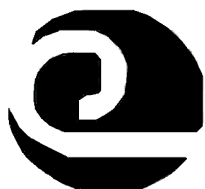


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Winchester, KY 40391
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The Conservation Connection

CONSERVATION/NATURAL RESOURCES NEWS

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The Governor's Office of Agriculture Policy has awarded Agriculture Development Funds to Clark County for the 2026 CAIP (County Agriculture Investment Program). The program offers eleven investment areas providing farmers with incentives, allowing them to improve and/or diversify their current production practices. Incentives are offered on a 50/50 matching basis, upon the investment area(s) completion. Maximum local cost share is \$3,000. Must be 18 to apply.



CAIP INFORMATION

The 2026 CAIP Informational Meeting will be held Wednesday, June 3 at 6:00 pm at the Clark County Extension Office, 1400 Fortune Drive. (Review Guideline Changes & Investment Areas) Attending the CAIP Informational Meeting will increase your application score.

Applications will be available at the Clark Co. Conservation District Office at 667 Tech Drive, starting Monday, June 8 through Monday, June 29 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm or at ccdky.com under forms. Please call or E-mail to schedule an appointment. (The Office will be closed on Friday, June 19)

NOTE: Producers that received 2025 CAIP funding will not be eligible in 2026, but will be eligible for 2027 CAIP funding. No applications will be accepted after June 29.

For more information, call or text Angie Embry at (859) 744-2322 or angela.embry@ky.nacdnet.net

CAIP INVESTMENT AREAS

- **Agricultural Diversification**

Commercial Horticulture Aquaculture & Timber Production.

- **Large Animal**

Beef & Dairy Cattle, Handling Facility, Milk Production & Equine.

- **Small Animal**

Goat, Sheep & Swine Production, Bees & Rabbits.

- **Farm Infrastructure**

Farm Storage Facilities, Greenhouse construction or conversion, Livestock, Equine & Poultry Facilities, & On-Farm Composting.

- **Fencing & On-Farm Water**

Boundary & Interior Fencing, On Farm Water source, movement or drainage.

- **Forage & Grain Improvement**

Forage, Pasture & Grain Production, Commodity Handling and Forage Equipment.

- **Innovative Agriculture Systems**

Fence line Feeders, Gravel Paver Grid, Solar Powered Watering System, Tire Waterers, Water Harvesting

- **On-Farm Energy**

Applicable Farm Upgrades, Building Components & Renewable Energy Projects, Professional fees and training, Biomass Energy Crop Production & On-Farm Equipment & Infrastructure for Energy Production.

- **Poultry & Other Fowl**

Commercial & Pastured Poultry & other fowl

- **Agriculture Technology & Leadership Development**

Precision Ag, Animal Data Management, MISC. Equipment, Computer Hardware & Software, Broadband Internet, Leadership Development.

- **Value-Added & Marketing**

Value-Added, Agritourism, Certified/Commercial Kitchen Construction or Renovation, Marketing & Promotion.



Kentucky Cost Share Program

The Clark County Conservation District will be accepting requests for cost share funding under the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program on a year around sign up basis.

(The Next Cutoff for Kentucky State Cost Share Applications is November 1, 2026)

The Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program was created to help agricultural operations protect the soil and water resources of Kentucky. Funding for practices will be approved by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission at the Kentucky Division of Conversation, located in Frankfort, as funds are available. For more information, please contact your local conservation district office located at 667 Tech Drive, Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm at 859-744-2322 or E-mail angela.embry@ky.nacdnet.net



Did
you
know?



Haybuster 10' wide

The Clark County Conservation District currently has two seed drills (*see pictures at right*) that are available for rent at a rate of \$5.50 per acre with a minimum of \$55.00 if less than 10 areas are used.

The District recently purchased a 500 gallon boomless pull type sprayer (*see picture at top left*) that is available for rent at a rate of \$50 a day plus a \$16 container of Liquid tank cleaner.

For more information about availability contact the conservation district office at (859) 744-2322.



Great Plains 7' wide

2026 CLARK COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations

The Jim Claypool Art & Conservation Writing Contest is sponsored each year by Kentucky Farm Bureau and the Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts. Students in grades K-5 compete in the art contest and grades 6-12 compete in the essay contest. Ellington Bach of Saint Agatha Academy is the county art contest winner.



(Left to Right) Saint Agatha Academy—Olivia Johnson, Janie Johnston (Teacher), Paisley Miller & Ellington Bach (School & County Art Winner).

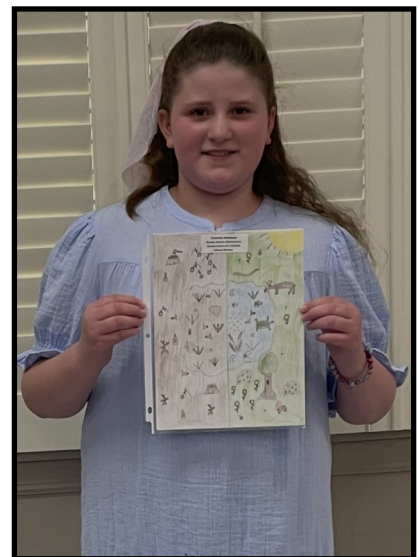


(Left to Right) Calvary Christian—Luca Varricchio, Lyric Jackson, Emilee Team (School Art Winner) .



(On the Left): (Left to Right) Shearer Elementary—Jordy Reynolds, & Euin Catron, & Jordan Horn (School Art Winner).

(On the Right): Strode Station Elementary — Charlotte Meadows (School Art Winner).



2026 Clark County Conservation District Award Winners (cont.)



(Left to Right): Conkwright Elementary—Hank Walker, Kolton Griffett (School Art Winner), Lexie Rose.



(Left to Right): Baker Intermediate-Emmalyn Shaw (School Art Winner), Bryson Adams, & Kaylee Thomas.



Ethan Taulbee—Clark County Cattlemen's - Distinguished Service.

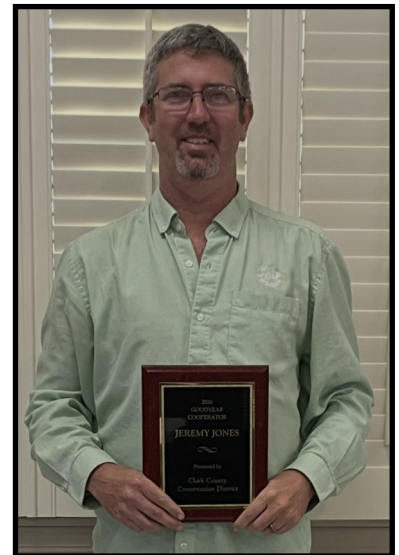


**William Catron
Master Conservationist**



(On the left): Garry Allen Taylor—Taylor Auction Company—Outstanding Agribusiness.

(On the Right): Jeremy Jones—Goodyear Cooperator.



2026 Clark County Conservation District Award Winners (cont.)

2026 William W. Thorn Agriculture Memorial Scholarship Recipients

Cole Horn attends the University of Kentucky and is majoring in Agricultural Economics with a minor in Animal Science. Cole is a member of the UK Agri-business Club, Disc Golf Team & Newman Center. He was the FFA State Agriculture Communication Team Winner & National Agriculture Communication Team Silver Rating. Cole was on the Deans List for the Fall of 2025. Each semester he receives the University of Kentucky Provost Scholarship.



Heidi Castle plans to attend Eastern Kentucky University and major in Agriculture & Communications. During her high school years, Heidi has been involved in FFA, 4-H, JROTC, Beta Club, National Honors Society & Smoke Signals Editor. She serves as the current Clark County FFA President and the Bluegrass Region Sentinel. Heidi is a Kentucky Governor Scholar, completed multiple AP & Dual Credit Classes and achieved a 4.0 GPA all 4 years of high school.

Clark County Fallen Animal Livestock Removal

Each year the District receives grant money through the Kentucky State Cost Share Environmental Grant and the Agriculture Development Fund to subsidize the Clark County Fiscal Court's Fallen Animal Livestock Removal Program. Improper disposal of animal carcasses can contaminate water sources and spread disease. The program provides free fallen animal pickup to Clark County Producers so they can be disposed of properly at the Clark County Livestock Composting Facility. Contact the Clark Co. Road Dept. at 859-745-0255 Monday—Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm for livestock pickup.



James Taulbee
Owner/Operator
859-595-1989

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