

EXTENSION Today

IN MADISON COUNTY

In Madison County we're growing ideas that make a difference in your life, your family, and your community. We have a dedicated staff of trained professionals delivering educational programs in agriculture and natural resources, horticulture, family and consumer sciences, 4-H youth development, and community and economic development. The Madison County Cooperative Extension Office is your connection to the University of Kentucky and the world.

You'll see some key numbers in this report. But the numbers don't show you the people or the impact of our work. So the rest of this report shows the faces behind some of the numbers.

Second Sunday

Kentucky is one of the most obese states in America. Second Sunday, a statewide event, encouraged people to get out and exercise in a fun, safe, community – friendly environment. Over 300 people participated in the Madison County Event at Battlefield Park and Golf Club which combined history, physical activity and fun. Participants could walk, run, or bicycle on over 3 miles of paved trails and paths. Well over 250 volunteers worked to make the day a success.



Second Sunday showcased many of Madison County's parks and physical activity opportunities



Shannon Kelly stands beside her Grand Champion sewing project

4-H Builds Life Skills Through Fair

The 2008 4-H County Fair Exhibits were at an all time high with over 300 entries from 78 exhibitors. 4-H members across the county entered items in categories such as needlework, horticulture, arts, foods, and woodworking just to name a few. To learn more about how to participate in the 2009 fair, contact the Extension office today!

Making and Maintaining Container Gardens

In this class, we discussed the basics of container gardens, as well as different materials used for planters. Each participant made a hypertufa pot, which they took home. This type of pot is made from simple materials but has the appearance of stone when completed.



Making hypertufa plant containers

4-H “Discover the Treasure”

2008 was a very successful summer for 4-H camp with over 220 participants, ages nine to thirteen. Campers had the chance to embark on a “Treasure Hunt” and enjoyed an opening night carnival. Mark your 2009 calendars' now for June 29 to July 2, 2009 and join the fun!



Campers having FUN at summer camp 08

Farm Field Day

Over 200 people attended the June Farm Field Day held at the Foster Farm in the Baldwin Community. Various topics were discussed, including beef cattle cross breeding, tobacco varieties, berries, and forage management. Information was made available on proper stretching and lifting, the quilt trail, canning and proper hydration. Children learned how to milk “Betsy the Cow” and made delicious ice cream.



Dr. Darrh Bullock discusses the importance of cross breeding beef cattle

Education Pays

Extension provides programming for a wide variety of audiences in Madison County. Extension Homemakers and Family Consumer Science Staff shared basic life skills with students in the Education Pays program at EKV. Topics presented included “Saving and Investing”, “Clothing Repair”, and nutrition and parenting tips.



Teaching life skills at Eastern Kentucky University

Farm Tour

This past summer, the Madison County Extension Service led 45 participants on an agriculture tour of western Kentucky and Tennessee. The participants visited several beef cattle farms, an ethanol plant, and attended a UT horticultural field day. Other visits included a rice farm and a stop at the Opry.



2008 Extension Farm tour to Western Kentucky and Tennessee

4-H Cloverville at the Berea Spoonbread Festival

Today's tough economic situation and the resulting strain on family budgets prompted Madison County 4-H to provide free family learning activities at the 2008 Berea Spoonbread festival. More than 1,000 families enjoyed 4-H's free family photos, corn hole games, corn box, and other interactive activities. Participants also made their own spoonbread, practiced archery, and completed a woodworking project.



Children enjoying the corn box at 4-H Cloverville

Cooking School

The benefits of cooking and eating at home are many. Home cooking costs pennies on the dollar compared to meals prepared in restaurants. Home cooking allows consumers to control what goes into their food and what stays out while promoting family time and self esteem in children.



Madison County Extension Homemaker's Cooking School

Master Gardener Training

The Master Gardener program offered interested clientele the chance to become horticulturally trained volunteers that can give back to the community. After completing a 13 week instructional program the volunteers obtain certification by completing 30 hours of volunteer education activities. This year Master Gardeners volunteered at the county fair, the Pottery Festival, and various other community outreach programs.



2008 Madison County Master Gardener Class

Winter Agriculture Meetings

Several agriculture meetings were held in January and February 2008. A major focus this year was forage establishment. In cooperation with the Madison County NRCS and EKU's Meadowbrook Farm, the Madison County Extension Service held a winter workshop to focus on renovating drought stricken pastures. Forage improvement cost share programs, and no-till drill set up and calibration were also discussed.



Madison County at EKU's Meadowbrook farm learned about pasture renovation



Grafting and Pruning Workshop

When settlers made their way west, they often took wood from their favorite fruit trees with them. When they reached their destination, they would graft this wood onto a root, creating a tree just like they had back home. Participants of the Grafting and Pruning Workshop learned how to graft, care for apple trees and learned proper pruning techniques.



Hands on learning at the Grafting and Pruning Workshop

Reaching Out to Madison County

Educational Programs

Programs presented	1,725
Total participants	47,603

Educational Contacts

Clientele visits	550
Telephone consultations	17,324
Newsletters distributed	52,850

Volunteer Development

Volunteers	1,885
Volunteer hours	9,425
Clientele reached by volunteers	9,805

The Madison County Cooperative Extension Service

We deliver information, education, solutions.

230 Duncannon Lane ~ Richmond, KY 40475
 Phone: (859) 623-4072 ~ Fax: (859) 624-9510
 On the web: www.ca.uky.edu

Madison County Extension Agents may be reached at the following phone extensions:

Gina Noe, FCS Agent—Ext. 212
Miranda Shearer, 4-H Agent—Ext. 214
Lisa Adams, 4-H Agent—Ext. 216
Scott Darst, 4-H Agent—Ext. 215
Brandon Sears, Agriculture Agent—Ext. 213
Amanda Sears, Horticulture Agent—Ext. 222