

Sightings of young black bears increase with summer roaming

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Sightings of black bears have recently been occurring in neighborhoods, backyards, urban areas, and even on dash cams and doorbell cameras in areas of Kentucky not accustomed to seeing many of them. Biologists and game wardens with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources want the public to know that this is normal bear behavior and encourage the public to learn more about Kentucky bears to better understand and live safely with them.

In late spring and early summer, young male black bears get pushed out of areas where they were raised in eastern Kentucky by older and more dominant male bears for mating season. These juveniles may wander up to several weeks or more into unfamiliar territory in search of food, good habitat and prospective mates before instinctively returning to the mountains by the fall. Bears can travel 20 miles or more in a day if left undisturbed, and Kentucky bears have been suspected of traveling as far away as Missouri in recent years.

"This is the time of year when young male bears are usually spotted outside of

their normal home range in the mountain counties of eastern Kentucky," said John Hast, Bear Program coordinator for Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. "These young bears are just juveniles and are easily scared and confused causing them to wander into populated areas because they don't yet know any better. They may hide during the day and leave the area at night only to be reported being seen again a county or two away within a couple of days. Residents should keep their distance, remove all food sources and let the bear move on when he feels safe to do so."

Black bears have a natural

fear of people and dogs, and adverse encounters are extremely rare. Never approach or feed a bear and keep a safe distance away. If a bear is posing an immediate danger, a person should yell and wave their arms to look more threatening to scare him off or call local law enforcement immediately.

Residents of an area where a bear has been spotted should secure their garbage in a garage or other building, not leave pet food outside, and clean and securely store barbecue grills. These are all best practices in general for people to prevent problems with wildlife. Also, people should not use bird feeders in

bear range or in areas where they have been recently observed. It is a violation of Kentucky law to feed bears or knowingly leave unsecured food available for them to consume.

The national website BearWise.org was established to help people live responsibly with bears. This easily-remembered website offers information and solutions to help individuals and communities coexist with bears, whether bears are just visiting or are permanent neighbors.

"Learning a little more about black bears will help keep any encounter in perspective and can ease any

fears a community may have," Hast said.

In Kentucky, hunting bears is regulated and limited to defined seasons in the established bear zones in eastern Kentucky to ensure a sustainable and healthy population.

For more information about black bears, visit the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Black Bears webpage on its website at fw.ky.gov, or visit BearWise.org. Bear sightings may be reported to the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Information Center at info.center@ky.gov, or at 1-800-858-1549, Mondays-Fridays, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except holidays.

COMMUNITY

FROM PAGE B6

kiwanisclubofcynthiana@gmail.com or Robbie Morris at (859) 420-2307. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Bianche's Restaurant.

Alcoholics Anonymous

In-person meetings will be held Wednesdays and Sundays at 7 p.m. at 118 North Walnut Street, Cynthiana. For more information call (859) 559-5368.

Pop Cans for Humane Society

The Harrison County Humane Society is collecting pop cans to help cover the cost of the spaying and neutering of animals in Harrison County. The trailer is located in the Save a Lot parking lot.

Pop Cans: Cynthiana Baptist Church

The church is collecting pop cans and aluminum for service ministry. There is a

bin in the parking lot at 212 E. Pleasant St., Cynthiana.

Free Exercise Oncology Class

Harrison Memorial Hospital offers a free exercise oncology class every Wednesday at 1 p.m. at HMH The Cottages. The class is designed for cancer patient and survivors to aid in recovery.

The class is eligible for HMH Care-A-Van services. If you would like a free ride call 859-298-2700.

Participants must have physician's clearance prior to starting the class.

Harrison County Clothing Closet

Now taking phone orders with curbside delivery at this time. Phone is (859) 943-9325. Hours are Monday and Wednesday from noon to 4 p.m. No vouchers are required. Monetary donations may be mailed to HCCC at P.O. Box 124, Cynthiana, KY 41031.

Harrison County Food Pantry

The food pantry is open

on Wednesdays, from noon-3 p.m. It is located at 304 North Locust Street.

Hope's Helping Hands Food Bank

Open Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon-4 p.m. at 120 S. Walnut St.

For more information call 859-235-HOPE. Hope's Helping Hands is an agency member of God's Pantry.

Flora Shropshire Animal Shelter

Hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. to noon.

On Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon you're invited to Coffee with Cats. Hang out with the felines in the renovated cat room and enjoy a cuppa.

On Sundays, the Flora Shropshire Animal Shelter offers a Borrow-a-Buddy program. "Check out" a dog from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and give him or her a chance to get out of the shelter and spend a day

having new experiences.

To learn more or to reserve a dog, call 859-234-7138. Participants must be at least 18 and have a valid I.D.

Narconon

Drug overdoses have become the leading cause of accidental death in the United States with heroin and other opiates being the largest contributor. If your loved one is struggling with drug abuse, now is the time

to get them the help they need.

To learn more about the signs and dangers of heroin addiction by visiting www.narcononwiferehab.org/drugrehab. Addiction Screenings: Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call today for free

screenings or referrals at 1-800-431-1754.



PUBLIC NOTICE

As per the Harrison County Fiscal Court's contract renewal with Rumpke of Kentucky, there will be an increase in the monthly fee effective August 1, 2026 thru July 31, 2027.

The monthly service fee will be as follows:
\$20.25 per unit per month
- Regular Service *
\$18.23 per unit per month
- Senior Service *

*A quarterly fuel surcharge will be implemented on all residential and commercial accounts based upon the Department of Energy's Midwest Diesel fuel average and adjusted monthly.

Rumpke will continue to individually invoice residents on a quarterly basis.

Jason Marshall
County Judge Executive



Notice of Public Hearing

The Cynthiana Board of Adjustment will hold a special meeting on June 17, 2026 at 6:00 PM on the 2nd Floor of Courthouse at 111 S. Main St. to hear the following:
A. #2026-CB-02, Sonia Kirkman/Ashford Acres Inn LLC-Request for Conditional Use for Restaurant at 1801 Ky. Hwy. 36 East. Zoning: Agricultural One (A-1). (Art.10 Sec. 10.0.C.22



Notice of Public Hearing

The Planning Commission will have a regular meeting on July 20th, 2026 at 5:00 pm on the 2nd Floor of Courthouse at 111 South Main St. to hear the following:
A. # 2026-FDP-01, PUBLIC HEARING-Sonia Kirkman/Ashford Acres Inn LLC-Final Development plan at 1801 Ky. Hwy. 36 E. Agricultural One (A-1)

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For Sale Cemetery Lots Sulphur Springs Cemetery Franklin, KY 2 Cemetery Lots - Grave 1 & Grave 2 Lot 2, Middle A, Plat A \$700 each Diane (606) 524-5301

0800 TRANSPORTATION

Whitesville

For sale package deal for \$25,000 cash. 2009 Ford F-150 (169,000 miles), 2023 Sunray Sunset Sport 149 camper. Both in excellent condition with clear titles. The Sunray camper upgrades, solar power system, TV, new mattress, custom-built storage units, electric jack, new truck bed cover, new running boards. 2026 CARFAX available. PH: 270-313-0911

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