

REPORT TO THE PEOPLE



Bracken County 2024

KENTUCKY  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

UK MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT
KSU COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY AND THE SCIENCES



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4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



Mock Crash Scene at Safe and Sober Prom

Bracken County 4-H and the Bracken County FRYSC partnered with various emergency response agencies in the county to provide a Safe and Sober Prom program highlighting the effects and possible outcomes of drinking and driving. This program featured a mock crash event involving real wrecked vehicles. The scenario depicted a group of teens on their way to prom that decided to drink alcohol in their vehicle. The other car in the scene was driven by Molly Jordan, a 4-H agent, with her daughter as a passenger. Various emergency agencies and law enforcement were called to the crash scene, extracting victims and portraying the tragic death of Molly, who was removed by the coroner. After the crash scene was cleared, students were escorted to the football field for a mock memorial service, where they witnessed the lasting impact of their choices involving drinking and driving.

4-H is a **community** of **young people**
across **America** who are learning
leadership, citizenship and
life skills.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

There is a strong need for substance abuse prevention for youth. Truth and Consequences is an enrichment activity designed to educate students about the impact of substance abuse, including the physical, legal, financial, and emotional consequences. The event was held at the Judicial Center in Brooksville. We invited the 8th graders from Bracken County Middle School and Augusta Independent School to come. We had total of 115 students attend this year's event. We partnered with 19 community partners to provide people for the scenario stations, 3 community partners for the stations, and a local family for our speaker.

Students were impacted by learning about real situations of being involved in legal and illicit drugs. It was evident that the students took the scenarios seriously as they were conversing with each community partner. Of the 115 students who participated and responded, 80% reported a better understanding of the legal consequences of substance abuse, 75% reported a better understanding of the harm and risk of substance abuse and 90% reported knowing where to turn in the community to access help.



Students in the courtroom scenario.



AG & NATURAL RESOURCES

Bracken County's participation in the Eastern Kentucky Hay Contest this year was nothing short of extraordinary. With 146 samples collected from 50 producers, the contest showcased not only the quality of our local hay but also the strong community of farmers who dedicate themselves to excellence.

In previous years, participation was modest, with only about 25 samples from 8 farms. But this year, the new Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent saw an opportunity to grow the program and strengthen connections with producers across the county. Traveling from farm to farm to collect samples wasn't just about the contest - it became a journey of discovery and community building.

Each farm visit offered a unique story learning about the traditions and processes behind each producer's hay-making efforts, met neighbors who lent a helping hand, and even heard heartwarming personal stories that highlighted the resilience and pride of our agricultural community. These visits weren't just about collecting samples - they were about building trust, understanding the challenges producers face, and fostering a shared commitment to agricultural success.

The results of the contest speak volumes about the dedication of Bracken County's farmers. This year, our county earned the Highest Quality Average with an impressive score of 192, and we celebrated having the Grand Champion Hay with a remarkable quality score of 219. Out of the 12 contest categories, Bracken County farmers secured 6 first-place wins, 4 second-place finishes, and 5 third-place spots. In fact, we completely dominated 3 of the categories - a testament to the hard work and expertise of our local producers.

Our agent, was honored to win recognition for collecting the most samples in the contest, with 146 submissions. This achievement wouldn't have been possible without the support and enthusiasm of our producers. Their willingness to participate and share their stories made this contest a success not just for me but for the entire county.

This year's contest was a celebration of what makes Bracken County special - our commitment to quality, our sense of community, and our pride in agriculture.



Agent collecting samples at local farm.



146 samples to submit for analysis.

NOTHING IS OUT OF REACH.



Healthy Families. Healthy Homes. Healthy Communities.



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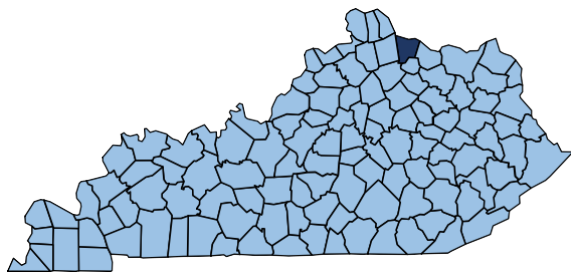
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IN BRACKEN COUNTY...

- **110** Number of people who collected soil samples for testing.
- **201** Number of individuals more likely to buy Kentucky produce as a result of receiving a KY Plate It Up recipe card.
- **2500** Number of hours KEHA (Homemaker) members volunteered for Extension activities and events.
- **230** Number of youth who engaged in Ag 4-H Programming.
- **398** Number of youth who participated in Health 4-H programming.
- **89** Individuals reported an increased knowledge of substance use prevention, addiction, and recovery.



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