



Organic Association of Kentucky

Advancing Organic Agriculture in Kentucky

2025 Conference: Final Call for Proposals

Last call! This is the final week to submit proposals for OAK's 2025 Conference. Submit your proposal by **Friday, July 19**. *Farmer-speakers highly encouraged to submit.*

[Submit a Proposal](#)

Conservation Outreach

Join a free, online Conservation Chat: July 23 or 24

[July 23, 6:00 - 7:00 pm ET](#) and [July 24, 12:30 am - 1:30 pm ET](#)

OAK Conservation Chats are open, virtual gatherings where Kentucky farmers, growers and landowners connect with peers and OAK conservation staff to share experiences and ask questions about on-the-ground conservation. Registration is required; registrants choose one of the days/times. The chats will not be recorded and will facilitate real-time knowledge-sharing. *These events are supported by a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).*

[Register for a Conservation Chat](#)

One-on-One Conservation Support

Schedule a time with OAK's Conservation Outreach Coordinator Mad Marchal to explore conservation planning, financial resources and technical assistance.

[Schedule a Conversation with Mad Marchal](#)

OAK Farmer Field Days

Check Out Newly-Posted Resources: Building a Small-Scale Family Farm One Year at a Time
Resources for OAK's latest Farmer Field Day at Wolf Gap Gardens are now available on [OAK's website](#).

Resources are also available for June 2024 Field Days (Lazy Eight Stock Farm and Foxfire Farm) and April's conservation webinar on NRCS' Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

[Find Field Day Resources HERE](#)

Register for September and October Field Days!

Continue learning with OAK and peer farmers later this summer and fall. Register now for upcoming Field Days in September and October.

Perennial Possibilities and Annual Rotations

Barr Farms in Rhodelia, KY

September 5, 2024, 9 am - 12 pm ET

Exploring the Ecosystems of Community and Conservation

Seadleaf's Headwater Farm in Lexington, KY

September 12, 2024, 9 am - 12 pm ET

From the Soil Up - Rotational Grazing and Pasture Improvement

Valley Spirit Farm in Campbellsburg, KY

September 23, 2024, 9 am - 12 pm ET

Growing on Principles: Soil Health, Farmer Health and Community Health

Apostles Garden in Bowling Green, KY

October 10, 2024, 1 - 4 pm CT

[Register for 2024 Field Days HERE](#)

2024 OAK Conference Session Recordings

The latest batch of recordings from the 2024 OAK Conference are available on OAK's website. Recordings include a workshop on growing small fruits in Kentucky and sessions on small grain production, farmer resources, silvopasture, farm labor and climate-risk management.

[View Available Recordings](#)

Upcoming Partner Opportunities

Farm Service Agency County Committee Elections

The nomination period for the USDA Farm Service Agency's annual county committee elections is underway **now through Aug. 1, 2024**. These committee members make important decisions about how Federal farm programs are administered locally. **Farmers and landowners are encouraged to consider joining these important local bodies.** [Learn more here.](#)

Goldenrod Gathering: Herbal Skillshare and Market

August 4, 2024, 12 - 4 pm ET

Holler Home Farm, Irvine, Kentucky

Join OAK and partner Grow Appalachia for Forest Farming sessions at the Goldenrod Gathering presented by Kentucky Herbalism Alliance. This annual event is packed with learning, sharing and community all with a focus on appreciating plants and working with them in our daily lives. Learn to identify native and abundant plants, how to establish plantings of forest medicinals, how to can and ferment with herbs, dyeing with plants and lots more. Learn more on [Facebook](#) and [buy a ticket here](#).

Upcoming In-Person Events

Farmers, Food, & the Future: A Farm Bill Conversation

July 25, 2024, 1 - 4:30 pm ET

Letcher County Extension Office, Whitesburg, KY

Discover how the Farm Bill impacts you at the Farmers, Food & the Future event during the Growing Home Community Revival on July 25th! Listen to a panel on Farm Bill topics such as SNAP benefits, grants for small farmers, and local food policy. Enjoy hands-on activities at the Farmers Market, a community dinner by Chef Ouita Michael, and a Levitt Amp concert! [Learn more here](#)

Third Thursday Thing - Field Day

July 27, 2024, 9 am - 2:30 pm ET

Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm, Frankfort KY

KSU's College of Agriculture is hosting Third Thursday on SATURDAY, July 27. Guests will have the opportunity to take hay wagon farm tours and visit on-site booths to learn more about bees/apiary, pond/raceways, pawpaws, goats, drones, 4-H and more! For more information, please call 502.597.5811 or email edwin.chavous@kysu.edu.

Learn more about Monthly Third Thursday events; join the KYSU Small Farms email list at

<https://bit.ly/kysuemail>

Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council Field Day

August 13, 2024, 4:30 - 7:30pm ET

Star Hill Farm, Loretto, Kentucky

[Learn more about the event and how to register here.](#)

Black Soil KY's The State of The Soil Conference

September 8-11, 2024

Origin Hotel in Lexington, Kentucky

This inaugural conference will be an opportunity to learn about building an intersectional and equitable food system. Registration closes August 25 or when capacity is reached.

[Learn more and register here.](#)

THIRD THURSDAY THING FIELD DAY



KENTUCKY STATE
UNIVERSITY

Cooperative Extension Program

JULY 27, 2024
9 AM - 2:30 PM EDT

Lunch will be provided

Farm Tours | Demonstrations | Extension Projects

Upcoming Virtual Events

Farm Service Agency Webinar on Taxes on Grant Awards

July 17, 1:00 pm ET on Zoom

From the USDA: "In most cases, the funds from USDA grant awards are taxable income. This webinar provides information on the potential effects of grant programs on taxes and discusses offsetting tax deductions from the use of these funds." [Register for the free webinar here.](#)

One Good Idea Shop Talk: Summer 2024 Season

August 1, 8, and 15, 12:30pm ET on Zoom

From One Good Idea: "This free, virtual meet-up series is for producers who want to exchange ideas and advice for troubleshooting on-farm challenges related to improving soil and water resources." [Learn more and register.](#)

Educational and Farming Support

Training Manual for Applied Agroforestry Practices

From the Center for Agroforestry at the University of Missouri. [Order a print copy or download a free copy here.](#) [Join us! The organic farming network in Kentucky is growing. Together we are creating a more regenerative and organic food system.](#)
Your tax-deductible gift helps germinate, cultivate and activate a resilient food and farming network.
Study: Improving Soil Health Yields Unexpected Benefits for Farmers
"Study finds regenerative agriculture brings farmers quality of life gains." [Read about the study.](#)

The Nature Conservancy Family Forest Carbon Program

[Donate](#)

[Become an OAK Member](#)

The [Family Forest Carbon Program](#) allows small forest landowners (50 acres or more) to enroll their property into carbon markets. The program is designed to allow landowners to harvest timber when they want, but make sure they leave something behind so the forest can regenerate. [Find details and apply here](#) or read this [BG Daily News](#) article for more information.

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