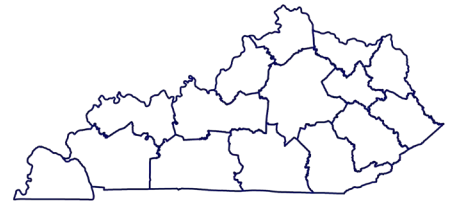


THE REGIONALIST



A PUBLICATION OF THE KENTUCKY COUNCIL OF AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS

ISSUE 19 • JULY 2025

Gateway RLF funds assist Montgomery Co. ag business

The Gateway Area Development District (GADD) recently presented a \$100,000 ceremonial check to Triple Trust Tubs, one of Montgomery County's newest agricultural businesses.

The funds, provided through GADD's Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program, support the company's launch and operations in manufacturing protein and mineral supplemental tubs for livestock—including cattle, horses, goats, and sheep—as well as wildlife nutrition tubs for deer, turkey, and quail. Located at 1132 Levee Road in Mount Sterling, adjacent to the Hinton Mills storefront, Triple Trust Tubs operates a facility capable of producing up to 100 tons daily.

GADD collaborated with the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation (KAFC) to secure an additional \$437,000 loan, resulting in a combined \$537,000 investment. These funds were instrumental in acquiring essential equipment for the facility's startup.

Operational since September 2023, Triple Trust Tubs annually produces more than 25,000 tons of nutritional supplements. Products include livestock mixes designed for seasonal and specific agricultural needs, ranging from breeding enhancements to fly control. Its wildlife nutrition products feature an Antler Builder protein tub specifically aimed at hunters. The company emphasizes locally produced products, utilizing as many American-sourced ingredients as possible. Available in sizes from 20 to 200 pounds, Triple Trust Tubs products are distributed across more than 300



Pictured left to right: Mount Sterling Mayor Al Botts, Adam Hinton, Matt Hinton, Larry Manning, Gateway Area Development District Executive Director Joshua Farrow and Montgomery County Judge/Executive Chris Haddix.

storefronts in 16 eastern states.

"This is an exciting opportunity for GADD to partner with the Hinton and Manning families to bring a new ag manufacturing business to Mount Sterling-Montgomery County," GADD Executive Director Joshua Farrow said. "It's humbling for our organization to be part of a project that has such a far reach, with products being shipped to over 300 storefronts across 16 states. GADD is happy to support local businesses and industries throughout the Gateway region with our RLF programs. The RLF has flexible terms and low interest rates that are designed for community development projects, the establish-

ment of new businesses, expansion of existing businesses, creation of employment opportunities, and retention of existing jobs, among other things. We have approximately \$200,000 in loan funds still available for businesses and industries in Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, and Rowan counties."

The Hinton and Manning families, co-owners of Triple Trust Tubs, bring extensive experience in agricultural nutrition, manufacturing and distribution, collectively spanning more than 150 years. Previously, GADD invested \$200,000 in Hinton Mills in 2022 to facilitate its expansion into a sixth location.

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Focusing on regional successes

On June 24, local officials from across Kentucky appeared before the Interim Joint Committee on Local Government to reaffirm the critical role of the Commonwealth's 15 Area Development Districts in supporting cities and counties. From fostering regional collaboration and economic development to expanding aging services and advancing infrastructure projects, ADDs continue to serve as essential partners in delivering results for communities across all 120 counties.



CASEY ELLIS

Major projects, including a \$25 million sewer upgrade in Madisonville and a \$60 million regional water treatment plant through the Gateway Area Development District, underscore how many local governments could not achieve these successes without ADD support.

As we continue advancing regional priorities, I'm pleased to share that the Kentucky Association of District Directors, which has always met monthly, now begins each meeting at the Department for Local Government in Frankfort. These regular meetings strengthen statewide coordination, and we are thankful for DLG's continued partnership and support as we work together for the greater good.

Looking ahead, I encourage everyone to make plans to attend the Governor's Local Issues Conference, scheduled for Aug. 13-15 at the Galt House in Louisville. This event offers a valuable opportunity for collaboration and learning among local officials and ADD leaders alike.

Thank you for your continued dedication to Kentucky's communities.



KRADD supporting 2022 flood victims

The Kentucky River Area Development District (KRADD) is playing a critical role in the Chestnut Ridge Subdivision Project in Knott County, a multi-phase housing development created to support survivors of the July 2022 floods in Eastern Kentucky.

KRADD is responsible for securing funding and administering the development of essential infrastructure—

including water, sewer, electrical and broadband services—across all phases of the project.

The subdivision is designed in three phases and brings together a coalition of federal, state, local and private partners, all committed to providing safe, resilient and modern housing for families displaced by the flooding.

Pennyriple ADD launches drone services

The Pennyriple Area Development District (PeADD) is now offering professional drone services to support local and regional projects across the Pennyriple region.

Chris Miller, PeADD's GIS specialist, is a certified FAA Part 107 licensed drone pilot, allowing the agency to safely and legally operate drones for commercial and governmental use.

Available services include high-resolution aerial photography and video for promotional or documentation purposes; mapping and surveying to support infrastructure planning and development; environmental monitoring and land use analysis; and economic development and site selection assistance, including visual assets for industrial recruitment. Custom services are also available to meet specific project needs.



Drone services are available at competitive rates starting at \$125 per hour, with pricing adjusted based on the scope and complexity of each request.

This new capability allows PeADD to deliver faster, more accurate and cost-effective data to support decision-making, planning and development efforts across cities, counties and partner organizations.

KIPDA discusses economic development with global delegation

Staff from the Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency recently met with a global delegation from the International Visitor Leadership Program to discuss community and economic development in the KIPDA region.

Topics included KIPDA's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, transportation planning strategies, economic development initiatives, and the importance of collaboration and regionalism.

Countries represented in the delegation included Turkey, Malaysia, Nigeria, Nepal, Malawi, Pakistan, Germany, Montenegro, Iraq and Liberia.



FIVCO launches grant training program



The FIVCO Area Development District has launched a new grant training program to help strengthen communities across northeast Kentucky by assisting local nonprofits and government agencies in developing the skills needed to secure vital funding.

The program is designed to help organizations gain the knowledge and confidence to pursue funding that supports projects, programs and services benefiting the region's residents.

Recognizing that access to funding is often a barrier for small organizations, FIVCO ADD's training offers practical, hands-on guidance in identifying grant opportunities, writing proposals and navigating the complexities of

grants management. Participants also learn best practices for researching grants, developing budgets and meeting reporting requirements — essential skills for sustainable community development.

Through this program, FIVCO ADD continues its mission of planning for smart growth, empowering local leaders and helping turn ideas into action. By building grant-writing capacity among local nonprofits and government partners, FIVCO ADD aims to ensure that more funding flows into the region, strengthening services, creating opportunities and supporting long-term growth in the communities it serves.

GRADD partnering with Aetna on new pilot project



The Green River Area Development District (GRADD) is partnering with Aetna Better Health of Kentucky on a new pilot project aimed at supporting individuals as they transition home after a hospital stay.

The program offers targeted care management services to help reduce hospital readmissions and ensure a smoother return to daily life.

Through the partnership, Aetna refers individuals in the GRADD region who may benefit from additional support. GRADD's care management team then connects with those individuals directly, offering local resources and personalized guidance.

The pilot program is currently serving 10 members across the region and is already helping to bridge gaps in care.

Bluegrass ADD unveils Digital Utility Rate Book

The Bluegrass Area Development District is ushering in a new era of accessibility and transparency in local government services with the launch of its first-ever digital utility rate book. Designed to help track water and sewer rates across its 17-county region, the new tool replaces the district's long-standing printed rate book, which had become increasingly difficult to keep updated.

Casey Cash, infrastructure development specialist, and Ellie Wellman, GIS specialist, led the project, spending countless hours gathering, verifying and inputting data from municipalities and utilities across the Bluegrass region. While some utility providers are still submitting their information, the digital rate book is already the most comprehensive and up-to-date resource of its kind for local governments and community planners.

Unlike the printed version, which was expensive to update and quickly outdated, the new digital platform is dynamic. Annual site visits and self-reporting by local utilities will keep the resource accurate and current. Updates



Above: Ellie Wellman presents the Bluegrass Area Development District's (BGADD) Utility Rate Book at a recent BGADD executive committee meeting.

and inquiries can now be processed almost instantly, giving planners access to timely information when they need it most.

"I am very excited about the evolution of the Bluegrass ADD rate book from a print version to a digital,

GIS-powered platform," said Executive Director David Duttlinger. "This tool will enable better grant outcomes, smarter regional solutions and sound public policy decisions."

For more information, visit www.bgadd.org.

Barren River ADD now service provider for 14 senior centers

The Barren River Area Development District (BRADD) recently transitioned to the role of service provider for 14 senior centers across its district, effective July 1.

The efforts of the re-imagined centers are paying off as participants are beginning to gather once again for meals and activities.

At the Edmonton Senior Center in Metcalfe County, manager Debbie Holley recently coordinated a painting class, "Kitten in Cups," for attendees.

BRADD officials say they look forward to continued growth in this service area as they work to meet the needs of local seniors, one person at a time.



CVADD celebrates Elder Abuse Awareness Month

In recognition of Elder Abuse Awareness Month in June, representatives from the Cumberland Valley Long-Term Care Ombudsman program wore purple T-shirts and hosted a balloon release Thursday, June 26, to raise awareness about elder abuse and maltreatment.

The event took place at the Laurel County Courthouse, where students from South Laurel Middle and High School joined the gathering as part of their Congressional Academy. Their participation contributed to a large crowd at the courthouse square.

District Ombudsman Sarah Smith said the event is meaningful because it brings attention to what victims of elder abuse have experienced and helps give them a voice.

"It's an ongoing issue, and the more people that know about it, the more likely it would be to help resolve it and



have a better future," Smith said.

After each attendee received a purple balloon, the group joined in a countdown before releasing them into the

sky. Smith said the sight of the balloons floating upward can symbolize the release of pain and suffering, as well as hope for the future.

BTAAAIL dedicates Memory Garden



81,000 individuals in Kentucky are currently living with Alzheimer's or a related type of dementia. The Buffalo Trace Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living (BTAAAIL) is committed to bringing quality services to its region. Buffalo Trace was one of three Area Development Districts who took part in a pilot program called Dementia Care Services.

On June 27, BTAAAIL representatives gathered to remember and honor the individuals served through this

much-needed program and to acknowledge the need for increased advocacy, support, and resources. The area in the courtyard between the Kenton Commonwealth Building and Mason County Health Department was dedicated as the Buffalo Trace Regional Memory Garden.

For questions about services provided by the agency, call the Aging and Disability Resource Center at 606-564-7084.

UPCOMING EVENT

Purchase ADD to host aging conference Aug. 21

The Purchase Area Development District and the Purchase Area Mental Health and Aging Coalition will host the "Still Groovin', Never Snoozin'" Aging Conference Thursday, Aug. 21, 2025, at the Filbeck-Cann Life Celebration Center in Benton, Kentucky.

The free community event will run from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will feature a full day of fun, learning and nostalgia. Attendees can expect engaging presentations from aging professionals, a '60s-themed costume contest, bingo, giveaways and more.

Groups are encouraged to participate in a themed food drive competition. Extra bingo cards will be awarded for every item donated, with a limit of five per person.

Organizers encourage attendees to dress in their grooviest gear and get ready for good vibes and valuable information.

BGADD awarded \$2 million grant to support dislocated workers

The Bluegrass Area Development District's Department of Workforce Services has been awarded a \$2 million National Dislocated Worker Grant to provide workforce services to individuals impacted by the closure of the Yokohama facility in Woodford County and the upcoming closure of the Blue Grass Army Depot in Madison County.

The federal funding will support hundreds of workers in central Kentucky, helping stabilize affected communities and retain skilled talent across the region. Services will be delivered through the Kentucky Career Center–Bluegrass/American Job Center, which will serve as the central hub for assistance and support.

The grant, funded through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, will provide job search and placement assistance, career counseling, skills assessments, training programs, work-based learning opportunities such as paid internships and apprenticeships, and supportive services such as transportation and childcare assistance.



"Receiving this \$2 million National Dislocated Worker Grant is a vital step forward in living out our mission to strengthen communities in the Bluegrass region," said David Duttlinger, executive director of BGADD. "This funding allows us to respond swiftly—connecting dislocated workers with training, new career pathways and the resources they need to succeed."

"This funding is an incredible opportunity to reinvest in our regional workforce," added Tiffanie Reeves, BGADD director of workforce services. "Our team is ready to help individuals not only recover—but thrive."

For more information, visit a Kentucky Career Center–Bluegrass/American Job Center or go to ckycareers.com.

BSADD helps secure funds for City of Martin



The Big Sandy Area Development District recently assisted the city of Martin, Floyd County, in securing \$1,124,800 in Kentucky WWATERS funds. Pictured, from left, Sen. Scott Madon, Rep. Ashley Tackett Laferty, who presented the check to Martin City Councilman Charlie Justice, Martin Mayor Sam Howell and Floyd County Judge/Executive Robbie Williams.

FEATURED JOB

Lake Cumberland ADD seeks Aging and Disability Resource Coordinator

The Lake Cumberland Area Development District is accepting applications for an aging and disability resource coordinator.

The successful applicant will be responsible for identifying resources in the region that benefit older adults and individuals with disabilities, answering phones and assisting consumers with information, referring consumers to needed resources, and performing related duties as required.

LCADD is based in Russell Springs and serves a 10-county region that includes Adair, Casey, Clinton, Cumberland, Green, McCreary, Pulaski, Russell, Taylor and Wayne counties.

For a complete job description, visit www.lcadd.org.