

EXTENSION Today

IN McCREARY COUNTY

In McCreary 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, family and consumer sciences, 4-H youth development, and community and economic development. The McCreary 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.

Kathy Brannon Memorial Craft Day

The first annual Kathy Brannon Memorial Craft Day was held on January 29th, 2011. Several Heritage Skills classes were held this day including basket weaving, jewelry, painting, cooking, and sewing among others. There were 73 attendees and all but 2 classes were full. A total of \$895 was raised prior to the program and \$1,139 was raised through a silent auction to help with program expenses. Of those attending 98% reported they learned a new skill; 95% said it was a "great" experience for them; and 87% stated that it should expand to a 2 day program. It will be 2 days this year; January 27-28, 2012.



Hike McCreary County

Over the past year, individuals from Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri, and South Carolina participated in 13 hikes totaling 51.5 miles. Included in these were a Hiking Weekend and 2nd Sunday activities. The hikes averaged 17 people per hike and 4 miles in length. The following are some of the results from the evaluation survey: 100% reported that hiking made them feel healthier; 94% reported that they had "a lot" of fun on the hikes; 86% that they are now in better physical condition than before the hikes; and 76% reported taking family and friends to some of the places they had hiked.

Reaching Out to McCreary County

Educational Programs

Programs presented	132
Total participants	7,750

Educational Contacts

Clientele visits	328
Newsletters distributed	2,000
Total Contacts	14,209

Volunteer Development

Volunteers	90
Volunteer hours	2,100



Leadership McCreary County

15 local participants from various backgrounds and professions were recruited for the program with 13 of those participants graduating. Nine monthly programs were presented on topics such as State and Local Government; Economic Development and Tourism; Conflict Resolution; Local History; and Leadership Styles among others. 15 local organizations, including Extension, collaborated to make this program a success. Following are some results from their evaluations: 56% of participants rated the it as outstanding; 100% said the program was worth their time and effort; and 22 % had accepted a new leadership position since starting the program.



Beginning Baskets

A Beginning Basket class was held for adults with no or very little basket making experience. The class had a total of 15 participants and the leaders were several members of the McCreary County Basket Guild. At the end of the class all participants had completed their basket which was made using the Jeremiah Basket pattern. There have been several inquiries into when the next “Beginners” class will be scheduled.



Sheltowee Extreme South Adventure Race

A USARA sanctioned 24 hour adventure race was held in McCreary County. The race was open to individuals, teams of 2, 3, or 4 individuals (males, females, & co-ed). Participants had to orienteer, trek, canoe/kayak, repel, and mountain bike for a total of over 80 miles. 103 racers from KY, OH, VA, NC, SC, GA, LA, PA, IN, MO, and TN participated in the event, one participant was from Australia. 75 volunteers assisted in implementing the race. 25% of racers had visited the area before & 94% state that they would return to the area on vacation. As a result of this race, the USARA chose McCreary County to host the 2011 National Championship Race.

Environmental Camp

70 youth and 10 adults attended this program that was presented as a three day, two night event held at the J.M. Feltner 4-H Camp. There were a total of 10 day time programs and 4 night programs that each child participated in. The youth visited a Landfill and Recycling Center as part of this program.

The final survey provided these results: 75% of participants said they learned “a lot” while attending camp; 90% rated the camp as “a lot” of fun; and after attending the camp, 76% rated their knowledge of the topics taught as 3 (know a lot about the topic).



4-H Camp

A total of 27 campers, 2 teen leaders, and 3 adult volunteers attended 4-H Camp this year at J.M. Feltner 4-H Camp. This was a 4 day, 3 night camp where the kids were offered classes on topics such as GeoCaching, First Aid, Swimming, Foods, Birdhouses, Arts & Crafts, Bicycling, Dance, Sewing and a variety of others. The kids also got to enjoy fun activities of the evenings such as relay races, “game shows”, and dances among others. Camp is a way for kids to enjoy themselves while learning and the majority of campers expressed an interest in returning next year.



Meet the New Office Staff

Since July 1, 2010 three new individuals have joined our Office Staff. Donna Ridener started in March 2011 as the SNAP-Ed Assistant; Laurie Johnson started in April 2011 as Staff Assistant; and Charli DeLaughter started in June 2011 as the EFNEP Assistant. These changes came following Vonda New’s retirement in January 2011 after 37.5 years of service, and Chris Kidd’s retirement in May 2011 after 24.5 years of service. While we were sad to say goodbye to Vonda & Chris, we hope that they enjoy retirement to the fullest. We are glad to welcome the new staff and hope they enjoy their work here with us.

The McCreary County Cooperative Extension Service

We deliver information, education, and solutions.
For more information, contact us at:

P.O. Box 278
Whitley City, KY 42653

(606) 376-2524

Fax: (606) 376-8823

E-mail: DL_CES_MCCREARY@EMAIL.UKY.EDU

www2.ca.uky.edu

<http://ces.ca.uky.edu/mccreary/>

