

WHAT'S *Happening!* in Oldham County, Kentucky™

25
years
of good
news!

Fall/Winter 2021/22

Oldham County Aerial Response Team

A huge 'Thank You' to Rogers Group of Brownsboro for providing \$40,000 for advanced equipment for a new Oldham County Aerial Response Team. The team will be using cutting-edge drones to improve the effectiveness of our on-the-street First Responders, primarily police, fire and EMS.

Complex drones, with high-powered search lights, aerial speakers, and sophisticated measuring equipment will be able to observe heat intensity and logistics at structure fires, conduct search and rescue efforts more effectively, manage traffic problems and engage in other activities which will benefit from an 'eye in the sky'.

Team equipment also includes multiple digital screens and a 17' trailer, donated by Ballardsville Fire. Drone team training will be managed by Ryan Baker, Deputy Chief at Ballardsville, an airline pilot and licensed drone trainer who brought forth the idea. Our salute to Rogers Group and Ballardsville Fire!

For more information about this and other news from the Oldham County Fiscal Court, see pages 5-8.



Aerial Response Team trailer with Ballardsville team and drone

In this issue:

Baptist Health: 4
City of La Grange: 8-9
Coalition for a Healthy
Oldham County: 2-3

Currys Fork Watershed: 8
OC Cooperative Extension
Service: 10-11

OC Fiscal Court: 1, 5-8
OC Health Department: 13
OC Public Library: 14-15

OC Soil & Water
Conservation District: 11-12
OC Water District: 16

Social norms messages/Alcohol prevention

- **87% of Oldham County students in 10th grade have not drunk alcohol in the past 30 days. (KIP 2018)**
- **95% of Oldham County students in 10th grade believe their parents think it is “wrong” or “very wrong” for them to drink alcohol regularly.**
- **95% of Oldham County adults believe that youth alcohol use once or twice a week is harmful. (Community 2021)**

Why these statistics matter

Many teens think that substance abuse is a lot more common among their peers than it actually is. The “everyone is doing it” mindset can make it difficult for teens to say “no” in moments of peer pressure. Knowing that most teens their age

AREN'T using substances can help ease that pressure.

Parents have a significant influence on whether their kids drink. Talking to your kids early and often can help them make healthy choices.

Visit The Dinner Table Project and SAMHSA for more information on building healthy, resilient kids. <https://thedinnertableproject.org/> and <https://www.samhsa.gov/>

KIP Data/Community Survey

Kentucky Incentives for Prevention (KIP) Student Survey is a bi-annual survey taken by most 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade students in Oldham County – including all middle and high schools. These results are from the 2018 KIP Survey. The Oldham County Community Survey is an online survey conducted every three years and open to all Oldham County residents. These are results from the 2021 Community Survey.



Visit The Dinner Table Project and SAMHSA for more information on building healthy, resilient kids. <https://thedinnertableproject.org/> and <https://www.samhsa.gov/>



The Dinner Table Project Mission — Benefits of eating together

The Dinner Table Project was created by Four Rivers Behavioral Health Regional Prevention Center in 2015 with the basic idea that families that eat together have better relationships. If children have better relationships with their parents and siblings, they are less likely to try drugs and alcohol. Then we found out that the children of families that share meals together also have better academic performance, higher self-esteem, a greater sense of resilience, lower risk of teen pregnancy, lower risk of depression, lower rates of obesity, and a lower likelihood of developing an eating disorder! We also wanted to incorporate the Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets that young people need to succeed.



Sign up for The Dinner Table Project monthly Newsletter and Table Talk for ideas, tips and recipes to make your family dinner time a success!

<https://thedinnertableproject.org/>



Baptist Health La Grange completes patient-first Emergency Department renovation

At Baptist Health La Grange, we know a day in the Emergency Room might be the most difficult day of your life and we're dedicated to making that experience the best it can be. Our life-saving care is there for you no matter what emergency you face, and we have expanded and renovated the space to make you as comfortable as possible while you're there.

The \$5.8 million project includes an overhaul of the existing space and a 4,418 sq. foot expansion — giving us more treatment rooms and a larger area for you and your family. Patient input was top-of-mind throughout the design process. The finished space houses 12 all-private treatment rooms, which are bright, spacious and calming. Natural light is incorporated throughout, along with additional restrooms and two new treatment bays to fast-track low-acuity patients. The lobby has been revamped complete with technology charging stations.

The new space was officially opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in July. La Grange Mayor John Black and Oldham County Judge-Executive David Voegele each issued proclamations to commemorate the occasion. The ER stayed open throughout the project, which launched in January 2020, and finished on-schedule despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

In situations when every second counts, you have the advantage of one of the fastest door-to-doctor times possible at Baptist Health La Grange. Our emergency medicine physicians are seasoned veterans with decades of experience handling the most demanding situations—a medical

team at their best when you need them the most.

These doctors have access to a full array of diagnostic imaging and testing, in-house and available just down the hall, not in a separate facility. When you come here, there is no congestion or hassle to get in and out. Our employees are your neighbors, friends or someone you may run into at the grocery store. In our building, taking care of patients is family taking care of family.

While it's a trip you never hope to make, the Emergency Department at Baptist Health La Grange is

always open to serve our family in the community and we're ready to welcome you into our new home.



Baptist Health La Grange



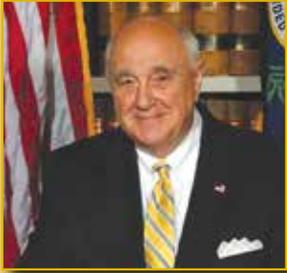
BAPTIST HEALTH

LA GRANGE

Patient Information: 502/222-5388 Physician Referral: 502/222-3627

From the desk of Judge/Executive David Voegele

County has many projects underway



David Voegele
Oldham County Judge/Executive

With fall of 2021 upon us, Oldham County government has many projects underway. One of the challenges of my job is to keep our community informed with accurate information. In this issue of What's Happening, I would like to bring you up-to-date on some of the projects I am asked about most frequently.

County-wide broadband

For the past year and a half, we have been working with Lit Communities, an Alabama-based consultant to develop and implement county-wide high-speed broadband. Although the exact number is unknown, we believe we have more than 2000 homes in Oldham County without broadband. Multiple companies have been interviewed and reduced to a remaining few, as we study proposals for providing the best service possible.

Initially, Fiscal Court thought it may be necessary for the County to invest as much as \$10 - \$12 million to help extend access to everyone. With assistance from recent federal funding, actual county dollars invested should be much less.

Currently, vendors are considering our proposal for build-out funding assistance and we expect

all proposals to be returned prior to the end of October. After that, a vendor will be selected and a plan of action announced. Implementation will be staggered, but our goal is to have county-wide coverage available to everyone by the end of 2023.

Body cameras – Oldham County Police have them

For protection of our officers and persons stopped by them, Oldham County police are now using body cameras. After testing products from four companies, Axon BWC was chosen as the device that best met the department's performance and cost requirements.

The cameras were put into operation in July. They were able to quickly prove their value when an initially unidentified subject, in a stolen car, fled from an officer. By showing still photographs from the officer's camera to outside agencies, police were able to identify and apprehend the subject and bring necessary charges.

By the end of the year, all police vehicles will be equipped with automation to work seamlessly with the cameras. Cameras are continuously 'on', but fully activated only during a call for service or if an officer deems it warranted. Recorded material is being kept in storage according to regulations



For protection of our officers and persons stopped by them, Oldham County police are now using body cameras.

issued by the Kentucky Department of Archives.

Courthouse construction

Many people believe the entire courthouse is historic, but that is not the case. Most (80%) of it was built in the mid-90s. Demolition of the adjacent former county jail and the 1995 section of the courthouse is underway. The oldest section of the courthouse, dating to the 1830s, including the cupola atop the building, will be saved and moved twice before being set down again on a new, reinforced concrete pad, sometime in the Spring.

The interior of the saved section of the courthouse will be completely re-done and will continue to serve as the main entrance to a new two-story building that will span the entire north side of the courthouse block, from 1st to 2nd Streets.

The project is being managed by locally-owned Wehr Constructors. The courthouse, anticipated for completion by the fall of 2024, will be named the Oldham County Judicial Center.

I-71 ramps at Louie Dampier Bridge

Final elements are being completed by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet before bids

go out to contractors in the spring of 2022 for construction of north and south ramps to I-71 for the Louie Dampier Bridge. New ramps are expected to have a significant impact on business expansion in Oldham Reserve. Beginning construction of the new ramps is dependent on LG&E completing a previously prioritized project, but hopefully we will be using the ramps by the fall of 2023.

US 42 Widening

After a long and tiresome delay, the last legal challenge — this from a homeowner in the Countryside subdivision — to widening US 42 from the county line to Ridgemoor Drive has been settled. KYTC has engineering plans complete but is now waiting for LG&E to move utilities. Because the length of time needed to settle the final legal action lawsuit could not be predicted, we are now waiting for LG&E to complete other projects the utility was forced to schedule ahead of the work needed to widen US 42. KYTC is working to advance the date to move utilities, but no firm date has yet been established.

Railroad crossing Crestwood

Because truck drivers either do not see our warning signs or refuse to believe them instead of their GPS, the rail crossing on Highway 329 in Crestwood has been a nightmare for some time, with many large trucks getting stuck on CSX tracks. Multiple meetings have been held to address the problem, but progress has been slow.

Continued on page 6

MANY PROJECTS UNDERWAY IN THE COUNTY, continued from page 5

The tracks belong to CSX which has raised them over the years, but refuses to lower them. The road is part of the state highway system which runs through Crestwood. Because of limited crossings in the city, Crestwood officials have opposed closing the street. In the past, KYTC has not been willing to do more than provide approved-design warning signs. However, there may be better news ahead. KYTC has recently hired an engineering firm to develop a solution.

New animal shelter

The care given to animals is important and reflects positively or negatively on us as a community. Our existing cement block animal facility on Jones Drive is worn out.

Earlier this year, the fiscal court Building Committee hired a Louisville firm, Architectural Investments to design a new animal management facility for dogs, cats and occasionally larger animals that come under our care. The new facility will be on Hwy 393, opposite the Oldham County High School football stadium. Encompass Design of LaGrange has been hired as the construction manager. A budget for the building is still under consideration.

School traffic

Safety of our children as they come and go from school is a priority. With the coronavirus and mask requirements, a significant number of parents are now

driving their children to and from school and traffic has never been more complicated. Everybody is complaining about it!

Because all of our schools are on state highways, many of which are either very narrow or very busy, developing solutions to this problem is not quick nor easy.

State funding has been provided for improving the area around Harmony Elementary. In addition, I have asked fiscal court for permission to hire an engineering firm to study and make recommendations for the congestion near Oldham County Middle and High School area on Highway 146 between Cedar Point Road and Hwy 393.

Because of the speed allowed on Veterans Memorial Parkway, during both school and other hours, getting out of Kenwood Elementary and South Oldham High School can be dangerous. Consequently, I have also asked KYTC to lower the maximum speed allowed in the school zone during school hours from 45 to 35 mph.

If you have questions about these or any other County projects, I encourage you to call my office. Please do not depend on social media for correct information. It is usually incomplete or simply wrong.

David Voegele

Oldham County Recycling Center Is Open seven days a week from dawn to dusk!

3943 Jones Drive across from Oldham County High School

The Oldham County Recycling Center accepts these clean, loose recyclable materials:

- Flattened cardboard – no foam or plastic packing;
- Paper meant for reading or writing – no napkins, tissues, etc;
- Clean metal food and beverage containers;
- Clean rigid plastic containers – no bags, toys, foam;
- Electronics – no televisions.

This is a free drop-off facility, open from dawn to dusk, 7 days a week. Video-monitoring is used and enforced. Please observe physical distancing while using the facility.



In order to adhere to CDC and OSHA guidelines for safe handling of materials to prevent COVID-19 transmission, all materials must be clean, dry, and loose. Items dropped off in plastic bags of any kind will not be recycled.

If in doubt about any item, please call 565-1007!

Upcoming Events & Activities • 502/225-0655

Additional information and online registration are available at www.oldhamcountky.gov.

Follow us on Facebook: "Oldham County Parks and Rec"

Rollin' on the River Food Truck Festival

October 2, 11 am-5 pm

Food trucks, live music, kids play area and craft beer on the banks of the Ohio River! Join us at scenic Schamback Park in Westport for our second annual Food Truck Festival.

Halloween "Spooktacular" Truck or Treat

October 17, 3:30-5 pm

Our FREE Halloween event will be held in the lower parking lot at Wendell Moore Park. Hayrides, a costume contest for kids, and a safe trick or treating highlight the event. Treats are available for all kids!

Skeleton 5K Run/Walk

October 17, 2 pm

Skeleton 5K Run/Walk will be held on Sunday, October 17 at Wendell Moore Park beginning at 2 pm. Prizes are given in a variety of age groups. Early registration costs \$25, late registration is \$30.

Youth Basketball League

Registration for our popular youth basketball program runs through November 2. We offer an 8-week season plus a season-ending tournament for boys and girls in grades 1-4. \$50 per child. All practices and games are held on Saturdays beginning in January.

360° Chiropractic "Turkey Trotter" 5-Mile Run/Walk

November 20, 8 am

Come take on our unique course at the annual 360° Chiropractic "Turkey Trotter" 5-Mile run/walk on Saturday, November 20, beginning at 8 am. The run/walk will start and finish at Wendell Moore Park in Buckner. Early registration is \$25; late registration (November 1 - race day) is \$30. Prizes are given in a variety of age groups and all participants receive a T-shirt. Volunteers needed for this event, call us to help out!

Letters from Santa

December 1-14

The Oldham County Parks and Recreation Department has made arrangements with the North Pole Post Office to have Santa contact your child by mail during the holiday season. Go to www.oldhamcountky.gov to print off the Santa Letter information form. Due to Santa's busy holiday schedule, letters can only be mailed December 1-14.

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 4, 8-11 am

Food, fun, and a visit from the Big Guy in Red! Join us at the John W. Black Community Center for this great community event and start a new holiday tradition. Be sure to bring a new toy to be donated to "Toys For Tots"!

Father/Daughter Dance

January 28 & January 29

This event has become so popular, we're now offering two nights, Friday, January 28 & Saturday, January 29! Dads and their best girl (or girls) can come out to the John W. Black Community Center for a fun-filled night of dancing and contests. A live D.J. and refreshments from the Louisville Chocolate Fountain accentuate the evening as well as a photographer for capturing this special moment. The \$20 per couple cost includes a rose for your date. For multiple daughters, add \$5 each. Tickets go on sale December 1 and must be purchased by January 25 at 4 pm. Maximum of 75 couples per night.

"Clover Leaf" 5K Run/Walk

Thursday, March 17, 6:30 pm

Join us for the annual "Clover Leaf" 5K run/walk on Thursday, March 17, beginning at 6:30 pm. The run/walk will start and finish at Briar Hill Park. Early registration is \$30; late registration (including on race day) is \$40. Prizes are given in a variety of age groups and all participants receive our famous "Clover

Leaf" T-shirt. Volunteers needed for this event, call us to lend a hand!

U.S.S.S.A Spring Softball Leagues

Registration for our men's and coed softball leagues begins March 1. Season includes a full regular season schedule plus a single-elimination tournament. Starting date and fee to be announced.

Down & Dirty Obstacle Mud Run

May 21, 8 am

The O CPR Down & Dirty is a 5K obstacle course mud run that anyone age 7 and over can conquer. Come take on multiple obstacles that will challenge you physically and mentally as you traverse over walls, and through the mud to the finish line. All finishers receive a medal, a t-shirt and a \$5 voucher for the after party. Join your fellow mudders at the after party and grab some needed grub, dance to live music and recount your accomplishment with friends and family.

O CPR "Old Ham" Half Marathon

June 11, 8 am

Join us for the inaugural O CPR "Old Ham" Half Marathon on June 11 at 8 am in LaGrange. Don't miss your chance to run through Oldham Reserve and win a ham. All participants will receive a race shirt, race bib, post-race refreshments, chance at some door prizes and a finish medal. Registration begins at \$75 and will increase as the race gets closer. Registration will go live on December 1. Oldham County Parks is looking for sponsors and volunteers for the "Old Ham" Half Marathon. If you are interested please call Gary at 502/225-0655. There are many different sponsorship levels to choose.



Oldham County Fiscal Court

**100 West Jefferson Street, Suite 4
La Grange, KY 40031**

JUDGE EXECUTIVE:

David Voegele
dvoegele@oldhamcountky.gov

MAGISTRATES:

District 1:

Brent Likins
blikins@oldhamcountky.gov

District 2:

Wayne Theiss
wtbeiss@oldhamcountky.gov

District 3:

Kevin Woosley
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District 4:

Steve Greenwell
sgreenwell@oldhamcountky.gov

District 5:

Chris Haunz
chaunz@oldhamcountky.gov

District 6:

Stephanie Hawkins
shawkins@oldhamcountky.gov

District 7:

Bob Dye
bdye@oldhamcountky.gov

District 8:

Michael Logsdon
mlogsdon@oldhamcountky.gov

Plants for the Planet: A Call to Action!

As individuals, one of our top “Calls to Action” is to add plants to our landscape that will benefit wildlife, more specifically pollinators. Pollinators include bees, as well as hummingbirds, wasps, moths, butterflies, birds, bats, and many more! The populations of these species are drastically declining, which is a problem because pollinators provide enormous benefits that are vital not only to sustain our agricultural systems, but our entire ecosystem. In considering actions we can take to support a healthy ecosystem, it is important to know that our own yards, no matter how small, can help. **Join our Monthly Pollinator Garden Meetup to learn more!**

The Basics of Creating Pollinator Habitat:

Bloom Time- Aim for at least 3 blooming species for spring, summer, and fall. That's 9 species total.

Stick to Native Plants- Native plants are best suited to support wildlife.

Minimize Cultivars- Cultivars are often grown for characteristics that are great for people, but not pollinators.

Avoid Invasive Plants- Invasive plants such as Winter Creeper, Bradford Pear, and English Ivy are commonly found in our landscapes, and are still being sold locally.

Be Patient! Give your garden time to grow and fill in.

Keep Maintenance Minimal- Minimize watering and mulch, and also skip on fertilizer. Old stems provide a great source of food for birds during winter, so cut back plants in late spring. Also, be careful not to use harmful chemicals.

Enjoy! Your garden will grow and change month to month.



Save the Monarch!

As a caterpillar the Monarch can only eat leaves from the Milkweed plant.

This is the main reason for the decline of the Monarch Butterfly. Without Milkweed there can be no Monarchs.

Curry's Fork Watershed



For more information, contact

Becca Trueman,
502/222-1476
or rtrueman@oldhamcountky.gov



www.oldhamcountky.gov

City of La Grange

La Grange Springs Park is on course to become a reality by summer 2022

The La Grange Springs Park planning committee has been busy working with the lead project designers Jones Landscape Architects and Environs Inc. to complete the construction documents on Phase 1 of this fun addition to the downtown La Grange environment. Phase 1 is located at 2nd and Main Street and will be the activity center of the park; containing a farmers' market pavilion, playground, splashpad and open greenspace. Future plans for Phase 2 will include an amphitheater, skatepark and walking trails.

In 2020 the La Grange City council approved a \$3 million dollar bond to get this project started. The committee is also seeking out grants and additional donations

Phase I site improvements including market pavilion, restroom, sprayground and playground are all set to open in 2022.



from private citizens and business partners. The positive economic impact of such a facility will be far reaching: from increased business for our retailers and restaurants,

and increased ability to attract new businesses, festivals and new residents to town.

You can follow the park's progress and donate on Facebook

at La Grange Springs Park Project and www.lagrangespringspark.com. Ground breaking coming soon!

Volunteers, pop ups, alleys, parks & more!!!



John W. Black
Mayor, City of La Grange

Each and every day we are striving to keep our City fun, vibrant and on the upswing. The competition is fierce, and we will not let off the throttle in our efforts to be the most attractive destination in this region. To stay competitive, we cannot hope for success and retain our momentum without our thankless volunteers. They are the backbone, creators, and difficult task producers to create special neighborhoods, a cool Downtown Business District and a strong economic outlook for all businesses.

Volunteers lead our success

Leading in our efforts to create an attractive core Downtown Business District are our Downtown Main Street volunteers. This group has the charge of scheduling events throughout the year to encourage residents and visitors to come and see what's happening. As always, they have plans in place for the fall events leading directly into our always popular "Light Up La Grange" to kick off the holiday season. I promise, our City will be ready!! They always do an exceptional job!!

In keeping our City's beauty and oldest neighborhoods at the forefront and to ensure the unique architecture is being showcased and

understood, our newly structured Historic District Commission Board members are working diligently to initiate positive change. Their efforts and discussion are being aligned to intertwine historical preservation and its importance to economic appreciation and architectural enhancement. Through education, data, and property assessments, the findings will hopefully help bring about the conclusive understanding that historical preservation is important to all if applied in a fair and appropriate manner.

As our efforts continue to promote tourism, overnight hotel stays and foot traffic for our entire town, our Tourism Commission members are working diligently to do just that. Approximately 60,000 vehicles travel through the I-71 corridor each day in which a certain percentage of them exit the interstate system. Our Tourism's primary objective is to capture their attention to spend their time and dollars in our City. Not only are they one of our targeted audiences, but also are those in the group that we have yet to reach such as visitors and shoppers from neighboring cities and even states as well. As these Commission members continue their efforts, they will be seeking permanent leadership to direct their efforts in a more defined strategic approach to capture the ever growing "small town shopper" market looking for a quaint and unique town such as ours.

As another part of our Downtown strategy, our most recent volunteer group has focused their attention to our "Alley Ways" and the uniqueness they offer. Known as the "Alley Loop Group," they have been brainstorming for months to create an educational walking tour

based around our town's history and unique alley spaces and brick architecture coves. Intermingled with the unique artistic features, the alleys can be pictured as quiet sitting areas, designed flower garden beauty, brick pavers and benches, ambient lighting with wall art murals. Our City is so fortunate to have a city built with the Alley architectural appeal to allow us to showcase these special places. The "Alley Group" volunteers are in the discussion mode as how to promote and construct the "Pop Up" shop concept to allow young and energetic entrepreneurs to offer their ideas in the Alley Way footprint. In the months ahead, the "Alley Group" will have additional events that the public will have direct involvement and invited to participate.

Since our Town's history is built around the train, we cannot forget about the great volunteers of our Train Museum volunteers. The unbelievable attraction of a huge train running directly down our Main Street is unbelievably amazing to most. Believe it or not, some locals would find the train as a daily nuisance, in which at times, I can understand that too. However, there are many train enthusiasts that travel here because they are enthralled by trains. We are truly grateful to still have our semi-original Train Depot as a tourist attraction for both the

young and old. Our Train Museum volunteers are working tirelessly to enhance the museum buildings and grounds with an educational exhibit as to importance of the "train" and how it played an important role in building a strong America. Hopefully as our tourism efforts increase, our local train presence will be part of that foot traffic appeal.

As I close with this review of our volunteer boards, there are many other City volunteers that serve in other roles as well. They serve with our parks, our City Golf Course, our planning areas with city codes, land development and variance boards. As I mentioned earlier, for us to be a truly successful city, we need community citizens to be involved as well. The many volunteers that serve in different roles are the ones that love this town and are always giving their limited spare time to initiate all types of new ideas. I, along with our City Council would like to thank each of them. These are special people who want to give back each and every day! We are doing great things because of You!

Thank You for Your Service and Commitment,

John W. Black

Mayor

City of La Grange



307 W. Jefferson St., La Grange, KY 40031
502/222-1433

City Council Meetings:

1st Monday of each month, 6:30 PM
Fiscal Courtroom, Oldham County Courthouse,
100 W. Jefferson St., La Grange

Growing families, gardens, farms and future leaders since 1914

Oldham County Extension offers programs, clubs, diagnostic services, and research-based advice covering 4-H Youth Development, Family & Consumer Sciences, and Agriculture & Natural Resources. Extension programs teach an array of skills with the goal of producing successful families, gardens, farms, and leaders.

WHAT'S NEW – UPCOMING PROGRAMS & CLUBS



Home & Family



Life Skills



Healthy Living



Farm & Garden

PROGRAMS Please call 502/222-9453 to register.



SOIL TESTING & CROP NUTRIENT REQUIREMENTS –
October 14, 6 pm or October 15, 9 am

FARM TAX BASICS – October 30, 9 – 11 am

MAKING & CANNING ORANGE MARMALADE –
November 6, 10 am – 1 pm

OLDHAM COUNTY CATTLEMEN – November 11, 6:30 pm

SANTA'S WORKSHOP – December 21, 10 am – 12 noon. This workshop is for youth age 9 – 13 and the registration fee is \$25. Details on workshop projects will be available in November.

PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING/CERTIFICATION – January 21, 9 am



Oldham County Cooperative Extension Service



College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service



207 Parker Drive • La Grange, KY 40031
502/222-9453

Educational programs of KY 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.



Follow us on Facebook: "Oldham County Extension"

Oldham County Cooperative Extension Service

CLUBS 4-H Community Clubs are now enrolling and will be meeting monthly starting in the fall. Contact us for more information about 4-H, Homemaker, and Agriculture Clubs.

4-H PHOTOGRAPHY
4-H CARROT NIBBLERS
4-H POULTRY CLUB
4-H BALLARDSVILLE HIGH RIDERS
4-H SHOOTING SPORTS
4-H LEADERS OF THE PACK
4-H DELICIOUS DELIGHTS
4-H TEEN CLUB
4-H CLOVERBUDS
4-H CLOVER EXPLORERS



Lindsay Jasinski – 2021 Kentucky State Fair Reserve Grand Champion in 4-H Photography

CROSSROADS HOMEMAKERS
GOSHEN AREA HOMEMAKERS
POPLAR GROVE HOMEMAKERS
502 CRAFTERS HOMEMAKERS



GREEN THUMBS GARDEN CLUB
OLDHAM COUNTY BEEKEEPERS
OLDHAM COUNTY CATTLEMEN
OLDHAM COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS



Oldham County Soil & Water Conservation District

Promoting conservation of natural resources

So what is a Conservation District and what does it do?

Conservation Districts are “political subdivisions of state government” that utilize state, federal, and private sector resources to solve today’s conservation problems.

“Political subdivisions of state government” can be a confusing term. What does this actually mean? A Conservation District is neither a state government agency nor local government entity. A conservation district is also NOT a non-profit organization. Conservation Districts are independent from other governmental bodies, in that it may act to exercise those powers conferred upon it by law. Conservation Districts

are self-governed by a Board of seven Supervisors.

In the beginning, Conservation Districts were formed to allow local citizens many opportunities to help guide and develop conservation programs in each county by working at the “grass roots” level. This is seen as the most important vantage point for identifying problems, finding solutions and implementing programs.

Why do they exist?

The purpose of a Conservation District is to conserve and develop all renewable natural resources within the District. In so doing, the District is authorized to undertake, sponsor or participate in projects, activities

and programs which promote the conservation, development, maintenance, management and wise use of the land, water, trees and other related, natural resources of the District.

Kentucky’s Conservation Districts have been organized for the special purpose to assist landowners and land users:

- in solving soil and water resource problems
- setting priorities for conservation work to be accomplished
- coordinating the federal, state and local resources needed to accomplish this work
- provide leadership at the local level and means for interested local citizens to work together to achieve desired results

Members of Conservation District boards are called “District Supervisors” and are local citizens, landowners, and/or producers who are often familiar with and concerned about area environmental conditions. The seven-member Board of Supervisors are elected by the registered voters within the District and cannot hold any other elected office. Supervisors oversee the work of the District managing natural resource issues, financial matters, and personnel.

There are 847 Supervisors in Kentucky. Kentucky has 121 Conservation Districts, and there are approximately 3000 Conservation Districts in the United States.

Continued on page 12

Oldham County Soil & Water Conservation District

PROMOTING CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES, continued from page 11

Tell me about the programs in Oldham County!

The Oldham County Soil & Water Conservation District was established in 1946. Over the decades, much has changed in our daily lives, but our mission has remained the same: To promote voluntary conservation of the County's natural resources of soil, water, woodland, and wildlife. However, with a staff of only one employee, we cannot fulfill this mission alone! It takes collaboration, partnership, and support from many other agencies, organizations, individual residents and landowners to bring various programs to the public. We are sincerely grateful to all of our partners who give so freely of their time and resources!

ANNUAL PROGRAMS

Soil Testing Voucher Program

Have your soil tested for free! All quality plant growth starts with healthy soil; anything from a backyard garden to a large-scale beef farm depends on it. Before wasting your money on fertilizers or other amendments, test your soil and get the information needed to make smart decisions that affect your finances and the environment.

This program is made possible through partnership with the UK Cooperative Extension Service and grant funds from the KY Division of Conservation, the Oldham County Fiscal Court, and the Oldham County Environmental Authority.

The Conservation District provides up to four soil testing vouchers a year for County residents. Once you've received the voucher, you can take your soil sample and the voucher to the Cooperative Extension office for testing.

The tree seedling giveaway is responsible for thousands of trees planted in Oldham County.



E.Q.I.P. (Environmental Quality Incentive Program) with the Federal USDA

This program provides farmers with an opportunity to address water quality problems on their farms through a cost-share incentive program for most animal-related best management practices. Some of the cost-share possibilities include improved fencing, waste storage, stream crossings, and watering systems.

Jim Claypool Art Contest and Conservation Essay Contest

All students in Oldham County are invited to participate in either the Jim Claypool Art Contest (for grades K-5) or the Conservation Essay Contest (grades 6-12) both of which focus on a different environmental theme each year.

The top three entries at each school are treated to a banquet held in their honor, cash prizes, and gifts. District winners go on to compete at

the state level for additional prizes. Entries are due December 1.

H. Glenn Watson Scholarship

This cash scholarship is awarded to one graduating Oldham County senior intending to pursue a post-high school course of study at either a college/university or other post-secondary educational institution. This scholarship is funded by C. Richard Smith to honor his good friend, H. Glenn Watson.

Applications are available beginning November 1. They are due February 1.

Tree Seedling Giveaway

The tree seedling giveaway has been going on for many years (though it's taken a hiatus due to COVID-19), and is responsible for thousands of trees planted in Oldham County. White pine seedlings are sent home with elementary students from interested schools, and the public is invited to the giveaway event held in our office. A variety of species are offered — so whether you have room for a large oak or an understory tree, there is something for every person and space!

Composting Bin

The Conservation District provides a free Geobin composting system bin for residents upon completion of a short training session. Visit bit.ly/occdclass to register. This program is made possible through a grant from the KY Div. of Waste Mgmt. and is run in conjunction with partners like Oldham Co. Solid Waste/Recycling, Cooperative Extension Service, Oldham Public Library and volunteers.

We've MOVED!

While our address has changed, our contact information has stayed the same.

You can find us at:
1002 Buckner Center #4
La Grange, KY 40031

You can reach us at:
502/222-5123

Oldham Co. Soil & Water Conservation District



1002 Buckner Ctr., Suite 4
La Grange, KY 40031
phone: 502/222-5123
email: oldhamswcd@gmail.com

Coping with stress

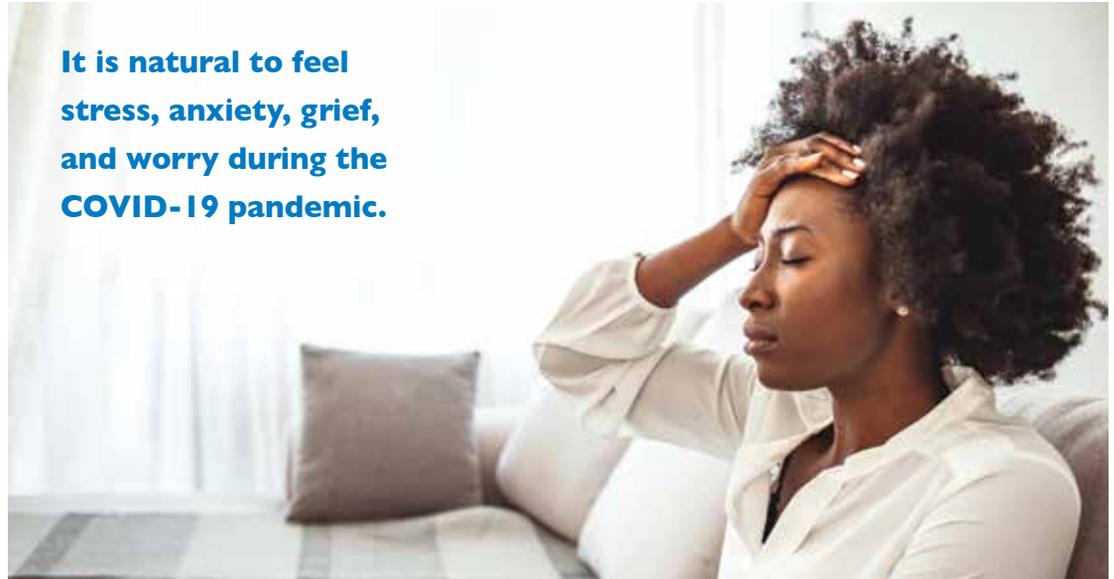
How to become more resilient during the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a major effect on our lives. Many of us are facing challenges that can be stressful, overwhelming, and cause strong emotions in adults and children. Public health actions, such as social distancing, are necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19, but they can make us feel isolated and lonely and can increase stress and anxiety. Learning to cope with stress in a healthy way will make you, the people you care about, and those around you become more resilient.

Stress can cause the following:

- Feelings of fear, anger, sadness, worry, numbness, or frustration
- Changes in appetite, energy, desires, and interests
- Difficulty concentrating and making decisions
- Difficulty sleeping or nightmares
- Physical reactions, such as headaches, body pains, stomach problems, and skin rashes
- Worsening of chronic health problems
- Worsening of mental health conditions
- Increased use of tobacco, alcohol, and other substances

It is natural to feel stress, anxiety, grief, and worry during the COVID-19 pandemic. Following are ways that you can help yourself, others, and your community manage stress.



It is natural to feel stress, anxiety, grief, and worry during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Healthy ways to cope with stress:

- Take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories, including those on social media. It's good to be informed, but hearing about the pandemic constantly can be upsetting. Consider limiting news to just a couple times a day and disconnecting from phone, tv, and computer screens for a while.
- Take care of your body
 - Take deep breaths, stretch
 - Try to eat healthy, well-balanced meals
 - Exercise regularly
 - Get plenty of sleep
 - Avoid excessive alcohol, tobacco, and substance use
- Continue with routine preventive measures (such as vaccinations, cancer screenings, etc.) as recommended by your healthcare provider
- Get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine
- Make time to unwind — Try to do some other activities you enjoy
- Connect with others — Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling
- Connect with your community or faith-based organizations. While social distancing measures are in place, try connecting online, through social media, or by phone or mail

Helping others cope

Taking care of yourself can better equip you to take care of others. During times of social distancing, it is especially important to stay connected with your friends and family. Helping others cope with stress through phone calls or video chats can help you and your loved ones feel less lonely or isolated. If you are struggling to cope, there are many ways to get help. Mental health and crisis resources and social support services are available. Call your Oldham County Health Department 502/222-3516 or your healthcare provider if you need assistance.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/mentalhealth/stress-coping/cope-with-stress/index.html>

Oldham County Health Department



1786 Commerce Pkwy., La Grange, KY 40031
502/222-3516 phone; 502/222-0816 fax



Hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 7:30 am-4:30 pm
Tuesday and Thursday: 7:30 am-6 pm
Friday: 7:30 am-4 pm

There's a lot happening at the Library!



What's the Library been up to this past year? Here's a snapshot of what an average month looks like: On a monthly basis, the Library offers an average of

42 PROGRAMS in a variety of formats for all ages. These are attended by **1,800 INDIVIDUALS** each month. To supplement these programs and support learning at

home, the Library provides nearly **1,570 TAKE-HOME KITS** with materials and activities.

There's always something happening! To find out what current

programs are offered, visit www.oldhampl.org/Events. Search by program, age, or format to find what fits your interests.

Digital services

The Library has many free digital resources available with your library card. You can download eBooks or audiobooks from home, research academic journals, or even get personalized, one-on-one live tutoring or job search help!

- Overdrive gives you access to the Library's digital collection and allows you to easily check out ebooks, audiobooks and more. Overdrive runs through the Libby app and works on most devices.
- Scholastic Teachables is an online database of tens of thousands of searchable and printable educational materials. Created by teachers

and precisely leveled, these high-quality, ready-to-use resources support parents preparing kids for kindergarten readiness, homeschool teachers and learners from Pre-K to grade 6, and young patrons who need extra skills practice.

- Brainfuse offers a comprehensive suite of online academic services designed to support many learning needs and styles. Expert on-line services include live tutoring, 24/7 homework help center, language lab, resume help, writing lab, and study aids. Services cover subjects in grades K-college and even adult learning.

- Pronunciator is a fun and easy way to learn over 100 languages. Register for free and start learning — at your own pace! Choose what language you speak, what language you want to learn, and what level you want to start at.

- Through Universal Class, Oldham County patrons have access to lifelong learning courses in over 30 subject areas, many of which offer continuing education units (CEUs). More than 500 courses are available, and all are designed and led by professional instructors to build deeper understanding and mastery of subject matter. Universal Class includes videos,

assignments, quizzes, tests, and options for social media interaction with other learners.

Access these services and more at www.oldhampl.org/eResources.



OCPL is now fine free!

As of this summer, the Oldham County Public Library will no longer be charging overdue fines for regular collection materials. This includes all books, DVDs, audiobooks, graphic novels, and magazines. Patrons will still be financially responsible for long overdue, lost, or damaged

materials. Overdue fees may still apply for special collection items. Over the course of the pandemic, the Library has not charged fines for overdue materials, and now that policy is permanent. By going fine free, the Library hopes to make our services more accessible to the

community at large. We understand that life can be unpredictable, and we all need a bit of extra leniency at times. We never want a few dollars in overdue fees to prevent a member of the community from getting access to information. All existing overdue fees will be waived from patron

accounts. It's time for a fresh start and fresh reading at the Library! If you have questions about your account, feel free to visit us at the Library, or call 502/222-9713. Want to get a library card? Visit one of our three locations, or sign up for a card via the Library website.

Find Me A Book



Personalized Book Recommendations

bit.ly/FindmeabookAdult

bit.ly/FindabookTeen

bit.ly/FindabookKids

www.oldhampl.org

Find Me A Book

Stuck at home and not sure what to read? The Library's Find Me A Book service can help you with a list of books to fit your interests! Fill out a simple form online and a librarian will get in touch with recommendations picked just for you. This service is for all ages. Visit the Library's website and look under "Library Services" then choose the department you'd like books from — Children, Teen, or Adult. No computer? No problem! Give us a call at 502/222-9713 and we'll help you find what you need.

Check out laptops and hotspots at the La Grange Library

Did you know you can check out wifi hotspots and laptop computers at the Library? M.I.L.K. Crates (Mobile Internet Library Kits) can be checked out on an adult card from the La Grange Library for up to three weeks at a time. Use the hotspot to

access the internet on the provided computer, or connect your own device to the internet using this free service. Want to know more about M.I.L.K. Crates? Call or visit the Library, or check out www.oldhampl.org/MILK for details.



Oldham County Public Library



Oldham County
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Director: Jessica L. Powell
502/222-9713
Jessica.powell@oldhampl.org

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Jennifer Proud, *President*
Amanda Ross, *Vice President*
David Lee Hutchinson, *Treasurer*
Siobhán Gallaher, *Secretary*
Lonnie Hardin, *Member*

- **Main Library** 308 Yager Avenue, La Grange, KY 40031
- **South Oldham Public Library**
6720 W. Hwy 146, Crestwood, KY 40014
- **Goshen Public Library**
12505 Harmony Landing Rd., Goshen, KY 40026

Want to stay in-touch with the Library and learn about all the new events, classes, and services offered each month? Sign up for one of our email newsletters and be the first to know! Choose which newsletter(s) you are interested in and sign up at www.oldhampl.org/Digital-Newsletters

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

Oldham County Water District

What do I do during a boil water advisory?

A boil water advisory is a public notification advising customers to boil tap water before consuming it. Advisories are issued when an event has occurred with the potential to adversely affect water quality. In most cases an advisory is initiated by a water main break in your area. We are required to advise you to boil water until we can confirm water quality through lab testing. In most circumstances, paper notices are hung on your front door. You can also find a water outage/alert map on our website to find out if your address has been affected.

Once a boil water advisory is issued it is recommended that your drinking water be boiled for at least three (3) minutes at a rolling boil.

Below are some common questions related to a boil water advisory.

- **Can I drink coffee from my coffeemaker?** Most coffeemakers do not boil the water. You should boil your water for three minutes first before making coffee and tea.
- **Can I wash my hands?** Yes, as long as you use soap.
- **Can I use my ice?** No. You should throw your ice away and turn off your ice maker.
- **What if I already consumed the water?** A boil water advisory is issued when there is POSSIBLE contamination to the water. At this time there is no evidence that any contamination has gotten into the water supply. However, customers should continue to boil their drinking water until the advisory is lifted.
- **Can I use my dishwasher (residence)?** Yes. Be sure to put soap in the dishwasher and make sure that the dishes are thoroughly dried.
- **Can I use my dishwasher (commercial)?** Yes. Commercial dishwashers reach above 212 degrees.
- **Can I brush my teeth with the water?** You should boil the water that you use to brush your teeth with because there is a possibility of ingesting the water while you are brushing.
- **Can I wash my dishes by hand?** Yes. The use of antibacterial soap is advised.

- **Does this affect my aquarium?** No. You may still use the water for your aquarium: be sure to de-chlorinate as you usually do.
- **What about baby formula?** Water used in preparation of baby formula should be boiled.
- **Will my water filter clean the water?** No. All water filters do not remove bacteria from the water, if it is present.
- **What about the commode?** Only water that will be consumed needs to be boiled.
- **Can I take a shower? Will the water hurt my skin?** Yes, you can take a shower. The water will not hurt your skin.

CEO named President of Kentucky Rural Water Association



Russ Rose

Russ Rose, Chief Executive Officer of Oldham County Water District, was named the President of Kentucky Rural Water Association at its 42nd Annual Conference on August 25. The Kentucky Rural Water Association

(KRWA) is a statewide, non-profit association that provides training, on-site technical assistance, advocacy, and other services to all utilities, including over 365-member public drinking water and wastewater utilities, in Kentucky. With offices in Bowling Green and Frankfort, KRWA has been fulfilling its mission of helping water and wastewater utilities help themselves since 1979.

Oldham County Water District

Contact us:

Phone: 502/222-1690

Email: ocwd@oldhamcountywater.com

In person: 2160 Spencer Court
LaGrange, KY 40031

Our office hours are Monday-Friday,
8 am - 4 pm

Online: www.oldhamcountywater.com



Work with us!

At Oldham Co. Water District, you can look forward to a satisfying career that offers a competitive salary and excellent benefits. We're committed to providing world-class water services as an environmental steward. By joining Oldham County Water District, you too can make a difference. Applications can be submitted through our website www.oldhamcountywater.com by selecting Employment.