

WHAT'S *Happening!*™

in Oldham County, Kentucky



Spring 2022

Springs Park Phase I on track to open in June!

The park will feature two original art pieces from Kentucky artists. A sculpture by artist Stephen Winter called *Hope Springs Eternal* will be constructed in the park's entry plaza. Mr. Winter, from Nicholasville, envisioned this piece to emulate water spouts, with a 12' tall center spout surrounded by 11' spouts. The stainless-steel sculpture will be lit from below with inlaid LED lights that can change colors creating different visual effects with the light reflecting off the steel.



The second art piece will be a large mosaic mural by Louisville artist Tracy Pennington. Ms. Pennington's mural, called *A Walk in the Park*, will be displayed on the restroom building facing the playground and will be constructed from recycled glass tiles.



Both art pieces honor the history of the park's location, which is near a historic spring, while also representing the fun and whimsy of a park setting.

Phase 1 of the Springs Park will feature a farmers' market pavilion, playground, splashpad and open greenspace. Future plans will include an amphitheater, skatepark and walking trails.

Springs Park is being funded by the City of La Grange, grants, and private donations. If you would like to make a donation to help fund the two art installations or support the project generally, please visit www.lagrangespringspark.com to donate.



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Committed to making great things happen

Welcome to the 2022 Spring edition of *What's Happening!* This edition marks our 26th year of working with our partner, Rivertown Communications, to inform La Grange citizens about events taking place and projects on the horizon. This is a great tool to provide “on time” information to our citizens, especially newcomers to the area.

As I prepared this message, I recall that the 2020 census count had our La Grange population exceeding 10,000 citizens for the first time. It provides me with an understanding of how our community is growing and how families are adapting. I have always tried to drive our city to see the many new residences that account for our city population. Having grown up in La Grange, there was a day that I knew every person, but that is no longer true. It makes me, City Council members, and our dedicated team of employees proud that you have chosen La Grange to be your home. We are committed to keeping La Grange a caring, beautiful, clean, and safe community.

I pledge that LaGrange will be guided on a conservative financial approach. First, we will continue to offer good governance to provide your family a safe environment in which to live, to maintain streets, to respond to you in a fair, polite manner, and lead with integrity at the highest level. You should be able to expect these qualities with every encounter!

The two years of COVID was a set-back but did not slow us down to make this a fun and exciting town in the near future. We have been able to plan and do some great things with our “Zoom” meetings to make great things happen in the coming months. All cities, counties,



John W. Black, Mayor

and states across America received generous COVID related Cares Act & American Rescue funding to do many community projects. Early on, our City Council chose to help many of the City’s non-profit groups and La Grange Elementary School for tablets and Chrome notebooks for the kids’ daily educational needs.

As we go forward, our City Council will be reviewing and making further recommendations on how more of the Federal relief funds can be best used. Several community capital construction projects — projects for community or recreational use to be enjoyed by many — are being considered for funding.

I cannot express my appreciation enough for our present City Council and their dedication to this city. For the last three years, I know how much time each of them has given and the many hours they have served in committee meetings to make sure great things happen. We work together in a collegial way to ensure

that we keep the citizens interest first and foremost.

In addition to the City Council and staff, our many volunteers will be gratified soon with the Grand Opening of the Springs Park Downtown. This park will be a great addition to our downtown “vibe” as we open our first splash pad for kids and a covered farmers market pavilion.

We have many new things happening in all areas of our parks; the possibility of a new Club House at Eagle Creek Golf Course and a downtown skateboard park. Numerous road improvements are on the way including a dedicated left hand turn lane on South Hwy. 53 leading to Cracker Barrel. Oldham Reserve is high on the list as we keep attracting new businesses and are set to begin a new interchange this summer at I -71 & the Louie Dampier Bridge.

As we finished up 2021, we were fortunate to attract a national TV Network to be one of the most excit-

ing things to happen in our city in quite some time. HGTV will be airing a TV series in April 2022 featuring La Grange, called HomeTown Kickstart with a viewing audience of over 31 million on national TV. This will be a boon to our tourism!

We appreciate everyone who is part of our city. Please let us hear from you because we want you to become a part of our community pride. Oh, one last thing, if you have not heard yet, we are known for being “The Kindness Capital of Kentucky.” We are on the Right Track!!

Sincerely,

John Black

John W. Black, Mayor
Mayor@lagrangeky.net
502/376-6799

“Between myself, City Council members, and our dedicated team of city employees, we are determined to make this the most caring, beautiful, clean and safe community. We feel that we are on the Right Track!!”

You've got our number!



John Black

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

City Hall: 307 W. Jefferson St., La Grange

Mayor John Black

502/376-6799

Mayor@LaGrangeKY.net



CITY OF LA GRANGE POLICE

La Grange Chief of Police: Greg Collett

GCollett@lagrangeky.net



Greg Collett

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency Response: 502/222-0111

Crime Tip Line: 502/873-8945

Office of Police Department: 502/225-0444

Fax: 502/225-9783

Website: lagrangepolice.com



CITY OF LA GRANGE PUBLIC WORKS

La Grange Director of Public Works: Corey Rusnak

CRusnak@lagrangeky.net • 502/222-8594



Corey Rusnak

The City of La Grange Public Works Department's core objective is to provide quality service to our city residents, which includes maintaining our 5 parks, roadways, street drainage, paint striping, snow removal, chipping service, mowing, signage and streetlights, sidewalk repairs, tree trimming and removal and City-owned building maintenance.

CITY OF LA GRANGE PARKS & RECREATION

La Grange Director of Parks & Recreation: Stephen Hall

SHall@lagrangeky.net • 502/222-1433



Stephen Hall

The City of La Grange Parks and Recreation objective is to create exciting events for friends and families to enjoy. Utilizing our 4 city parks, Eagle Creek golf course and the La Grange Community Center, the City of La Grange Parks and Recreation takes pride in bringing our community together. COMING SOON in Summer of 2022: we are excited to announce the opening of PHASE 1 of our new Springs Park which will include a Farmer's Market pavilion, a splash pad and a children's playground!



PUBLIC BUS SERVICE: OLDHAM'S PUBLIC BUS

Transportation Supervisor: Katie Bechtold

lagrangeky.net/city-bus-service.html • 502/222-6400

CITY OF LA GRANGE CITY COUNCIL

City Council meets first Monday of each month, 6:30 pm

Fiscal Court Building, 2nd Floor, 100 W. Jefferson Street, La Grange



Trey Kamer: 502/376-3391, tkamer@lagrangeKY.net

"I appreciate the opportunity to continue working on making La Grange a vibrant and sustainable city for all citizens in our community to enjoy."



Elsie Carter: 502/639-1098, ecarter@lagrangeKY.net

"Elsie Carter here, your roving representative from City Council, for any questions or problems in the city. You can find me after 10 am cruising the streets or hanging out at Dairy Queen. You can also find me on most Saturday nights on MAIN STREET at the old Central Hotel at 7 to 10 pm for Music On The Porch. Come hang out and let us hear from you."



Debbie Pollard: 502/802-1883, dpollard@lagrangeKY.net

"La Grange always makes me proud. It is unique and I love the train. Such a joy knowing we are the Kindest Capital makes my heart smile."



Bill Lammlein: 502/310-1614, blammlein@lagrangeKY.net

"It's a great place for a family and the bus runs on time."



Leslie Wright: 502/649-0994, lwright@lagrangeKY.net

"There's a lot of wonderful things going on in our city. I'm so thankful to be able to be a part of it. Serving on City Council has been a fantastic opportunity to get involved and make a positive impact in the lives of the citizens here. Thank you for letting me be of service."



Jason Taylor: 502/702-9792, taylor4council@yahoo.com

"It is an honor and a pleasure to represent the wonderful people of La Grange. I will continue to work hard every day for this city, standing up for your values and defending your freedoms. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve."



Joe Davenport: 502/599-9504, jdavenport@lagrangeKY.net

"I have always heard visitors say how friendly our city is. A place you can call a "HOMETOWN."



Andrea Essenpreis:

502/594-3711, aessenpreis@lagrangeKY.net

"I am honored to be a voice for La Grange, the Kindness Capital of Kentucky. As community leaders, it is our job to set a positive, forward-seeking tone. And as a resident and business owner, I'm excited to see how the city will continue to grow from the opportunities we've been presented."

La Grange Farmers' Market & Artisans

Saturdays, May 14 - October 29 • 9 am - 1 pm

Join us at our new location: La Grange Springs Park • La Grange, KY

Follow us on Facebook: La Grange Farmers' Market & Artisans or www.lagrangefarmersmarket.com



Take Exit 22 in '22 — La Grange has all the bells and whistles!

SPRING/SUMMER CALENDAR

March 25-26 - Derby Kickoff Weekend

April 8-10 - Storytelling Weekend

April 24 - Blue Hydrangea Tea

May 15 - HGTV features La Grange: (Date is subject to change)

May 21 - Welcome Center Open House: 10 am-2 pm

June 4-6 - Tour De La Grange Weekend

July 16 - Oldham County Day

Quad Cars - Every 4th Saturday, April - October, 4-8 pm

Farmers' Market - see page 4!

Trackside Tunes - Announcement coming soon.



Gallery at Gatewood Valentine's Dinner

COMING SOON!



HGTV was here! They kickstarted a walking loop that is RIGHT UP YOUR ALLEY. You can help carry the project forward. Volunteer NOW!

Springs Park — Splash Park, Playground, Farmer's Market Pavilion, Skating Park, and More!



New businesses announced for 2022!

- Mainstream Boutique - OPEN
- Spotz Gelato - Coming May 13!
- Goodfella's Bourbon Cellar - Coming in '22!
- La Vigne Wine Bar - Coming in '22!
- Cheeky Contemporary Art and Culture Museum - Coming in '22!
- BEAUTIFUL AIRBNBS AND HOTELS ARE HERE FOR YOUR GUESTS!

The Mercantile Market on Main — A curated collection of micro-shops:

Plant One on Me

Grace & Ashes Toy Depot

Briar and Brae

Picked n' Painted

Addie's Goods

Waxy Beans

Sugar Beet's Pantry

Jericho Farmhouse

Main Street Salvage

Shop, Eat, Create, Explore, Relax, Enjoy, Play ... All in La Grange!

LA GRANGE TOURISM

877/576-6451

lagrangetourism@gmail.com

visitlagrangeky.com



FOLLOW US!



Teresa Boling

LA GRANGE MAIN STREET PROGRAM

Teresa Boling

Executive Director

502/269-0126

lagrangemainstreet.org

teresa@lagrangemainstreet.org

FOLLOW US!



Welcome to the City of Crestwood



Mayor
Jim Kramer

As Mayor of the City of Crestwood, I'm happy to welcome you to our wonderful community just outside of the greater Louisville area

in Oldham County. With beautiful neighborhoods, extraordinary schools, great restaurants and businesses and a rich cultural history, Crestwood is the ideal place to call home. One of my goals as Mayor is to continue to nurture our city through community events at The Maples Park. We are proud to present the below park events

schedule for spring and summer 2022 and hope you and your family can continue to make memories on these 22 beautiful acres. The sprayground will be open Memorial Day weekend, if not earlier, weather pending. The Dennis Deibel Barn is available for rent for family gatherings, graduations and weddings, etc. Contact the park

below for inquiries on availability and rates. See you at The Maples!

Jim Kramer

Crestwood Mayor

COMMISSIONERS

David Bryant
Russell Cunningham
David Haight
Terry Weathers



Spring/Summer Events at The Maples Park

For updated information on events, like us @themaplespark on facebook OR visit www.crestwoodky.gov/events. For information on rental availability, email the park at themaples@crestwoodky.gov. Park address is 6826 Highway 22. For park events, please utilize the gravel parking lot adjacent to the rear entrance of the park at 6431 Railroad Avenue, Crestwood.

SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE PARK

EASTER EGG HUNT *Sponsored by Crestwood United Methodist Church*

April 16, 10 & 11:30 am

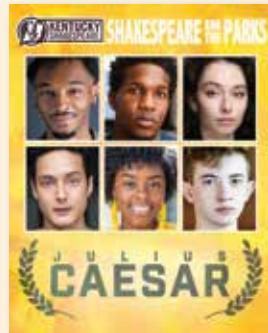
Come out to the park for the second annual egg hunt sponsored by Crestwood United Methodist Church! Two EGG HUNT times are offered, each with separate age group areas. Bring your basket!

KINDERGARTEN READINESS *featuring HONEY HILL PETTING ZOO*

Sponsored by the Oldham County Public Library and the Oldham County Early Childhood Council

April 24, 11 am - 1 pm

Join the Oldham Co. Early Childhood Council to celebrate the young ones and kindergarten readiness at this event targeted for families with children ages 5 & under (but children of all ages are welcome). This FREE event will take place in and around the Deibel Barn.



SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

featuring Julius Caesar

April 24, 2 pm

Kentucky Shakespeare is bringing their talents again to the Maples Park with a 90 minute performance of Julius Caesar! Bring your own chairs to this free outdoor event. Food trucks will be available.

CARS AND (food) TRUCKS SHOW

May 13 & July 29, 5-9 pm

Come on out to the park to put your eyes on some unique rides courtesy of Barney Barnett's Quads, Rod & Custom Car Club. Indulge at the food trucks and enjoy the free music. Bring your own chairs to hang out!

ARTS on the GREEN

June 11, 10 am - 4 pm &

June 12, 11 am - 4 pm

The Maples Park once again is hosting this amazing event put on by the Arts Association of Oldham County! This juried spring fine arts and crafts festival will have booths stocked with original handcrafted paintings, wood, photography, ceramics, sculpture, glass, jewelry and more! Food trucks will be in attendance! Admission to this event is free.

UP, UP AND AWAY

August 20, 6-9 pm

This is a bucket list item for all those height seekers! Come out to the park for first come, first serve free hot air balloon tether rides. Oldham County Public Library will offer kids' activities to celebrate the end of summer reading program. Food trucks will be in attendance!



SERIES EVENTS AT THE PARK

Note all events below will be located at the Deibel Barn at the park.

OPEN PLAY CAFÉ *Sponsored by the Oldham County Public Library*

2nd Thursday of the month:

April 14, May 12, June 9 & July 14, 9:30 - 11 am

Drop in for some fun with the Oldham County Public Library at the Deibel Barn for a "play" date at this program featuring dramatic play for you and your little one, ages 3 & up. Enjoy coffee and play prompts at different stations

throughout the space; each month will feature a different theme. This event is free.

CRAFTY KIDS *Sponsored by the Oldham County Public Library*

4th Tuesday of the month: April 26,

May 24, June 28, July 26, 4 - 5 pm

Drop in for some crafty fun with the Oldham County Public Library at the Deibel Barn! Featuring crafts for children in grades K through 5. This event is free.

City of Crestwood

PO Box 186 • Crestwood, KY 40014

Phone: 502/ 241-7088

City Commission Meetings:

Join our City Commission meetings in person at the Deibel Barn at The Maples Park (6826 Highway 22, Crestwood) or via webcast the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 pm.

Baptist Health celebrates 30 years of serving Oldham County

2022 marks a major milestone for Baptist Health — for more than three decades, our doctors, nurses and staff have been providing Oldham County with convenient, high-quality care, close to home.

“Baptist Health is honored to celebrate 30 years of service in Oldham County,” said Clint Kaho, President of Baptist Health La Grange. “Our community counts on Baptist Health. You welcome new family members into the world with us. You turn to us for healing. We are here for you during emergencies. And, we have grown with the community. We are grateful for the community’s trust over the last 30 years, and excited for the future.”

Baptist Health’s recent achievements in Oldham County include:

- **Emergency Department Renovation:** Completed in 2021, the \$5.8 million project created more than 4,000 sq. ft. of new space and an overhaul of the existing facility. The Emergency Department now features 12 larger, all-private treatment rooms designed with patient input in mind. The Emergency Department at Baptist Health La Grange earned stroke certification by the Joint Commission.
- **Women’s Center Excellence:** In 2021, Baptist Health La Grange was named a Blue Distinction Center+ for Maternity Care by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield — one of just 11 facilities in the state of Kentucky to earn the highly-regarded designation for maternity care, which is based on quality, treatment expertise



“...We are grateful for the community’s trust over the last 30 years, and excited for the future.”

- *Clint Kaho, President
Baptist Health
La Grange*

and affordability. The George and Beverly Rawlings Women’s Center opened in 2017 after \$2.5 million in upgrades and enhancements to provide the most positive experience possible.

- **COVID-19 Response:** Throughout the pandemic, Baptist Health medical staff have been dedicated to caring for those critically ill with the virus. The hospital also opened and operated a regional vaccine distribution site in La Grange, along with numerous pop-up clinics throughout the County. More than 15,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine were administered through these efforts.

Through Baptist Health La Grange, Oldham County residents have access to a variety of care, including orthopedic care, heart

care with diagnostic testing, cancer care with an Infusion Center for receiving chemotherapy treatment, comprehensive diagnostic imaging, a sleep center, sports medicine, outpatient wound care and more.

In addition to hospital services, Baptist Health is committed to helping Oldham County families lead healthier lives by increasing access to primary care (with even more providers joining this year) and an Urgent Care clinic that

offers convenient care without an appointment — even on weekends.

Baptist Health also operates Oldham County EMS — a team of first responders ready in any medical emergency. OCEMS has been nationally recognized by the American Heart Association’s Mission Lifeline Award, earning Gold Plus distinction (the highest possible) for response to the most severe heart attacks.

Baptist Health La Grange



BAPTIST HEALTH

LA GRANGE

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

Land donation makes way for a new library in Goshen



“We’re looking for the ideas and dreams of residents about what they want to see in their new library. You can expect more information soon on public meetings and how people can be involved.”

- Jessica Powell, Library Director

In addition to the sincere thanks offered to the donors, the library would also like to thank Judge Executive David Voegelé and Jim Urban, Director of Oldham County Planning and Development, for their help facilitating the donation and answering the many questions that arose during the process.

“This is a huge step forward, one that commences a journey we’ve long hoped to embark on. But it is just the beginning!” Powell says the next step involves gathering input from the community. “We’re looking for the ideas and dreams of residents about what they want to see in their new library. You can expect more information soon on public meetings and how people can be involved.”

For media inquiries about the Goshen Library Building Project, please contact Jessica Powell, Library Director, at 502/222-9713, ext. 304. For information about soon to be scheduled community meetings, please see www.oldhampl.org and follow the library on social media, @oldhamlibrary.

A generous land donation from anonymous donors is set to open new opportunities for library users in Oldham County. The 5+ acre parcel of land gifted to the library is located at the intersection of US 42 and HWY 1793 and gives life to a long-planned project to build a new facility to house the Goshen Library. The new building project will feature expanded space for collections, programming, and outdoor events. “We’re so grateful for this donation. It’s offered us the chance to expand library services and make them more accessible to the community,” says Library Director, Jessica Powell. “This is a project that’s been a team effort on behalf of all parties to realize, and it’s a gift not just to the library, but all of Oldham County.”

The Goshen Library was opened in 1983 in the former dairy barn on the property of Creasy Mahan Nature Preserve. The quaint 3,000 square foot building in this picturesque setting, while beloved by the community, no longer adequately serves the population. The proposed

new building, a mere 1.2 miles away from the current location, will be approximately 15,000 square feet. It will increase parking from 15 spaces to 70, be fully handicap accessible on one level, and feature community meeting rooms with incorporated multimedia and accessibility technologies.

“We’re finally going to be able to offer a full suite of services to this area,” says Powell. “There’s always been a demand for meeting space, study rooms, and increased programming. We’re going to be able to provide that now. We’ll have the chance to offer much more, such as hosting national touring exhibits and programs like what we’ve brought to the LaGrange Library.”

The total cost of the project is expected to be approximately \$8 million, including new technology and furnishings. To help fund this, the Oldham County Public Library won a competitive grant from the Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives through the Public Library Facility Construction (PLFC) Fund program of \$160,000 a year for 20

years to assist with bond repayment. This totals a \$3.2 million-dollar investment from the state budget into Oldham County.

Further investment in the community is coming soon in the form of a comprehensive renovation project for the South Oldham Library in Crestwood. “It’s certainly an exciting time for the library! We’re committed to making sure all of Oldham County has access to exemplary library services and facilities,” Powell confirmed.



The proposed new building will be located a mere 1.2 miles away from the current location.

OCPL has been selected to participate in the national #PlantWildflowers initiative!

Garden ecology, pollinator biodiversity, and the role of native plant species are at the center of a blossoming nationwide initiative to support ecosystem health from the ground up. Pollinators, like native wild bees are essential players in the success and health of local ecosystems — but are far too often ignored (or feared). Instead, they should be celebrated and supported as exceptional, hard-working species crucial to a thriving natural world.

To that end, and in celebration of the new documentary, “*My Garden of a Thousand Bees*.” HHMI Tangled Bank Studios and PBS Nature are launching #PlantWildflowers, a nationwide education and action initiative to highlight pollinator diversity and spark local efforts to support wild pollinators. The effort is

being undertaken in association with World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Air Wick Scented Oils (whose One Square Foot initiative aims to replant one billion square feet of grasslands in the Northern Great Plains). The goal is to get people all over the country to plant their own one square foot of native wildflowers.

Across the US and Canada, libraries are joining to host localized pollinator celebration events that will build community collaborations, highlight the crucial role bees and other pollinators play, and give local individuals the opportunity to support local pollinators by planting native wildflowers.

This initiative kicks off in Oldham County on March 31 at 5:30 at the LaGrange Library. The community is invited to view the

documentary “*My Garden of a Thousand Bees*,” meet the local project partners, and learn more about how to get involved. This is a family-friendly event.

Check with your library at the end of March to pick up your packets of native wildflower seeds as well as a Grab and Go Garden Seed Kit.



VITA Tax Prep Service

Free tax preparation for qualifying individuals is now available in La Grange! Materials for preparation may only be dropped off with certified volunteers on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 am - 5 pm at the La Grange

Library. Materials dropped at the Library outside of those times, or dropped at the wrong locations, will not be accepted. For more information and a list of what documents to bring for drop off, visit bit.ly/taxprep22.

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*

•La Grange Branch

308 Yager Avenue, La Grange, KY 40031

•South Oldham Branch

6720 W. Hwy 146, Crestwood, KY 40014

•Goshen Branch

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

Evolving for a better community

While managing a global pandemic, there has been an evolution to the scope of work performed by your local health department. In addition to existing services, Oldham County Health Department (OCHD) has acquired new equipment, programs, and practices to better serve all residents of Oldham County.

To increase accuracy and efficiency, OCHD has acquired ezEMRx, a digital medical charting software. The program was designed specifically for use by public health departments because we often see patients dealing with complex health problems and challenging social issues. The third public health department to acquire this program in Kentucky, OCHD is now able to utilize a secure, confidential, online medical record system that encompasses electronic records management, practice management, inventory management, patient portal, and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) management information systems as a single patient record. We can now gain a better understanding of a patient's medical history and providers can have access to a complete, longitudinal patient record. Detailed intake and follow through is now possible for all OCHD patients through this process.

To better identify and address unmet social needs, OCHD is in the process of onboarding a new



OCHD recently deployed the medical surge trailer to Western Kentucky to assist with recovery efforts after a recent tornado.

program called Unite Us. Eighty percent of health happens in our community. This unique program allows OCHD to connect all patients to the care and services available to improve their health outcomes. The program will help address needs based on six key social factors: financial insecurities, housing insecurities, food insecurities, mobility needs, environmental stress, and social isolation. OCHD will be able to use the Unite Us platform to provide all patients with an efficient system of referral for all health services. By establishing a network of communication with other partners, OCHD will utilize Unite Us to improve overall health in Oldham County.

To provide essential services to our state and local communities, OCHD's epidemiology team continues to investigate and track over 100 reportable diseases within the county including all COVID-19 cases. Through investigations, our epidemiology team can understand

how a disease spreads, identify potential outbreaks, and implement prevention strategies to control the spread. Disease trend data also helps to inform decisions and prevent future outbreaks in Oldham County.

To enhance public health preparedness, Oldham County's Medical Reserve Corps is organized by OCHD and allows our community to prepare for disaster response from volunteers. Preparedness enhances the capacity of our agency and our health care system to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from the adverse health effects of public health emergencies and

disasters. The recent acquisition of a new medical surge trailer will allow OCHD the ability to better provide adequate medical evaluation and care during events that exceed the limits of the normal medical infrastructure of an affected community. The trailer can be used to transport equipment and supplies in a crisis. It can contain treatment kits, trauma supplies, diagnostic equipment, infection control solutions and much more. With the medical surge trailer, OCHD can coordinate effectively with other response organizations and serve our community and others when it is most needed. For example, OCHD recently deployed the trailer to Western Kentucky to assist with recovery efforts after a tornado left catastrophic damage in numerous towns.

OCHD continues to identify opportunities to meet the needs of our community. As we evolve to provide an array of public health services to Oldham County, our vision is always to promote healthy people and a strong community.

SMOKING CESSATION CLASSES

OCHD Smoking Cessation Classes will resume in person on Tuesday, April 26 at the Oldham County Health Department, 6-7 pm. Free Nicotine Replacement Products (patch, gum, or lozenge) will be provided at no cost. Call OCHD to register: 502/222-3516. For additional information to quit smoking, call the Quitline 1-800-QUIT-NOW.



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

Building a healthier community

The Coalition for a Healthy Oldham County began the process of updating their 3 year strategic plan in March of 2021 with the implementation of the Community Survey (see results on the next page). This was followed by a community forum, meetings with key stakeholders and coalition partners, and the implementation of the KIP Student Survey to students in grades 6, 8, 10 and 12. Based on data gathered through this process, the Coalition identified the following goals or strategic initiatives for the next three years. These goals are ambitious, and rely on the strong community partnerships the Coalition has built over the past 10 years. Please visit us on social media to see how you can become involved in helping us build a healthier community.

HOC Strategic Initiatives

- #1 *Reduce Substance Abuse and Related Consequences in Oldham County*
- #2 *Create a Community Culture that Supports Mental Health*
- #3 *Provide Options and Opportunities to Improve the Physical Health of all Oldham County Residents*
- #4 *Enhance Educational and Health-Related Literacy Among Oldham County Residents*
- #5 *Reduce Environmental Factors Associated with Adverse Health Outcomes*
- #6 *Implement a Collaborative Communication Plan to Promote Resources and Provide Education*



VISION: The Coalition for a Healthy Oldham County's vision is to create and sustain an engaged community where individuals have the ability to pursue a safe, healthy and independent lifestyle including opportunities for recreation and freedom from substance abuse.

Coalition for a Healthy Oldham County



Follow us on Facebook at Coalition for a Healthy Oldham County or on the web at coalitionforahealthyoc.com

Contact: Liz Burrows

502/222-3516 or elizabethf.burrows@ky.gov

Oldham County Community Health Survey Results

The Coalition for a Healthy Oldham County | April 2021

PURPOSE

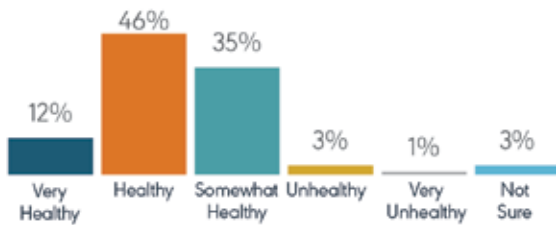
To gather local, real-time data that will help inform decision-makers as they work to provide services to support Oldham County residents.



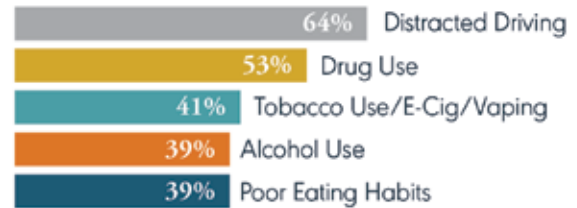
Demographics: Race/Ethnicity and Age



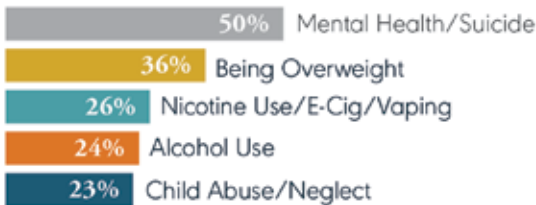
How would you rate the overall health of the Oldham County community?



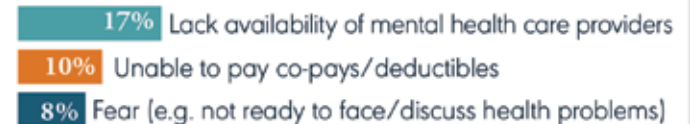
TOP 5 BEHAVIORS having most impact on the overall health of the Oldham County community



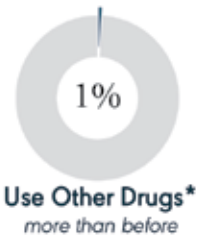
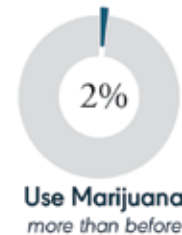
TOP 5 HEALTH PROBLEMS most important to address in order to improve community health



TOP 3 BARRIERS to accessing care in Oldham County



Since the COVID-19 pandemic, I now...



Since the COVID-19 pandemic, I now feel...



*Other drugs (opioids, meth, prescription medications without a prescription)

1,418 Residents

Total Participation (County-wide)

BELIEFS and your local community...



Percentages who agreed to the following statements.

- 95%** Youth alcohol use once or twice a week is harmful
- 94%** I feel safe in my own neighborhood
- 90%** Youth marijuana use once or twice a week is harmful
- 85%** I have no problem getting the health care services I need
- 77%** I am able to get healthy food easily
- 71%** We have great parks and recreational facilities
- 60%** Drug abuse is a problem in my community
- 49%** Adult marijuana use once or twice a week is harmful
- 47%** There are affordable places to live in my neighborhood
- 38%** Racism is a problem in Oldham County
- 22%** Oldham County is actively working to address racial disparities and achieve racial equity
- 17%** Crime in my area is a serious problem



TOP 5 COMMUNITY NEEDS to improve the health of your family and neighbors...

- 1** Positive teen activities, **31%**
- 2** Recreational facilities (parks, trails, community centers), **26%**
- 3** Counseling/mental health services, **24%**
- 4** Healthier food choices, **19%**
- 5** Higher paying employment, **19%**



TOP 5 HEALTH ISSUES respondents would like more education about...

- 1** Mental health/depression, **48%**
- 2** Exercise/physical activities, **36%**
- 3** Nutrition, **32%**
- 4** Suicide prevention, **25%**
- 5** Emergency preparedness, **24%**



TOP 5 HEALTH TOPICS parents think their children need more information about...

- 1** Social media safety, **49%**
- 2** Mental health issues, **42%**
- 3** Drug use/misuse, **28%**
- 4** Nutrition, **28%**
- 5** Suicide prevention, **26%**

68%

Support Oldham County's **Social Host Ordinance** to include the use of marijuana and other illicit drugs

The Coalition for a Healthy Oldham County's vision is to create and sustain a productive community where individuals have the ability to pursue a safe, healthy and independent lifestyle including freedom from substance abuse and opportunities for recreation. <http://www.coalitionforahealthyoc.com/>



Keep talking, they're listening

Research suggests that one of the most important factors in healthy child development is a strong, open relationship with a parent or other trusted adult. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, teacher, coach, youth leader or caring community member— you can encourage teens to make healthy decisions. Visit the following for more information:

The Dinner Table Project
(thedinnertableproject.org)

SAMHSA's Talk, They Hear You Campaign
(samhsa.gov/talk-they-hear-you)

Operation Parent
(operationparent.org)

Most teens in Oldham County are making healthy choices

- 93% do not drink alcohol regularly
- 93% do not vape nicotine regularly
- 97% do not use marijuana regularly
- 97% report not binge drinking during the past two weeks

89% of teens in Oldham County have a trusted adult to talk to or go to for help

94% believe that their parents feel it would be "very wrong" or "wrong" for them to use marijuana or alcohol and 96% believe their parents feel it would be "very wrong" or "wrong" for them to vape

Mental Health Check

- 37% of youth reported poor mental health days "most" or "all of the time" during the COVID-19 pandemic (including stress, anxiety and depression)
- 12% of youth reported feeling hopeless "all" or "most of the time" during the past 30 days
- 26% reported feeling nervous "all" or "most of the time" during the past 30 days
- 11% reported feeling worthless "all" or "most of the time"

Data based on Kentucky Incentives for Prevention (KIP) Student Survey Fall 2021. N = 601 (10th grade)



89% of teens in Oldham County have a trusted adult to talk to or go to for help.

Low-Income Home Water Assistance Program helps people in need

The Low-Income Home Water Assistance Program, or LIHWAP, is a new emergency program administered by the Office of Community Services (OCS) that helps low-income households pay water and sewer bills to maintain access to drinking water and wastewater services. Specifically, the funds are used to pay public water utilities to reduce arrearages¹ and rates charged to eligible

individuals. The program was created by the 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act, which provided \$638 million in initial funding, and Congress later appropriated an additional \$500 million for the program under the American Rescue Plan of 2021. LIHWAP has not been permanently authorized by Congress, which means that the program will end once all the funds appropriated to it have been spent.

Applications can be taken over the phone or in person at our Tri-County Community Action, 502/ 222-1349, 1015 Dispatchers Way, La Grange, KY 40031.

¹ For the purposes of LIHWAP, arrearage refers to an unpaid past due bill for household drinking water and/or wastewater utility services. LIHWAP grant resources can be used to pay for arrearages incurred at any point in time by households that meet LIHWAP eligibility criteria and may include reconnection charges, fees, and penalties.



Don't spring a leak — call before you dig!

Before warmer weather approaches, many are already planning outdoor projects around the home. A lot of these will require digging or excavating. Whether doing a self-project or hiring the work out, there are requirements in place to minimize underground utility damage.

Visit our website to request a water line locate before you dig. You will also need to contact Kentucky 811 (see <https://kentucky811.org> for more information) and any other utilities in your area. Penalties can

occur if damage happens due to a locate request not being made.

It is important to plan marking requests well in advance for your project. Normal requests can be submitted online by going to our website and choosing Locate Request at the bottom of the menu.

Any request that is considered an emergency MUST be done by telephone. This includes anytime after regular business hours or on weekends. Our staff will respond to these as soon as possible.



Call us or visit our website to request a water line locate before you dig.

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.

Oldham County Water District

Contact us:

By phone: 502/222-1690

By email: ocwd@oldhamcountywater.com

In person: 2160 Spencer Court, La Grange, KY 40031. Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 am - 4 pm

Online: <http://www.oldhamcountywater.com/>



Upcoming events at the Extension Office



INTERNATIONAL COOKING CAMP

July 12-14, 9 am-Noon. Does your young person love culinary arts? Our International Cooking Camp: *Around the World in 3 Days* will engage youth, ages 9 to 13, in learning to prepare foods from Cuba, Italy and Korea while also exploring their traditions. The camp will be held July 12-14 from 9 am to noon at the Extension office, 205 Parker Drive in La Grange. The cost will be \$25. Call 502/222-9453 to register.

4-H PROJECT NIGHT April 20, 6:30-8:30 pm. 4-H Project Night is a great opportunity for your 9-13 year old child to learn more about what 4-H is. Come join 4-H to create rustic recycled items: a planter created from barn wood and chicken wire filled with succulents, and a bottle cap flower wall hanging. Join us April 20th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Extension office, 205 Parker Drive in La Grange. The cost will be \$20. Call 502/222-9453.



Bottle Cap Wall Art



Succulent Planter



FOOD PRESERVATION SERIES 2022 April 5, May 24, June 21, 10 am-Noon. Beginner level food preservation demonstrations are being held at the Extension office, 205 Parker Drive from 10 am-Noon. Space is limited and registration is required. Call 502/222-9453 to sign up.

- April 5: Water Bath Canning - Salsa
- May 24: Pressure Canning - Carrots
- June 21: Freezing & Drying - Berries and Herbs

EQUINE FARM EQUIPMENT FIELD DAY April 2, 10 am-1:30 pm at Flying Cross Farm. The field day will include tractor and equipment displays and talks on Equipment Selection and New/Used Tractor Selection. This field day is targeted to farms 25 acres or smaller. Registration is requested to help us plan for lunch. Call 502/222-9453 to sign up.

POND MANAGEMENT FIELD DAY

July 9, 10 am-Noon, 1606-A Grange Drive, La Grange. This field day will include information on protecting pond banks, reducing sedimentation, controlling weeds, and more. Call 502/222-9453 to register.



Welcome!



Melanie Panaretos



Stephanie Willis



Heather Toombs

Welcome **Melanie Panaretos**, our new Staff Assistant. Melanie grew up on a farm in the rolling hills of southern Indiana and actively participated in 4-H throughout school.

As a recent transplant to the greater Louisville area she is experiencing the charming Kentucky

culture, as well as frequenting small businesses, and sampling the local fare. In her spare time she enjoys doing genealogy, interior design projects and restoring furniture. She also enjoys cooking and baking with foods and seasonings that are blood-type specific.

A warm welcome to **Stephanie Willis**, our new Program Assistant. Stephanie will be assisting with 4-H programs, Agricultural and Horticultural programs, and Family & Consumer Sciences programs.

She grew up on a dairy and cash-crop farm here in Oldham County. She later went on to earn a B.S. in Accounting from the University of Kentucky, and a Master in Arts of Teaching Degree from the University of Louisville.

She enjoys gardening, cooking, scrapbooking, and any form of arts and crafts. Stephanie has been involved with the Extension office over the years through her time on the family farm, and as a 4-H volunteer while her son was an active 4-H participant.

Say hello to **Heather Toombs**, our new Family & Consumer Sciences agent! She is a graduate of Brigham Young University-Idaho with a Bachelor of Science in Marriage and Family Studies and certification as a Family Life Educator.

Heather was born and raised in Montana. She and her husband have three children and eight grandchildren.

Ten years ago, they moved to Trimble County to try their hand at homesteading. They have raised chickens, rabbits, goats, and ducks. Heather enjoys gardening and DIY home projects. In addition, she enjoys crafting, playing games, and spending time with family.

Oldham KY Tourism & Conventions

Oldham County Tourism relocates to a more centralized site

When an opportunity presented itself for Oldham County Tourism & Conventions to move into a newly renovated vacant building inside The Maples Park, we took advantage of it! Such a move in August 2021 allowed Oldham County Tourism to have larger office space, to incorporate a public Visitor Center, and to be inside a fast-growing, highly trafficked park in Oldham County.

One of the best things about the move was that The Maples Park, located in the center of Crestwood, is much more centrally located to most of the tourism attractions in the County. It's easily accessible for stopping in to pick up and drop off brochures if you are at an Oldham County attraction, and to gather

information on tours and events if you are a visitor. There is also plenty of space for motor coaches and school buses to enter and exit as Oldham County Tourism conducts large numbers of bus tours annually, making it easier to hop on with them!

In addition, we are able to assist with the Park's event space, The Dennis Deibel Barn, the County's first Splash Pad, and numerous events held inside the Park, such as Arts on the Green, Shakespeare in the Park, and food truck movie nights, making it a constant hub of activity. Look for an amphitheater coming next to the Park!

The Maples Park is easy to find and is the perfect spot as Oldham County attractions continue to grow,

as does our constant interest from media outlets and travel writer visits. The Park is the perfect backdrop for the Oldham County Tourism Office & Visitors Center!

For more information about tourism in Oldham County, please

contact Kim Hydes at 502/ 222-0056 or visit www.TourOldhamKY.com. Or better yet, stop by the Tourism office inside The Maples Park Monday - Friday, 9 am - 4:30 pm. You'll be amazed at what you find inside our white cottage!

Oldham KY Tourism & Conventions



Kim Buckler Hydes
Executive Director

Oldham County Tourism Office & Visitor Center at
The Maples Park
6826 W State Hwy 22 • Crestwood, KY 40014
502-222-0056 | Toll Free 800-813-9953
Kim Buckler Hydes, Executive Director
Director@TourOldham.com



Tour Oldham County KY



OldhamCoKY



#OldhamCountyTourismKY
#OldhamFarmToursKY

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

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.

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 five soil testing vouchers a year for County residents. Once you’ve received the voucher, take your soil sample and the voucher to the Cooperative Extension office for testing.



Tree Seedling Giveaway

The Tree Seedling Giveaway has been going on for many years and is responsible for thousands of trees planted in Oldham County. This year’s Tree Giveaway will be held at the Oldham County History Center on Saturday, April 23, in celebration of Earth Day. We’ll have forestry and gardening experts in attendance to answer any questions you may have about the tree seedlings or gardening

in general. 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! Some of the available species this year include: Red Shumard Oak, Pin Oak, White Oak, White Pine, Virginia Pine, River Birch, and Persimmon.

Stay tuned to our Facebook page or the Oldham Era for more information leading up to the Tree Giveaway.

Composting Bin

The Conservation District provides a free Geobin composting system for residents upon completion of a short training session. **Visit bit.ly/occdclass to register.** After registering, each participant will be sent the link for the video that you can watch at your own pace, and then a quick quiz. Following the quiz, your information will be given to us and

we’ll coordinate the pick-up of a new Geobin!

This program is made possible through a grant from the KY Division of Waste Management and is run in conjunction with several partners: Oldham Co. Solid Waste/ Recycling, Cooperative Extension Service, Oldham Public Library, and volunteers.



Why should you compost?

- Enriches soil, helping retain moisture and suppress plant diseases and pests.
- Reduces the need for chemical fertilizers.

Oldham County Soil & Water Conservation District

- Encourages the production of beneficial bacteria and fungi that break down organic matter to create humus, a rich nutrient-filled material.
- Reduces methane emissions from landfills and lowers your carbon footprint.

Pollinator Habitat Cost-Share

Do you have more grass to mow than you'd like? The Conservation District has a program for that! Pollinators are crucial to food production. Why not give them a spot on your property, large or small, to rest and get the fuel they need to continue their work for us? We'll help you turn it into a pollinator habitat (aka Wildflower Garden). Approved

applicants will be reimbursed 50% of the cost up to \$150.

Applications will be accepted year-round, and applicants will have one year from the approval date to install their plot. Get approved now, and be a step ahead for spring planting.

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.

If you own 10-acres or more, you should have an Agricultural Water Quality Plan (AWQP). It is a necessity if you plan to reap the benefits of financial aid programs, like EQIP. These programs are designed to assist land owners in maintaining, improving and/or growing their land's production according to their individual goals. The AWQP is a perfect place to document a starting point and your goals for the future.

Just call or email the office to schedule an appointment for a 15-minute conversation to get started.

Large Dead Animal Removal

The Conservation District provides partial funding for the removal of deceased livestock. To take advantage of this service, please call County Dispatch at 222-0111 to schedule a pickup.

Oldham Co. Soil & Water Conservation District



1002 Buckner Ctr., Suite 4

La Grange, KY 40031

phone: 502/222-5123

email: oldhamswcd@gmail.com

Oldham County Fiscal Court — Currys Fork Watershed

Nature-based solutions

The intersection of mitigation and management

“Nature-based solutions are locally appropriate, cost-effective actions that mimic or support natural processes while simultaneously providing economic, social, and environmental benefits (DOW).”

Nature-based solutions is really a catch-all term for any project designed to use healthy plants and soil to protect land and waterways. Deep rooted native vegetation helps to slow down stormwater runoff, giving time for soil to mimic a sponge and soak it into the ground. Soil and plants also work together to filter pollutants such as fertilizers, road salts, and oils. Common examples of nature-based solutions include rain gardens, planted stream buffers, wetlands, and bioswales. By supporting so many environmental benefits,

nature-based solutions also have the incredible ability to create common ground among the disciplines of watershed management, stormwater management, and hazard mitigation. As heavy rain events become both more common and more variable, working together to **Help Nature Help Us**, shines through as the best solution!

Volunteers wanted!

In 2021 volunteers planted over 900 trees, installed 20 rain barrels, fixed 13 failing septic systems, and gave numerous hours to help our environment here in Oldham County. Let's do more in 2022! Interested in helping to get trees and pollinator gardens planted? Let us know here: www.bit.ly/CFVOLUNTEER2022

Upcoming programs:

Rain Barrels! All Oldham County residents are eligible for up to a \$50 reimbursement for the installation of a rain barrel! It's never too soon to start preparing for summer.

Plant Wildflowers Kick-Off Event: March 31

Ponds and Lake Management Workshop: July 9



Live stakes planted along streambanks is a great example of a nature-based solution! For more examples, check out Kentucky Division of Water's (DOW) Story Map: Nature-Based Watershed Solutions in Kentucky (<https://arcg.is/1mLGar0>)

Currys Fork Watershed



For more information, contact

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



Updates at Oldham County Parks

Peggy Baker Park

Coming soon to Peggy Baker Park — an exciting new playground, suitable for kids of all ages!

Located at 6887 Abbott Ln. in Crestwood, Peggy Baker Park covers 25 acres and includes a picnic shelter with restroom facilities, walking/running trail, basketball court, dog park and the South Oldham Little League fields.

In mid to late June, installation will begin on new playground structures at Peggy Baker Park. Weather permitting, the new playground will be ready for families by July 1, 2022.

You may reserve the picnic shelter at Peggy Baker Park, or other Oldham County Parks and Recreation shelters for \$40/day. Call 502/225-0655 to make a reservation.

Wendell Moore Park

Oldham County Parks and Recreation is proud to announce a new updated fun playground to replace the outdated playground.

Wendell Moore Park encompasses 107 acres and features 3.25 miles of paved walking trails. The lake is primed for fishing from the bank. The park also includes basketball, tennis, and pickleball courts, as well as softball fields and a concession area. We are most proud of our 18-hole disc golf course there, and the Elizabeth Cleland Cauley Dog Park. The John W. Black Center is located at Wendell Moore Park, as well as the Oldham County Youth Football fields.

The newest picnic shelter overlooking the lake joins two others at Wendell Moore Park. You may reserve these picnic shelters, or other Oldham County Parks and Recreation shelters for \$40/day. Call 502/225-0655 to make a reservation.



New playground coming to Peggy Baker Park



Updated playground at Wendell Moore Park



The Courthouse is moving!

The historic Oldham County Courthouse is moving twice within the courthouse block. The first move is to the rear of the courthouse block along Jefferson Street. The second move, later this year, will be to a large concrete foundation built near the center of the block.

The interior of the old building, which was first begun in 1828 but not permanently used until 1838, will be the entrance to the new 53,975 sq ft Oldham County Judicial Center.

The Kentucky Legislature began a renovation and construction project in 2000 for the state's 120 counties. Nine other new courthouses are currently under development in Kentucky. Expected to open in late 2024, Oldham County is the 70th new courthouse project undertaken.



Far left: Rendering of new Courthouse design



Top: Aerial view of Courthouse prior to move



Middle: Courthouse prior to move

Bottom: Courthouse front prior to move

Parks and Recreation Programs and Events

502 / 225-0655

For our full schedule of activities and to print out registration forms, visit www.oldhamcountyky.gov. Register online for all of our programs: <https://ocparks.recdesk.com/>

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



Archery Lessons

Lessons taught by certified archery instructor, Gary Parsons, will be offered for adults and children 10 and up. All classes are taught according to the NASP archery school program. Classes will meet once a week for five weeks at a total cost of \$55. There is no equipment to purchase for class.

Ready, Set, Run! (Youth Running Program)

Ready, Set, Run! is a running program and a whole lot more. While girls and boys ages 8-13 train to participate in

a 5K, they will also learn different life lessons, such as nutrition, self-esteem, how to deal with authority figures, and respect for others. Classes meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning on April 19, 6-7:30 pm, for 12 weeks. \$65 fee includes entry into the Firecracker 5K on July 9 at Schamback Park in Westport, KY.

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

Men's & Coed leagues. \$460 per team (includes USSSA sanction fee) includes up to an 8-game season plus

a single-elimination tournament. League play begins on Thursday, May 5.

Beginning Tennis Lessons

For ages 7 and up, lessons will be held on the courts at Wendell Moore Park. For \$48 you can choose from morning classes once per week for 3 weeks or evening classes once per week for 6 weeks. Classes start in June. Limited space available.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Mother/Son Dance:

May 13

Held at the John W. Black Community Center from 6:30-8:30 pm. Come dance the night away to great music with a live DJ. For only \$30 per couple (add \$5 for each additional son) enjoy light refreshments, contests, complimentary photo and a carnation for your young fella. Tickets available beginning April 1 by calling 225-0655.

OCPR Down & Dirty Obstacle Mud Run:

May 21

For ages 7 & over. Come push yourself to the limit on our mud obstacle course that includes walls, tunnels, balance beams and over a dozen other challenging obstacles. Registration fee includes an after party with music and food trucks! Visit our website to sign up!

"Old-Ham" Half Marathon: June 11

Saturday, June 11 Oldham County Parks and Recreation will host the first "Old-Ham" Half Marathon. Come out and take a 13.1 jaunt through beautiful Oldham County. Pre-registration required.



Duathlon: August 27

Oldham County Parks is bringing back the OCPR Duathlon on August 27 while the aquatic center is closed for repairs. This event combines running and biking into one exciting race. Participants will run a 3K that includes firm surfaces and cross-country segments, followed by a 10-mile bike ride on a non-closed road course, and conclude with another 3K run. The registration fee is \$60 per USAT members. Non-USAT members must add \$15 (\$10 for under age 17) per participant to cover one-day insurance. The top two finishers in a variety of age groups as well as the male & female overall winners receive awards. Pre-registration (required) ends August 5.

Movies in the Park:

June 3, July 22, & August 12

Free movie night in the park. Come out to Wendell Moore Park and enjoy a movie under the stars. Bring your lawn chairs, blanket or just lay in the grass and watch a movie on our 16' screen. Popcorn and sodas will be sold before and during the movie.



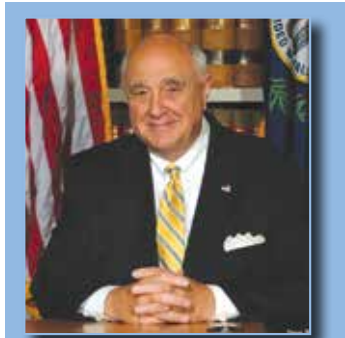
Rollin' on the River Food Truck Festival:

October 1

Food trucks, live music, craft beer, and kids activities on the bank of the Ohio River! Join us for our third annual Food Truck Festival on October 1 from 11 am- 5 pm.

From the desk of Judge/Executive David Voegele

How many sworn law enforcement officers do we need?



*David Voegele
Oldham County Judge/Executive*

Periodically, I am asked if Oldham County should have more sworn law enforcement officers? The question comes up if we have a rash of night-time car break-ins or some event that captures public attention.

Staffing for law enforcement is a continuous challenge and one that has become more difficult and complex in recent years. Hiring and retention is not only an issue for our department but for most departments throughout the country. Despite that, many qualified and dedicated officers remain in law enforcement and new

qualified and dedicated individuals are entering law enforcement. Our challenge is attracting them to Oldham County.

A rule of thumb, found in the FBI's annual report — Crime in the United States — says larger police departments average about 2.4 officers per 1000 residents, although this number varies greatly by location and other variables, such as the number and nature of the calls, time consumed on runs for service, additional operational requests, shift relief factors, and geographical and jurisdictional coverage. The combination of these variables determines the actual police workload.

Currently, Oldham County Police — led by Chief Greg Smith — has an authorized strength of 43 sworn officers. The department has five sergeants who supervise 24 patrol officers and 3 detectives. An additional 9 officers, paid for primarily by the Board of Education, are school resource officers.

This year's county police department budget is \$4.8 million, the second largest recurring expense for county government. The budget for the Sheriff is \$2.3 million.

While most of both budgets goes for salaries, Social Security, hazardous duty retirement, insurance and workers' compensation, there is also equipment, training, uniforms and vehicle cost. It costs at least \$125,000 to put a new police officer or sheriff's deputy on the street.

The cost for school resource officers is split between Fiscal Court and school board. The Board of Education contributes \$438,200 for salaries and Fiscal Court provides \$152,733 for other expenses.

Our county Sheriff has 19 people, Sherriff Steve Sparrow plus 15 deputies and 3 court security officers. Sherriff's deputies back up police when needed, but primarily serve civil summons, provide court security and do prisoner transports.

Oldham County may be larger than you realize. Distance and weather conditions can easily hinder police response time. The County covers 196 square miles. We have over 100 subdivisions scattered among 517 miles of state, county and city roads.

Last year, with the goal of having as many officers on the street as possible, county police switched from three 8-hour shifts to two 12-hour shifts per day. Patrol officers now work 84 hours per week. Because of the change, we are now able to have as many as 7 patrol units on the street at any one time.

Although violent crime has not been a major issue in Oldham County, police are busy. I have asked

for more traffic enforcement on I-71, drug investigations are up, and there are more requests for business checks, home checks, domestic incidents and other requests for assistance. Frankly, the department cannot accommodate all the requests, especially requests for traffic control in some neighborhoods.

In addition to Oldham County police and Oldham County Sheriff, the City of LaGrange Police — led by Chief Greg Collett — are fully-staffed with 17 sworn officers, and Pewee Valley has one officer, Chief Mark Hoskins. The Kentucky State Police have four troopers living in Oldham County. In all, we have approximately 80 certified officers in the County.

All Oldham County officers, sheriff's deputies, LaGrange and Pewee Valley officers, as well as state police, are "POPS Certified," meaning they have passed and continue to maintain the rigorous requirements for the Police Officers Professional Standards designation.

Maintaining a safe environment in Oldham County is critical and I am willing to support more police and sheriff's deputies, if needed. However, the final decision regarding the number of officers and deputies we have is a community decision for the entire Fiscal Court and other legislative bodies that provide police services.

Sincerely,

David Voegele

Oldham County Judge/Executive



From left to right: Chief Mark Hoskins, Chief Greg Collett, Sheriff Steve Sparrow, Chief Greg Smith

Oldham County Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Saturday, October 1
Oldham County Fairgrounds
2401 W. Highway 146
9 am - 3 pm

ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

- Oil-based or lead paints, varnishes, stains and solvents such as paint thinner, mineral spirits, degreasers, wood preservatives
- Compact and tube fluorescent light bulbs, PCB ballasts
- Freon cylinders, (small and medium) propane tanks (1 lb. and 20 lb. grill,) and fire extinguishers
- Antifreeze, gasoline, adhesives, tars, driveway sealers
- Lawn, garden and pool chemicals, pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers
- Cleaners such as oven, drain, bathroom, rug, upholstery, spot removers; furniture polishes and waxes
- Metal polishes, waxes and rust removers
- Smoke detectors, mercury thermometers, thermostats and loose mercury
- Dry cell batteries including lithium with taped contacts, NiCad and alkaline

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:

- **NO MATERIALS FROM BUSINESSES AND NON-RESIDENTS OF OLDHAM COUNTY**
- **NO MOTOR OIL**
- **NO LATEX OR WATER-BASED PAINT**
- **NO LEAD-ACID BATTERIES** (accepted at the Oldham County Recycling Center)
- No Explosives such as gun powder, ammunition and flares
- No Medications, regulated medical waste; or unstable wastes as determined by the contractor
- No Radioactive materials

QUESTIONS? CALL 502/ 565-1007

This collection event is funded through a grant from the State of Kentucky Pride Fund. It is made possible by the Oldham County Solid Waste and Recycling Department. A special thanks to the Oldham County Fair Board for the use of their facility for this event!



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Oldham County Fiscal Court

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 tube or projection televisions.

This is a free drop-off facility, open from dawn to dusk, 7 days a week. Please leave your trash at home. Video-monitoring is used and enforced.

If in doubt about any item, please call 502/565-1007!



Items dropped off in plastic bags of any kind will not be recycled.