

Resources for Protecting and Preserving Land in Central Kentucky

Bluegrass Land Conservancy

Bluegrass Land Conservancy protects land in the greater Bluegrass Region of Kentucky through permanent conservation easements for current and future generations. They do this through education and by promoting the preservation of land for agriculture, historic and cultural heritage, wildlife habitat, natural resources, water quality, and scenic open space, in order to sustain a high quality of life.

Contact: Jessie Bessinger, Executive Director
859-255-4552 jbessinger@bluegrassconservancy.org

Louisville and Jefferson County Environmental Trust

The Louisville and Jefferson County Environmental Trust weaves together strategies for meeting the park and land preservation needs of current and future Louisville residents. The Trust:

- Promotes stewardship of natural and cultural resources, both public and private, within Louisville and Jefferson County
- Explores the use of voluntary methods of private land preservation such as donation and purchase of conservation easements and land
- Coordinates with all Louisville Metro agencies that manage natural areas on public land
- Advises the Metro Council on matters of land conservation
- Educates the community about the need to preserve natural areas and increasingly rare agricultural land

Contact: Kurt Mason, Chairman
(502) 499-1900 kurt.mason@ky.usda.gov

Kentucky Heritage Lands Conservation Fund

The Heritage Lands Conservation Fund provides funding for preserving and conserving natural areas that possess unique features such as areas that are a habitat for rare and endangered species, areas that are important to migratory birds, areas that perform important natural functions that are subject to alteration or loss, and areas to be preserved in their natural state for public use, outdoor recreation, and education.

Contact: Tara Littlefield, Program Manager
(502) 573-2886 tara.littlefield@ky.gov

Riverfields

To protect, preserve, and enhance natural and cultural resources on both sides of the Ohio River between Westport and West Point, KY, as well as the region surrounding it, for the benefit of the public.

Contact: Meme Sweets Runyon, Executive Director
(502) 583-3060 info@riverfields.org

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRCS offers voluntary Farm Bill conservation programs that benefit both agricultural producers and the environment. NRCS offers financial and technical assistance to help agricultural producers make and maintain conservation improvements on their land. NRCS offers easement programs to eligible landowners to conserve working agricultural lands, wetlands, grasslands, and forestlands. And, it works with partners to leverage additional conservation assistance for agricultural producers and landowners in priority conservation areas.

Contact: Kurt Mason, Lead District Conservationist
(502) 499-1900 kurt.mason@ky.usda.gov

Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest

Bernheim offers educational programming to connect people with nature. A 15,000+ acre forest in Clermont, KY, Bernheim is open to opportunities to continue to protect habitat for native flora and fauna.

Contact: Dr. Mark Wourms, Executive Director
(502) 955-8512 nature@bernheim.org