everyone, including homeowners, businesses, schools, organizations, and cities and other local governments, including: Natural Resource Management Programs, Cost-Share Funding, Equipment Rental, and Educational Workshops. Contact the Kenton County Conservation District for additional information.

The Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Programs. These programs help to plan, design and install much needed best management practices to protect soil resources and water quality on thousands of KY farms. These annual cost share funds are

administered by Conservation Districts with priority given to animal waste related problems and agricultural district participants where pollution problems have been identified.

Technical and Program Assistance provided by/with NRCS. Technical Assistance is provided through our federal partner, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). County residents receive assistance with conservation planning, rotational grazing, forestry practices, storm water runoff, sediment control and other conservation needs. The Conservation District, NRCS, KY Department of Fish and Wildlife, and KY Division of Forestry all work together to assist landowners with programs under the Federal Farm Bill.

Agricultural Districts.

This voluntary program allows farmers to form special areas where agriculture is encouraged and protected. Benefits include the right to have property taxed at its agricultural value and protection from annexation without the landowner's permission.

Dead Farm Animal Program.

Cost share assistance is available to farmers for the haul bill for removal and proper disposal of fallen livestock from farms in Kenton County. Contact KCCD for additional details.

Farm Dump Removal Assistance Program.

Cost share assistance is available to help farmers clean up farm dumps. If application is approved, participants are responsible for 25% of the cost of cleaning up the dump. Reimbursement will be made after the work is completed. Reimbursement is limited to 75% of the total cost for the clean-up and restoration of the site up to a maximum of \$1,875.

National Conservation Foundation Envirothon

In mid-April 2021, the Kenton County Conservation District welcomed Teacher Melissa Stolz and her AP Environmental Science class from Lloyd Memorial High School to Martin Woods (owned and operated by KCCD) located in Erlanger, KY for a day of hands-on Envirothon training. Professionals provided expert knowledge on forest ecology and wildlife to help coach and guide the students learning experience. This hands-on training was an introduction for the annual Envirothon Spring Competition. The class formed two Envirothon Teams to represent Kenton County at the Envirothon Spring Competition. Teams compete locally, and winners advance to the state competition. Top teams head to the North American Envirothon, a week-long competition hosted by one of the states, provinces, or territories in North America, where scholarships and prizes are awarded.

Want to know more on how to form an Envirothon Team?

Contact the Kenton County Conservation District for details!

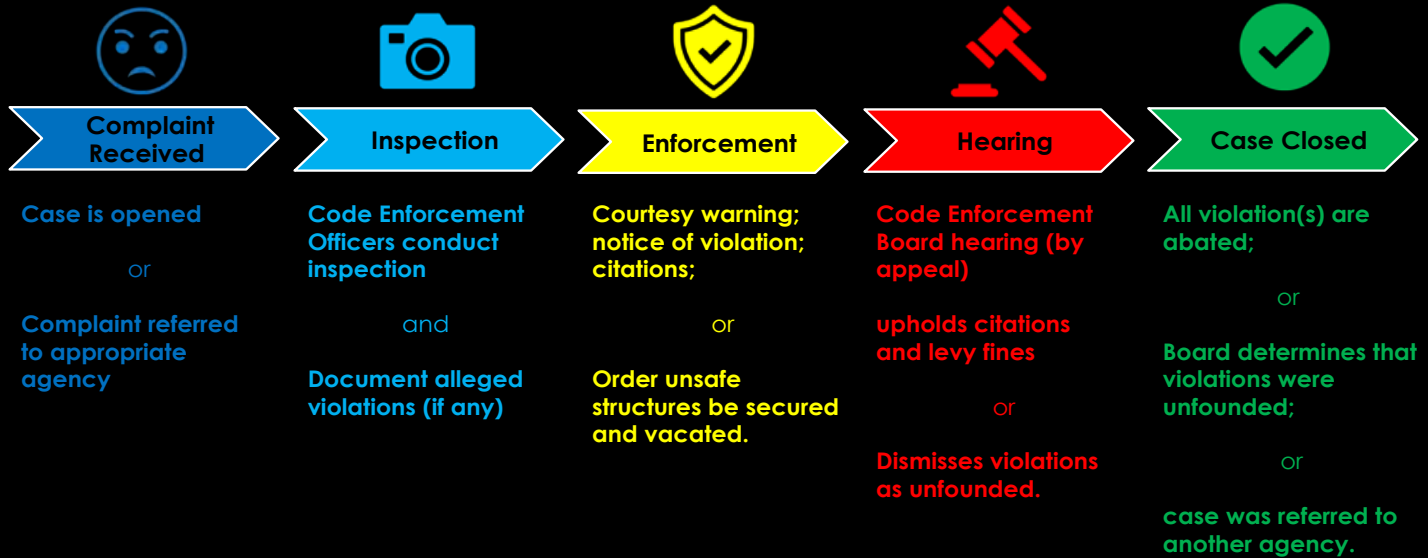


Kenton County Conservation District

5272 Madison Pike, P.O. Box 647
2nd Floor, Independence Courthouse • Independence, KY 41051
Phone: 859/356-1019

Inside PDS: Breaking down code enforcement

What happens when I submit a concern to the Code Enforcement Department?



The enforcement phase and hearing phase may not be a part of every case. After a hearing, a case can transfer back to enforcement for additional action. A case may be closed at any point in the process; however, cases are not normally closed until all violations have been abated.

If you have any questions about the Code Enforcement process, please contact us at 859.331.8980.



Planning and Development Services of Kenton County (PDS) is a governmental agency which handles subdivision creation and development, GIS mapping, and planning, zoning and building issues for jurisdictions within Kenton County. One primary responsibility of PDS, which is often misunderstood, however, is code enforcement.

How does code enforcement work?

With the exception of Covington, Erlanger and Fairview, all Kenton County cities rely on PDS code enforcement for perceived violations to a zoning ordinance, city nuisance ordinance or property maintenance code. Except in extremely rare situations, PDS Code Enforcement officials do not actively patrol for code violations, but respond to complaints from citizens. Complaints include excessively tall grass, vegetation overhanging a public

right of way, accumulation of garbage on a property, a property that is in disrepair or abandoned, and inoperable or improperly stored vehicles.

One of the biggest code enforcement misconceptions is that after a complaint is filed, things will be rectified immediately. Code Enforcement officers take every complaint seriously, but there is a process with legal constraints (see graphic) that must be adhered to. While it may seem like the problem isn't being addressed, it is. The process just takes time.

PDS Management Board Vice-Chair and Mayor of Independence Chris Reinersman acknowledged addressing code enforcement violations can sometimes take a while without the cooperation of the property owner in question.

"It's all about property rights," Reinersman explained. "Essentially we're telling people what they can and can't do on their own property. While it's your own property, how you use it

or how you maintain it affects other people, their enjoyment of their own property and the value of their property. We have to balance that against people's personal property rights."

Reinersman said the process exists in part so government can't foreclose on a property, for instance, just because the grass hasn't been cut. By state law, a property owner in violation must be afforded time to correct the problem. Reinersman's suggestion to streamline the process is for property owners to correct any issues so fines won't be levied, and he urges patience with the process.

"We understand you've called in a complaint and have to look out your door every day and see the problem, but we can't just fix it," said PDS Certified Code Enforcement Officer Rob Himes. "It's a civil process and everyone is afforded due process. We're doing everything within our scope of abilities to get things rectified, but it takes a collaborative effort between

us, the respective jurisdiction and the property owner. Unless something constitutes an immediate threat to the health and safety of adjacent properties or persons, we can't abate the issue."

Citizens may report suspected violations by calling 859/331-8980 or by emailing codes@pdskc.org. For more information on PDS and code enforcement, visit <https://www.pdskc.org/>.

PDS of Kenton Co.

1840 Simon Kenton Way
Suite 3400, Covington, KY 41011

859/331-8980

Hours: M-F, 8 am-5 pm

Facebook.com/PDSKC

Twitter@PDSKC

LinkedIn@PDSKC

News from the PVA

Property review

In accordance with Kentucky statute, the PVA office is required to physically inspect properties at least once every four years. For assessment year 2022, the PVA office is reviewing properties in the cities of Bromley, Covington, and Ludlow.

Field photographers

The PVA Office is currently updating its exterior photos in Bromley, Covington and Ludlow. PVA representatives carry identification, wear PVA attire and are in officially marked PVA vehicles. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call our office at 859/392-1750.

Inquiring minds want to know...

“What does the PVA do”?

PVA is the acronym for Property Valuation Administrator. One of the many functions of the office is to equitably assess property in order to allow for “ad valorem” (according to value) taxation. Section 172 of the KY Constitution requires the PVA to assess all property at 100% of Fair Cash Value (FCV) as of the statutory assessment date, which is January 1 of each year. FCV is the estimated price a property would bring at a fair



and voluntary sale between a willing buyer and a willing seller, with neither party under duress, given a reasonable amount of time on the market.

Keeping track of ownership changes, maintaining parcel maps, updating building characteristics, administering proper exemptions for real property, and receiving and recording all self-declared tangible personal property returns are continuing duties of the PVA Office.

“What doesn't the PVA do”?

The PVA does not set tax rates, estimate or calculate tax bills, make laws affecting property owners, or determine the total amount of tax revenue necessary for any taxing districts.

Help ensure our information is up-to-date

Did you receive a doorknobber? Our office works hard to collect accurate information about every property in Kenton County and our

Homeowners (residing in their homes as of January 1) who will be 65 or older this year or receive 100% total permanent disability may be eligible for the Homestead/Disability Exemption, which reduces the net taxable value of your home. Please visit our website at www.kentonpva.org to apply. It is not necessary to wait until your birthday — **APPLY NOW!**

best source is you! Please visit our website and help us by providing the following information:

- Number of bedrooms
- Number of full baths and half baths
- Type of heat & whether you have central air
- A percentage estimate of the basement that is finished.

Your assistance will help ensure a fair and equitable valuation for our entire county.

Kenton County PVA



WE'RE HERE TO SERVE YOU!

Darlene M. Plummer - Kenton County Property Valuation Administrator

Covington Office Hours (1840 Simon Kenton Way, Suite 3300): M-F: 8:15 am - 4:15 pm
Ph: 859/392-1750 • Fax: 859/392-1770

Independence Office Hours (old Courthouse; 5272 Madison Pike): M-F: 8 am-4 pm, closed noon-1 pm
Ph: 859/392-1678 • Fax: 859/392-1681

Mailing Address/Email Address:

1840 Simon Kenton Way, Suite 3300, Covington, KY 41011-2999 • info.kentonpva@kentoncounty.org



The PVA Office is pleased to announce its new-and-improved website! Please visit us at www.kentonpva.org. We hope you will find our new modern website much easier to navigate. If you have suggestions on content you would like to see, please don't hesitate to let us know.

©2021 All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. WHAT'S HAPPENING!™ is published by Rivertown Communications, www.whatshappeningnews.com. Although all information is believed to be reliable, Rivertown Communications cannot guarantee the accuracy of information presented in this publication. All articles are submitted and approved by participating organizations and do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the publisher.

Visit www.whatshappeningnews.com for all the news in Boone, Kenton, Campbell and Oldham counties

Kenton County Clerk

Here's how to make your visit to the Clerk's Auto Department faster and more productive

“Since reopening on June 1, 2020, we have been experiencing long lines due to COVID and a high volume of car transfers,” said Gabrielle Summe, Kenton County Clerk.


Here are some tips and tools to make your visit to the Clerk's Auto Department faster and more productive.

Renewals: Must have paper copy of your KY insurance valid within 45 days of the date of renewal. If your insurance is in a digital format please e-mail to KentonCountyClerk@ky.gov prior to your visit.

Transfers: Must have a paper copy of KY insurance and a state-issued ID to complete the transfer. If the car has an out-of-state title, it must have a sheriff's inspection which is \$5. Leased vehicles do not require an inspection.

Visiting the Auto Department? Get in line without leaving your car.

Here's how. When you get to the office you want to visit open your camera app and hover over the appropriate office QR code. Tap the



Hover over this QR code to avoid the lines for car renewals.

box that pops up to check in. OR, text your name to (859)-217-4504 (Independence) or (859)-217-4567 (Covington) and follow the link in the text message. We'll text you when it's your turn. Feel free to wait in your car.

Don't have a smart phone? Don't worry, we have kiosks at each office.

over the QR code above and renew online. Most cars can be renewed online unless there is a change of address or any delinquencies owed on a car. Currently, boats and leased cars can't be renewed online.

Need to get something to the County Clerk's Office?

DROP IT OFF: DROPBOX @ 1840 Simon Kenton Way, Covington

MAIL IT: P.O. Box 1109, Covington, KY 41011

Hover over the QR code for the office you are visiting.



INDEPENDENCE
Text (859)-217-4504



COVINGTON
Text (859)-217-4567

Avoid the lines for car renewals

To avoid the lines for car renewals, go to drive.ky.gov or use the camera app on your phone, hover

Kenton County Clerk

Kenton County Clerk: Gabrielle Summe
1840 Simon Kenton Way, Suites 1100, 1101 & 1300 • Covington, KY 41011
PO Box 1109 • Covington, KY 41011
859/392-1600