



July 2011

HARDIN COUNTY FOCUS

KENTUCKY'S PREMIER COUNTY



Judge/Executive Harry L. Berry

Summer-Time News in Hardin County

County Receives National Award

Hardin County is the recipient of one of the National Association of Counties (NACO) Annual Achievement Awards. We were recognized for our Step-in-Grade pay system implemented by county government last year.

County Wins Heartland Parade Trophy

With privately contributed funds and the efforts of many volunteers, county government entered a float in the Heartland Festival Parade featuring 25 dogs from our Animal Shelter to focus public awareness of our animal adoption program. We are happy to report all but 4 of the "Parade Dogs" have been adopted and your county won a trophy for our parade entry!

County Summer Road Repair Program

Our county road crew is working relentlessly in the summer heat to pave and repair the county road system while mowing right-of-way grass. They are an enthusiastic and flexible crew, capable of managing multiple summer and winter projects.

Despite the high cost of asphalt we continue to enhance safety on our county road system by resurfacing the following roads: Berrytown Road, Eastview Road, Mack Thomas Road, and Nacke Pike Road. In addition to resurfacing, the county road crew will replace the St Clare Street Bridge in Colesburg.

Roadway Mowing Cycles

Mowing grass by the road crew continues along the county rights-of-way. Not only did the heavy spring rain cause the grass to grow; it also reduced the number of days we could mow. The road department has completed one of three mowing cycles. Each cycle can take up to two months to complete.



Unemployment Rate in County

Our county is weathering the economic recession well as our unemployment rate continues to drop. In May our rate dropped to 8.0% while the state hovered at 9.5% and the national rate at 8.7% as reported by the Kentucky Education and Workforce Development Cabinet. Unemployment rates varied across the state from a low of 7.3% in Fayette County to a high of 17.4% in Jackson County.

County Getting Greener with Recycling

County government once again received grants from the state to assist us with our environmental efforts. The Kentucky Pride Fund awarded us a recycling grant in the amount of \$16,204 to benefit our ongoing recycling program and a \$32,800 grant for our annual "Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day", scheduled for Saturday, September 10.

We teamed with Scotty's Contracting and Santek Environmental to offer a "Roof-Shingle Recycling Program" at our Pearl Hollow Landfill. This is a beneficial program to reuse roofing shingles in asphalt paving. Roofers and residents may deliver used shingles to the landfill at a charge of \$10 per ton.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Our EMS crews are now using new equipment recently purchased to enhance their critical medical care delivery. These include new cardiac monitors to allow for the transmission of 12 lead EKG's while in route to Hardin Memorial Hospital's Emergency Department and the ability to closely monitor lung function in critical patients. The other is a powered ambulance cot to greatly reduce the wear and tear on the backs of EMS staff. This battery-powered cot will raise and lower a patient weighting up to 700 pounds. It is our plan to phase more of these cots into service as finances permit.

- ✓ Free Service Day at County Landfill August 20
- ✓ Household Hazardous Waste and Prescription Drug Disposal—September 10

