



**Organic Association of Kentucky**

Advancing Organic Agriculture in Kentucky

Hello ##[Name | First]##,

Happy New Year and a warm, hearty welcome to 2024. It is January, the time to dig deeper into planning, place carefully curated seed orders, reflect on the year just passed and ponder the big hopes for the one ahead.

Speaking of big hopes ahead - [OAK IS HIRING](#). The OAK Team is expanding! This is a dynamic time to consider working for the Organic Association of Kentucky. Applications are open for three new positions.

Each year, Team OAK looks forward to the winter months. They offer our annual, seasonal opportunity to gather and learn together. Registration for [#OAK2024](#), OAK's annual conference, is **OPEN**, don't delay, [register today](#). This event will sell out, reserve your spot and look forward to shared learning later this month. OAK Members, don't forget you will receive **discounted registration** for this Conference and other OAK events throughout the year! In addition, remember, you have access other exciting [Member benefits](#). Check them out on our website.

In case you missed it - OAK has added a **full-time Organic Production Specialist**. Read on for details about OAK's new capacity to provide technical assistance to our community's farmers. Beginning and experienced farmers both are encouraged to [reach out](#) and seek that guidance that will help you meet those farm goals for 2024.

Finally, please continue to support your local farmers and artisans in the new year. Local, organic foods and products keep us healthy and our communities thriving. Try searching the [OAK Find-a-Farm Directory](#) to find your farmer and source locally all year long!

Warmly,  
Robin Verson  
Membership and Communications Coordinator

## OAK IS HIRING

The Organic Association of Kentucky is seeking candidates for three new positions. These positions are full-time and will be working on OAK's new Climate-Smart Project. Anyone who is interested in learning more about these roles is encouraged to visit the [OAK Careers](#) web page and **apply today - positions will remain open until filled.**

### Current Job Openings at OAK:

- **Climate and Conservation Project Manager** - provides leadership and strategic management for the implementation of OAK's five-year Climate-Smart Project to increase the adoption of conservation practices on Kentucky farms, collect farm-level data on greenhouse gas emission reductions and soil carbon, develop markets for climate-verified products and collaborate with partners and enrolled farmers.
- **Soil Health and Conservation Specialist** - delivers on-farm technical assistance to farmers enrolled in OAK's Climate-Smart Project and develops management plans based on NRCS practice standards to improve soil health.
- **Soil Health and Conservation Specialist** - delivers on-farm technical assistance to farmers enrolled in OAK's Climate-Smart Project and develops management plans based on NRCS practice standards to improve soil health. Yes, OAK is hiring for two of these positions.

[View Job Openings and Apply Here](#)



### Meet our Keynotes for #OAK2024

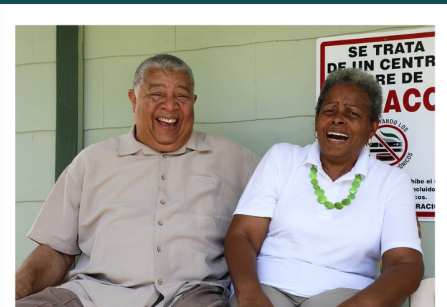
OAK is honored that **Ardis and Henry Crews**, the driving force behind the **Green Rural Redevelopment Organization (GRRO)**, will be the Friday, January 26 Keynote Speakers at OAK's 13th Annual Farming Conference. Ardis and Henry will share about their work in rural North Carolina tackling critical issues within their community, building farmer networks and partnerships to serve the community's most vulnerable members and revitalizing local economies through farming. Don't miss this valuable time with Ardis and Henry! [Learn more about their work here.](#)

OAK is proud to assemble an inspirational panel of Kentucky and regional organic farmers for the Keynote Address on Saturday, January 27. Centered around the #OAK2024 conference theme, *Adopting Practices, Increasing Resilience and Strengthening Systems*, these farmers represent five farms and will share about their decades of work navigating the ever-evolving landscape of consumers, policies, practices and food systems within organic farming. Building on audience interests, the keynote conversation will highlight the past, present and future of organic agriculture as we continue to build a stronger movement together.

**Register today to hear from these Keynote Panelists:**

- Lynn and W.B. Brown - [Brown's Place Farm](#), Georgia  
Liz Graznak - [Happy Hollow Farm](#), Missouri  
Anna Raines - [Rains and Sun Farm](#), Independence, KY  
Mac Stone - [Elmwood Stock Farm](#), Georgetown, KY  
Bree Pearsall (Moderator) - [Rootbound Farm](#), Crestwood, KY

Register Now & Enjoy These Two Keynote Addresses



**Keynote Speakers:**  
**Ardis and Henry Crews**  
CULTIVATING COMMUNITY, WELLNESS, AND  
PURPOSE THROUGH FOOD AND FARMING

**#OAK2024  
KEYNOTE PANELISTS**



Lynn Brown



W.B. Brown



Liz Graznak



Anna Raines



Mac Stone



Bree Pearsall  
*Moderator*

Apply Now for a Scholarship

**OAK Offers Conference Scholarships Thanks to Partner Support**

Scholarship requests for OAK's 2024 Conference will be reviewed and awarded on the business day nearest to the 1st and 15th of each month, up until the event and as funds allow. Scholarship awardees will receive a discount code via email to use in the conference registration form. Scholarships are applied to the regular conference session days, January 26 and 27. Pre-conference workshops are not included in scholarships at this time. We share gratitude with our partners that make it possible to offer scholarships: Charlie's Compost, Grow Appalachia, Kentucky Horticulture Council, Kentucky SARE Model State Program, Kentucky State University and University of Kentucky.

View the Agenda here

# 2024 Conference Sponsors, Partners & Funders



National Institute of Food and Agriculture  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



#NOREGRETS  
Initiative



Sharing a huge THANK YOU with these early and generous OAK Conference Sponsors, Funders, Scholarship and Program Partners! The sessions, tours, workshops, amazing speakers, delicious food and abundant scholarships OAK is able to offer over the three days of the conference are all possible with the thoughtful support and collaboration from organizations.

[Register Now](#)

## Organic Mentorship Pairing Starting Now!

The OAK's TOPP Organic Mentorship Matchmaker, Kenya, is seeking a few more Mentors!

Would you like to play a crucial role in helping new organic producers succeed and contribute to the growth of the organic movement in Kentucky? TOPP Mentors will have the opportunity to guide and support producers transitioning into organic certification, providing them with valuable insights, practical advice and industry best practices.

As a TOPP Mentor, you will be paired with a similar producer, have regular meetings and check-ins and provide your expertise with organic production and experience with the certification process to help them succeed in their organic venture. This is a **paid mentorship opportunity**, including paid training, mentorship time, and travel time. All crop and livestock producers are welcome and encouraged to apply now.

[Tell Me More About Becoming a Mentor](#)

**Mentorship is a year-long paid opportunity for mentor farmers (\$3,000), including payment for training, mentorship time and travel time. Mentees will receive an education and travel stipend (up to \$1,000).**

The first cohort of mentors will start in early 2024. Learn more and apply for future cohorts at the button above or contact Kenya Abraham, OAK's Organic Transition Program Manager, for more information: [kenya@oak-ky.org](mailto:kenya@oak-ky.org).



United States Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
National Organic Program  
Transition to Organic Partnership Program



## Curious about organic certification?

We are here to answer your organic certification questions. OAK supports farmers learning about the National Organic Program (NOP) regulations and working to complete the required paperwork, including developing farm maps and creating recordkeeping systems to pursue organic certification. OAK is here to support your certification journey and to prepare you for success. If you have a few questions, give us a call or send us [an email](#). If you are ready for a farm visit and want to dive into the paperwork, fill out the short application below and we'll follow up with you to schedule a meeting. This service is provided for free to Kentucky farmers.

[Apply for Organic Certification Technical Assistance Here](#)

## Organic Production Consultations - Schedule Now!

Do you have production questions? OAK offers dedicated organic technical assistance program for Kentucky farmers who are currently using or interested in using organic practices. OAK's Organic Production Specialist, Sarah Geurkink, is available to respond to production-related inquiries and meets with farmers one-on-one via phone, virtual meetings and on-farm consultations. This service is for commercial farms



and market gardens that are currently selling products or looking to scale. It is accessible to experienced or beginning farmers across certified organic and conventional crop and livestock operations and OAK Membership is not required to receive assistance.



Organic production support can include crop and cover crop planning; managing weeds, pests and diseases; soil testing assistance and interpretation; nutrient budgeting; recommendation on inputs, equipment, infrastructure and tools; high tunnel management; integrated crop livestock systems; livestock and grazing management and more.

[Request an Organic Production Consultation](#)

To request an Organic Production Consultation, fill [out this form](#).  
Just have a quick question? Send an email to Sarah Geurkink at [sarah@oak-ky.org](mailto:sarah@oak-ky.org)

*This program is supported by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund (KADF)*

---

**Join Us for 2024 KY Proud CSA Week!**



We are teaming up with fellow community partners to promote CSA (community supported agriculture) across the state during **KY Proud CSA Week happening March 4-8, 2024**. This week, partners will share all things local seasonal and CSA related on the [CSA Facebook Group](#).

## OAK Offers Equity Membership Opportunities



### In case you missed it - OAK has added new membership levels!

In celebration of Kentucky's rich agricultural community, OAK invites you to join in these **free**, three-year memberships: the ***equity individual grower membership*** and ***equity farm membership***. These new membership levels offer access to OAK's member benefits, including discounted registrations to OAK's conference and participatory opportunities to mold OAK's future work.

In a step towards equity and abundant inclusion, within an industry that has and continues to disenfranchise underserved, marginalized groups, OAK now offers these free membership levels to **farmers, market gardeners, beginning farmers and aspiring growers who self-identify with one or more of the below:**

- is a member of a historically marginalized group – Black, Indigenous or people of color (BIPOC); persons with a disability; etc.
- is experiencing food or housing insecurity
- has immigration-related expenses
- has medical expenses not covered by insurance

And never forget, **all OAK Members receive discounted registration to the annual conference!**

Join OAK via Free Equity Membership

If you would like to make a contribution, however large or small, to support OAK's Equity Membership Initiative, [please do so here](#). If you have any questions or want to learn more about OAK's membership levels, please contact [robin@oak-ky.org](mailto:robin@oak-ky.org).

## Not a OAK Member? You Really Should Be! Join OAK Today!

Do you participate in OAK's programs? Are you looking for a way to support organic and regenerative agriculture in Kentucky? Join the OAK community! OAK is an engaging group of farmers, eaters, ag professionals, entrepreneurs and more. OAK's farmer network includes farmers who are interested in or using regenerative practices to those whose farms have been certified organic for decades. Together, we are folks committed to creating a healthier, more nourishing food landscape in Kentucky.

If you have let your membership lapse or have never taken the plunge to join OAK, now is the time! Members will receive discounted pricing for OAK's January conference!

OAK is growing and working for an exciting future, join us. Be a part of this community, working to nourish Kentucky.

Join or Renew Your OAK Membership

## Opportunities, the Latest News & Calls to Action

### Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Program

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) was awarded \$8.6 million through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) program. The money, which will be provided through a competitive grant process, is part of an overall \$420 million the USDA committed to states to build resilience in the middle of the supply chain and strengthen local and regional food systems by creating new revenue streams for producers.

Eligible projects include those that expand capacity for aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distribution of food products, for specialty crops, dairy, grains for human consumption, aquaculture, and other food products, excluding meat and poultry.

KDA has submitted its state plan for the RFSI program to USDA for approval. Upon approval of the state plan, the application portal will open. **The anticipated date for the application portal is January 2024.** This page will be updated as the process moves forward:

<https://www.kyagr.com/consumer/rfsi.html>



## KDA Proposes Pilot Growers Program for Ginseng

The Kentucky Department of Agriculture is happy to announce a [pilot growers program for ginseng](#) has been filed and is awaiting the LRC review and rule making process.

While Kentucky and places inside the USA are blessed with abundant wild ginseng populations, worldwide the plant has been nearly hunted to extinction. The US federal government has entered an international treaty that recognizes the special status of the plant, and promises restrictions on possession and harvest that our state is subject to.

In Kentucky, harvest and possession of ginseng has been restricted to a harvest season and then a certification process. The pilot program makes no changes to the historic root harvest season and process. The pilot program is created to explore a pathway for live plant and root trade in the Commonwealth for the benefit of our citizens, but also to create a comfort level with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to show them we can do this in a sustainable way that conforms to US treaty obligations.

The pilot program is simple, it just requires grower registration and then a site visit prior to the first sale of live plants or seeds. The initial registration packet collects information for KDA reporting obligations in the aggregate, but will be confidential in submission and holding. The cost is free. Contact Clint Quarles with questions at [Clint.Quarles@ky.gov](mailto:Clint.Quarles@ky.gov)

---

### Support CFA's Mattie Mack Farmer Fund\* (\*Previously the Kentucky Black Farmer Fund)

The Mattie Mack Farmer Fund, organized by Community Farm Alliance (CFA) supports BIPOC farmers across Kentucky. If you would like to donate to assist with this fund, please [click here!](#) Applications for interested farmers open in Fall 2023. Those eligible to apply must satisfy all of the following:

- BIPOC-operated, family farms in Kentucky with fewer than ten employees;
- Farms who are actively part of the local food system, including produce, livestock, edible herbs, honey, maple syrup;
- Currently farming; and
- Selling products through local markets (i.e. farmers market, roadside market, Community Supported Agriculture, farm share, local restaurants, etc.)

Please contact CFA staff members Tiffany Bellfield El-Amin at [tiffany@cfaky.org](mailto:tiffany@cfaky.org) and Laurie White at [laurie@cfaky.org](mailto:laurie@cfaky.org) for assistance.

---

## Educational & Farming Support

### In-person Events Throughout the Region

The **2024 Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference** will be held in-person at the Holiday Inn Sloan Convention Center, in Bowling Green, KY, on Wednesday and Thursday, January 3 and 4, 2024. OAK will be there for the duration PLUS coordinating the Organic Track on Thursday January 4th. Come and see us!  
<https://2024KYFruitVegConf.eventbrite.com>

### **Ohio State Organic Grains Conference**

January 4-5, 2023

Oregon, Ohio

Attendees will learn, eat, and connect on everything from weed control to technology. Learn more and register here. <https://offer.osu.edu/organic-grains-2024>

### **KY Forage and Grassland Council Events**

2024 - Jan. 7-10 - AFGC National Conference, Mobile, AL - <https://www.afgc.org/annual-conference/>

2024 - Feb. 8 –Alfalfa/Stored Forage Conf, Bowling Green, KY

2024 - Feb. 19-20 - Heart of America Grazing Conf., Cincinnati, OH

### **Third Thursday**

Don't forget, the monthly Third Thursday workshops can be viewed in-person at the [Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm](#) or streamed live at [www.youtube.com/kysuag/live](http://www.youtube.com/kysuag/live).

### **First Friday, presented by The Food Connection at UK**

First Friday is a dynamic local food systems networking opportunity featuring a delicious locally sourced breakfast and a short presentation from a standout food system professional(s). We welcome on and off campus local food practitioners, advocates, and community members.

Attendance is free but we do ask that folks pre-register. <https://www.facebook.com/ukfoodconnect>

February 2nd, 2024— Brandi Button Johnson, Faye Kuosman, & Heather Graham (The Food Connection) – [Kentucky Value Chain Collaborative](#)

March 1st, 2024— Barbara Hurt ([DendriFund](#)), Sarah Halcomb ([Walnut Grove Farm](#)), & Dr. Dave VanSanford ([UK Plant and Soil Sciences](#)) – Ohio Valley Grain Exchange

**Annual OGRAIN Conference** is an opportunity to learn from local organic grain growers, hear about the latest research, and connect with other organic, transitioning-to-organic, or inquisitive-about-organic grain growers and end-users. Save the date for February 2-3, 2024 in Madison, WI!  
[see the agenda here](#) and [REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE](#)

### **2024 Organic Grain Conference & Trade Show**

February 7-8, 2024 at the i-Hotel in Champaign, IL. <https://www.thelandconnection.org/attend/>

### **KY Black Farmers Conference**

March 1-2, 2024

Lexington KY

Register here: [https://secure.everyaction.com/CkKiFAhT\\_U-vhNi1FhPOuQ2](https://secure.everyaction.com/CkKiFAhT_U-vhNi1FhPOuQ2)

Sponsorship Opportunities here: <https://secure.everyaction.com/E9UEjJlGWE6qe-PM2QABFg2>

The **Gather to Grow multiday Forest Farming conference** will be held in Roanoke, Virginia from March 22-24, 2024 and feature learning, networking, and strategic planning programs that will shape the future of forest farming of woodland crops such as botanicals, mushrooms, and decorative products in Appalachia and beyond.

Keynote speakers, working group meetings and panels, field tours, expo, exhibitors, breakout presentations, flash talks, a youth program, poster presenters, great food, socials, and a classic hotel in Appalachia are included. <https://www.appalachianforestfarmers.org/2024-conference>

## Virtual Events

### 2024 Know Your Cost To Grow Winter Workshop Series

In the winter of 2024 KYCTG is offering a virtual workshop series focused on introducing farmers to the costing process used in the Know Your Cost To Grow (KYCTG) program and laying the foundation for farmers who want to use KYCTG during the 2024 growing season to determine and analyze their costs.

#### [2024 Know Your Cost to Grow Winter Workshop Series.](#)

- 4-part series
- 3 "sections" offered: Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays in January
- 75-minute long sessions with ~1hr homework to do before each next session.
- Additional sessions in February or March may be offered

**North American Food Systems Network (NAFSN)'s new book club** features "[Feeding Each Other: Shaping Change in Food Systems through Relationship](#)" by change-making authors Nicole Civita and Michelle Auerbach. Host Lin Diaz Maceo of NAFSN will bring this book club to life in three parts: January 27, 12pm-1:30pm ET - Attend the book club to discuss your reading of "Feeding Each Other" and the powerful ideas within.

[Learn more here](#)

### Value Ag Bootcamp

Ready to take your farm or value-added agriculture enterprise to new heights in 2024? Join AgLaunch and regional partners for a personal, cohort-based virtual Value Ag Bootcamp that meets each Monday from January 8- February 12, 2024 from 5:30 to 8 PM ET. Over the course of six weeks, you'll gain valuable knowledge, skills, and connections to your peers and experts in the field that will help take your agricultural business to the next level.

Space is limited in this virtual Value Ag Bootcamp. Learn more and register at [bit.ly/valueag2024](https://bit.ly/valueag2024).

Registration for the series is \$50 per participant (scholarships are available) Contact Katie Ellis, Southern Appalachian Agri-Food Regional Innovation Cluster Lead, at [kellis@aglaunch.com](mailto:kellis@aglaunch.com) or 859-583-6786.

**FACT** has weekly, relevant free webinars.

Check out the [full schedule here](#).

**Rodale Institute** weekly, relevant free webinars.

Check out the [full schedule here](#).

---

## Resources and Funding for Farmers

### Good Idea Mini-Grants

We invite pairs of producers and farm advisors to submit proposals to implement a low-cost edge-of-field conservation practice on the producer's operation and create a video or podcast about what they did and learned to be shared with other producers via [One Good Idea](#). Awards are up to \$8,000. The **application deadline is January 15th, 2024**. Learn more and apply here: <https://www.reach.msstate.edu/grant-application.php>

### **USDA Commits Greater Conservation Assistance for Producers Transitioning to Organic Production**

On April 10, 2023, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced details about its \$75 million investment in conservation assistance for producers transitioning to organic production. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is dedicating financial and technical assistance to a new organic management standard and partnering with new organic technical experts to increase staff capacity and expertise. NRCS will dedicate \$70 million to assist producers with a new organic management standard under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). This program is for farmers who are beginning or in the process of transitioning to organic certification. OAK is in conversation with NRCS Kentucky and will work to communicate with farmers about the opportunity to apply for this new Organic Management Practice when it is available. Stay tuned for more info in upcoming e-newsletters and a webinar this fall! Click here to access a factsheet on certified organic production created by NRCS-Kentucky

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1lomJSqOY20mOYKQWrLXblSef9e7HPcZT/view>

### **\$1 Billion Available to Help Farmers Invest in Renewable Energy**

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that USDA is accepting applications starting on April 1 for \$1 billion in grants to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses invest in renewable energy systems and make energy-efficiency improvements. USDA is making the \$1 billion in grants available under the [Rural Energy for America Program \(REAP\)](#), with funding from President Biden's landmark Inflation Reduction Act, the nation's largest-ever investment in combating the climate crisis. For additional information on application deadlines and submission details, see page 19239 of the March 31 [Federal Register](#).

### **USDA Announces Sign-up for Cost-Share Assistance for On-Farm Grain Storage in Areas with Limited Commercial Capacity Due to Severe Storms**

Last week USDA announced that Kentucky producers in counties affected by the December 2021 tornadoes, among other states affected by eligible disaster events, can apply for cost-share assistance through the Emergency Grain Storage Facility Assistance Program (EGSFP). An initial allocation of \$20 million in cost-share assistance is available to agricultural producers in affected counties impacted by the damage to or destruction of large commercial grain elevators as a result of natural disasters from Dec. 1, 2021, to Aug. 1, 2022. The **application period closes Dec. 29, 2023**. For more information visit the [program webpage](#) or the [EGSFP fact sheet](#). USDA also has an existing [Farm Storage Facility Loan Program](#) that can immediately provide low-interest financing for eligible producers who may not be eligible for EGSFP but are in need of on-farm storage capacity.

### **Silvopasture and Forest Farming Support / Funds Available**

The Catalyzing Agroforestry Grant Program is focused on implementing silvopastures and forest farming practices through direct support payments and will assist producers in designing appropriate projects using technical assistance and science-based planning strategies. The ultimate goal of the effort is to increase ecosystem sustainability and diversity by scaling up agroforestry practices. The Appalachian Beginning Forest Farming Coalition (ABFFC) project will provide up to \$1500/acre for silvopasture implementation and up to \$1000/quarter acre for forest farming implementation depending on project scale and scope. To enhance shared learning, producers who receive support will share successes and lessons-learned with their peers and other interested stakeholders. Minority, female, Indigenous, LGBTQ+, and/or socially disadvantaged farmers are highly encouraged to apply.

<https://www.appalachianforestfarmers.org/emef>

### **Slow Food Bluegrass Garden Grant**

**Deadline:** ongoing

**Link:** <http://www.slowfoodbluegrass.org/gardens>

Slow Food Bluegrass micro-grants support groups in Kentuckiana who foster education about and access to good, clean, fair food. Special priority is given to limited resource communities and to



projects that demonstrate a strong buy-in from participants. Grants range from \$500 - \$1,000 and may be awarded throughout the year. If you have any questions or need assistance, please reach us at [slowfoodbluegrass@gmail.com](mailto:slowfoodbluegrass@gmail.com).

### **KSU Small Scale Farm Grant**

**Deadline:** The 1st day of every other month

**Funding Amount:** Up to \$5,000 for farmers, \$15,000 for groups benefiting multiple farmers

**Eligible Entities:** Kentucky farmers and Kentucky agriculture groups including farmers markets

**Link:**<https://www.kysu.edu/academics/college-ac/school-of-ace/co-op/small-scale-farm-grant-program.php>

**Overview:** The KSU Small Scale Farm Grant is designed with the small operation farmer in mind. This grant application is relatively simple to complete and the funds can be used to purchase needed equipment related to the proposed project. To qualify, applicants must be producing a value-added product, be an organic farmer, and/or be an aquatic farmer. Farmers markets are often eligible. Previously approved projects have included canning equipment, a walk-in cooler, a water line to a hoop house, a root cellar, a cool-bot for vegetables, and a trailer for keeping meat cool and recently added farmer education assistance with a maximum of \$500.

### **Kentucky Proud Promotional Grant**

**Deadline:** On-going

**Funding Amount:** Up to 10% annual gross farm income, max at \$8,000 per year; \$1 for \$1 match

**Eligible Entities:** Kentucky farmers and agribusinesses

**Link:** <http://www.kyagr.com/marketing/grants.html>

**Overview:** The Kentucky Proud Promotional Grant is a cost share program to help Kentucky farmers and agribusinesses pay for advertising and marketing expenses. The award amount is based on 10% of direct farm impact; for a farmer it would be 10% of their total farm gross sales. The applicant must be a registered member of Kentucky Proud to apply and use the Kentucky Proud logo/brand in marketing efforts paid for with program funds. Examples of fundable items include TV ads, radio ads, web expenses, hats, t-shirts, demos, sampling, labels, packaging, tradeshow, UPC, and bar codes. This is a great program that helps promote our local farms!

### **ON-Farm Energy Efficiency Incentives Program**

**Deadline:** Applications are accepted year round

**Funding Amounts:** 50% cost share - up to a \$10,000 incentive, plus \$150 for an approved third party energy audit

**Eligible Entities:** Kentucky farmers with a gross farm income of at least \$25,000

**Find out more here:** <https://mtassociation.org/energy/funding-farm-energy-projects/>

**Overview:** The Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund offers an On-Farm Energy Efficiency Program to help Kentucky farmers with energy projects. These cost share funds are available to increase on farm energy efficiency and to support renewable fuel production projects. The applicant is required to have a third party energy audit completed. This program can be combined with the USDA-NRCS Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) to get up to 75% of a total project cost covered.

Many thanks to **KCARD** for promoting many of these grant opportunities. Did you know KCARD can also answer questions about funding programs and help you prepare an application?

**Your tax-deductible gift helps germinate, cultivate and activate a resilient food and farming network.**

**Join us. The organic farming network in Kentucky is growing. Together we are creating a more regenerative and organic food system.**

Donate

Become an OAK Member

PO Box 22244, Lexington, KY 40522  
e: info@oak-ky.org | p: 1.502.219.7378

Follow Along:

