

REPORT TO THE PEOPLE

Warren County • 2024 - 2025

 Martin-Gatton
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment



Highlighted activities with the International Center Nutrition Program.

Empowering Refugees through Nutrition Education

The International Center contacted the Cooperative Extension Service for nutrition education classes. The case manager expressed concern that Refugees were experiencing chronic health issues and needed basic nutrition education to help lower their risk for hypertension and diabetes. The Warren County Cooperative Extension Service Agent team agreed to this educational endeavor to provide a 6-week educational series utilizing some of the “Healthy Choices for Everybody” curriculum while introducing local foods, food preparation, and how to create a balanced meal.

Nine Swahili-speaking refugees with less than one year of residency participated in the nutrition series. Two-hour educational sessions were taught by a team of extension agents at the International Center with a translator. One hundred percent increased knowledge in protein sources, best fruit and vegetable choices to improve health, decreasing sodium intake, and how to utilize everyday kitchen utensils. During the program, the participants revealed that navigating grocery stores was one barrier to proper nutrition. In response to this need, agents conducted a grocery store field trip, walking them through the store, pointing out fruits, vegetables, proteins, dairy, and grains, and answering any questions they had about food. Some significant program successes were 100% learning about proper hand washing techniques, how to use a can opener, how to use a thermometer for food safety, knife and chopping skills, essential food preparation, navigating the grocery store, and basic nutrition principles.

Interesting Fact:

11.7% of Warren County’s population speaks a language other than English.

Leadership

Extension is an innovator in developing adult and youth leadership and decision-making skills. These leadership experiences engage volunteers in programs, organizations, and communities where they share their voice and influence decision-making that impacts them and their peers.

- Warren County 4-H has 46 volunteers that lead our 24 4-H clubs.
- Warren County 4-H Clubs have 68 members that are trained club officers.
- This past year 19 4-H members, 2 adult volunteers, and 1 agent attended Teen Conference on University of Kentucky's campus. Teen Conference is designed to build leadership skills and promote community service opportunities in older 4-H members.
- This past year 4 tweens and 3 teens attended 4-H Summit. The 3 teens taught leadership workshops at 4-H Summit to the tween members.
- Warren County 4-H has 4 teens on the State 4-H Leadership Boards.
- Warren County has 8 Homemaker Clubs.
- 2 homemakers are on the Mammoth Cave Area Leadership Council.
- 8 Extension Master Gardeners led a "Native Seeds Workshop" that encouraged 20 residents to add native plants to their landscapes.
- 28 agriculture leaders serve in roles that promote agriculture awareness and economic development.



Warren County 4-H Club Officers

Educational Programming



Refuge Bowling Green Gardening Project

Extension provides non-formal educational programs to Warren County residents. The programs are developed by using research-based knowledge provided by the state's two land-grant universities.

- 7500 individuals increased agriculture awareness through Extension programming.
- 36 educational programs for farmers were offered to increase knowledge and improve management practices.
- 9 educational programs in consumer horticulture reached 181 participants.
- 5 commercial horticulture educational programs attracted 143 producers.
- 224 youth were educated on knife skills and proper cooking techniques.
- 170 youth received hunters' education.
- 681 youth participated in workforce readiness training.
- 1026 youth participated in financial education programs.
- 124 youth participated in alcohol awareness programs.
- 86 homemakers received monthly lessons on various topics.
- Extension Agents partnered with Refuge Bowling Green and the International Center to provide nutrition and gardening classes.

Service

Extension greatly values volunteers who share their knowledge, skills, time, and resources to help others make informed decisions. Local volunteers significantly impact families and communities, enabling Extension to reach diverse audiences and assist vulnerable populations with limited access to services.

- 439 4-H volunteers have provided 7,051 hours to Warren County 4-H youth
- 22 Extension Master Gardeners volunteers have given back 540 total hours to the community through numerous service projects
- 21,108 hours have been given by the Warren County Homemakers for volunteering for Extension activities or events
- 47 agriculture volunteers have provided 175 hours in their leadership roles across the county
- Total Number of Volunteer Hours: 17,349
- Kentucky Value of Each Volunteer Hour: \$28.53
- Money back to the Community: \$823,775.22
- 645 soil test consultations with homeowners, commercial growers and farmers about maximizing yield potential and managing input costs.
- 528 plant disease diagnostics services for homeowners, commercial growers and farmers to identify the issue or disease and develop a strategy for disease control.
- 324 weed and insect identification services to identify the pest and develop a strategy to eliminate the pest if necessary.



Master Gardener volunteers at the Monarch Waystation.

Economic Development



Ella Martin and her honey bee hives that were purchased through YAIP.

Warren County Extension is creating strategies that aims to improve the quality of life in a community by fostering economic growth and opportunity. These programs seek to improve the economic well-being and quality of life for our community.

- \$202,899 were distributed to Warren County farmers through KY Ag Development fund cost-share.
- 120 farmers increased profits or reduced expenses because of extension programming.
- Worked with 35 farm businesses to expand or create new market opportunities.
- Secured \$2400 for enhancement of community garden spaces with Refuge Bowling Green and the Warren County Extension Master Gardener Certified Monarch Waystation and pollinator habitat.
- \$3185 was donated through local businesses to support youth attending 4-H Camp.
- \$30,000 was distributed to Warren County Youth through Youth Agriculture Incentive Program.
- \$3000 in grant funds was secured to help Natural Resource and Science, Engineering, & Technology programs.

Outreach

The Warren County Extension Service Agents work to provide educational programming and marketing efforts through various outlets to reach a growing and diverse population in the area. For more information, you can view the complete list of community outreach efforts provided by the agents.

Farm & Home Show -

Daily 5 minute television programming featuring educational topics about farms, gardens, home, families & youth that airs on WBKO, YouTube & Facebook and reaches 15,000 households.



Newsletters -

Educational Content was delivered to 5700 mailboxes quarterly and full of timely educational agriculture, family & consumer science, 4-H, and horticulture topics.



Ag Connections - Weekly 30 minute radio program delivering educational topics on all things agriculture that airs on 104.1 WKCT FM and reaches 2500 listeners.

Get the Scoop - Daily 5 minute radio show delivering research based information about farm & garden that airs on WGGC 95.1 FM that reaches 15,000 people.

The Sunshine Gardening Podcast - Monthly podcast episode shines the light on various gardening topics in Kentucky. Podcast is available on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and Spotify with 11,144 total show listens.



Social Media - Warren County

Extension delivers current educational content on agriculture, family & consumer science, horticulture, and 4-H topics. Last year, our social media efforts reached 445,313 visitors/interactions through Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, blog & website.



Newsletter Subscribers -

- *Warren Co. Agriculture:* 1989
- *Horticulture Happenings:* 1594
- *Warren Co. 4-H:* 907
- *Warren Co. Homemaker Horizons:* 775



Follow Us at Our Socials



Facebook:

/warrencoag
/warrencounty4H
/livingwellwarren
/warrencountynep



X: @warrencountyag



WordPress:

warrencountyagriculture.com



TV: Farm & Home Show- ~ 5:15am
abc WBKO 13



Website: warren.ca.uky.edu
warrencountyextension.com



Instagram: @warrencoag

@livingwell_warrenco



Radio:

WGGC 95.1 FM- M-F @ 5am
104.1 WKCT FM- Tues. @ 8:30am



YouTube: CES Warren

Warren County Agriculture



Podcast: The Sunshine Gardening

For More Information, Please Contact us at:

Warren County Extension Office
(270) 842-1681 • <https://warren.ca.uky.edu>
5162 Russellville Rd., Bowling Green, KY 42101

KENTUCKY  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

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

Cooperative Extension Service

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Educational programs of Kentucky 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, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English.
University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
Lexington, KY 40506



Disabilities accommodated with prior notification.