



April is Volunteer Month



Harry L. Berry
County Judge/Executive

The third week in April is National Volunteer Week. It is an opportunity to thank all the thousands of volunteers across Hardin County who keep our organizations running and safe by providing services that otherwise would not exist.

Psychology Today lists five reasons you should consider making volunteering a part of your life.

1. **Volunteers live longer and are healthier.** During later life, volunteering is even more beneficial for your health than exercising and eating well.
2. **Volunteering establishes strong relationships.** Working alongside people who feel as strongly as you do about supporting a particular cause creates a path to developing strong relationships with others. Volunteering alongside members of your family strengthens family bonds and serves as a great example to your children.
3. **Volunteering is good for your career.** People who volunteer create relationships that can help you make connections that lead to access to new information and opportunities.
4. **Volunteering is good for society.** Many organizations like museums, social service organizations, and faith-based organizations often rely on more volunteers than paid workers to meet their goals and fulfill their mission. These organizations pick up the pieces where government programs leave off, and by volunteering for them, you participate in helping our society meet the needs of its people.
5. **Volunteering gives you a sense of purpose.** A key factor as to why volunteering serves as a profound health factor may be it gives you a means to spend time on issues you feel strongly about. For example, our County Animal Shelter employs many volunteers who feel strongly about the well-being and treatment of animals.



We have volunteer opportunities at our County Animal Shelter for dog walkers, adoption counselors, children's educational assistants, and cat custodians.

We provide training and mentoring for our volunteers. You can pick your hours from Noon to 4 pm Monday through Saturday. Call Sharon Kelly at 270-769-3428 or e-mail her at skelly@hcky.org.

Hardin County has 12 volunteer fire departments and two full-time paid fire departments in need of volunteer firefighters. While this is demanding physical work, it fulfills a vital need within our community. Call your local Fire Chief or our Emergency Services Officer Bryce Shumate at 270-765-2350 to find opportunities for you.

- Glendale Fire Chief David Black
- Kentucky 86 Fire Chief Derrick Peters
- Rineyville Fire Chief David Walters
- Sonora Fire Chief Robert Wethington
- Stephensburg Fire Chief D.J. Stillwell
- Upton Fire Chief Wade Wyatt
- Valley Creek Fire Chief Joey Scott
- West 84 Fire Chief Steve Gore
- White Mills Fire Chief Chuck Masterson
- Radcliff Fire Department Chief Jamie Henderson
- Vine Grove Fire Department Chief Steve New
- West Point Fire Department Chief Edward Curl
- Central Hardin Fire Department Chief Jake Dobri

United Way of Central Kentucky



“When you volunteer with United Way of Central KY, you become a powerful force in changing the odds for families across our community. Apply your skills to rewarding, hands-on volunteer experiences and check out dozens of volunteer opportunities available at www.centrankyserves.org. Not finding what you're looking for? Email United Way at volunteer@unitedwayck.org or call their office at 270-737-6608 for a list of additional volunteer needs.”

Hardin County Public Library

We have many volunteer opportunities in our County Library. Just contact one of these ladies for more information.

- Rebekah Akers— Adult Volunteers
hcp1rebekaha@gmail.com
- Becca Isaac — Volunteers for Children and Teens
hcp1beccai@gmail.com
- Heidi Danley— Volunteers
hcp1heidid@gmail.com

Public Library Volunteers pictured to the right

Volunteer Appreciation Party at our County Library

