

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

4-H NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY • COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

BY

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COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT FOR 4-H

Leaf Prints: A Fun Introduction to 4-H Forestry

As autumn approaches, trees begin putting on one of nature’s most beautiful displays. The changing colors of leaves provide a wonderful reminder of the important role trees play in our environment and our communities.

Trees do much more than provide beautiful fall scenery. They help convert carbon dioxide into oxygen, provide shade that can help reduce energy costs, offer food and shelter for wildlife, and contribute to Kentucky’s economy through forestry and wood products.

The 4-H program provides many opportunities for young people to explore nature and learn about the world around them through hands-on activities. One simple and enjoyable forestry activity is making leaf prints. This activity allows youth to collect leaves, observe their unique characteristics, and learn to identify different types of trees.

To make leaf prints, youth will need a variety of intact leaves, a stamp pad or oil paint, newspaper or a magazine, cardboard, rubber bands, and white paper.

Begin by collecting leaves from as many different tree species as possible. Choose leaves that are in good condition and free from major blemishes. Place the leaves between the pages of a magazine to help flatten them. Sandwich the magazine between two pieces of cardboard and secure it with a rubber band. Allow the leaves to press for about an hour.

Next, use the underside of the leaf to make the print because the veins and other details are usually easier to see. Gently press the leaf onto a stamp pad, making sure the entire surface is covered with ink. If using oil paint, apply a thin layer with a brush.

Place the inked side of the leaf face-down on a sheet of white paper. Gently rub over the leaf with your fingers to transfer the details onto the paper. For the best results, print one leaf per page.

The activity can become even more educational by turning the leaf prints into a 4-H forestry collection. Youth can organize their prints in a three-ring binder or protective covers and research each tree they collect.

For each leaf, youth can record:

- * Common name and scientific name of the tree

- * Most common use or purpose of the tree
- * County where the leaf was collected
- * Month and year it was collected
- * Area or location where the tree was growing

Leaf printing is an easy, inexpensive activity that combines science, nature, art, and 4-H project work. It encourages youth to slow down, observe the natural world around them, and learn more about the trees that are part of their own community.

So, the next time you are outside enjoying the colorful leaves of autumn, take a closer look. Every leaf has a story to tell—and 4-H can help young people discover it!

Leaf prints are a creative way to explore Kentucky’s trees while learning more about their importance in our environment and economy. If you are interested in learning more, contact your Union County office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service at 270-389-1400.

4-H Happenings

- Oct 4-10 - National 4-H Week
- Oct 5-9 - Fall Break
- Oct 12 - Project Club, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
- Oct 19 - Cloverbuds, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
- Oct 20 - Homesteading Club, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
- Oct 22 - TLA (Webster Co), ALL Day
- Oct 22 - 24 - Area Teen Retreat, West KY 4-H Camp
- Oct 27 - Cooking Club, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Follow us on Facebook!

To keep up with all the fun events happening in the Union County 4-H Program follow Union County 4H on Facebook for all the latest news, events, and information about 4-H. There you will find interesting articles related to youth/4-H and much more!

Educational programs of the Cooperative Extension Service 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 expressions, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.

STURGIS KIWANIS

CRUISE-IN

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 3rd

Door Prizes and Dash
Plaques
Breakfast and Lunch
8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

All Proceeds Go To
Support Union County Youth

Kiwanis Memorial Building
721 N. Monroe Street
Sturgis, KY

-- PUBLIC NOTICE --

NOTICE OF BOND RELEASE

In accordance with KRS 350.093, notice is hereby given that River View Coal, LLC, 1146 Monarch Street STE:350, Lexington, Kentucky 40513, has applied for Phase I II and III bond release on increment No. 2 and 4 and an administrative release of increment No. 3 of permit 913-0014, which was last issued on September 16th, 2026. The application covers an area of approximately 14.0 surface acres.

The permit area is near the intersection of State Route 1180 and State Route 359.

The bonds now in effect for the mentioned increments are surety bonds in the amount of \$225,000. 100% of the original bonds receiving release in the amount of \$225,000 is included in the application for release.

Reclamation work performed includes: backfilling, regrading, topsoil replacement, and drainage control including soil preparation and initial seeding and mulching in accordance with the approved reclamation plan and a report for the area has been submitted to the cabinet in accordance with 405 KAR 16:200, Section 8 or 405 KAR 18:200, Section 8. revegetation has been established in accordance with the approved reclamation plan and the standards for success of revegetation, successful completion of all surface and reclamation operations in accordance with the approved reclamation plan such that the land is capable of supporting the post mining land use of cropland approved pursuant to 405 KAR 16:210 or 405 KAR 18:220; compliance with requirements of KRS Chapter 350, 405 KAR Chapters 7 through 24, and 405 KAR 10:020 and release of 14.0 acres.

Written comments, objections, and requests for a public hearing or informal conference must be filed with the Director, Division of Field Services, 300 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, Kentucky, 40601 by Friday November 20th, 2026.

A public hearing on the application has been scheduled for 9:00 AM on Tuesday, December 1st, 2026 at the Department for Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement's Madisonville Regional Office, State Office Building, Third Floor, 625 Hospital Drive, Madisonville, KY 42431. The hearing will be cancelled if no request for a hearing or informal conference is received by Friday November 20th, 2026.

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PERCENT

Source: Pulse of America Research Study, February, 2017

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