

JR. BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023





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Meet the Junior Board



Ava Reed, Chair

Cooper High School

Hello! My name is Ava Reed, I'm 16 and a Junior at Cooper High School. In my free time you can usually find me on the wrestling mat, in the outdoors, or at the barn! I hope to pursue a career in ecology and conservation one day.

Emma Linkugel, Vice Chair

St. Henry District High School

Hello! I'm a junior at Saint Henry. This year has been full of lots of fun activities like environmental club, culinary club, National Honor Society, and Art club. I am so glad to be returning to the Junior Board this year- it's going to be a blast!



Maddie Thompson, Secretary

Cooper High School

My name is Madeline Thompson, I am a senior at Cooper High School and a first year member of the Boone County Conservation District Junior Board. I love to learn and I plan to major in forestry and environmental science. I am looking forward to the opportunities provided by the BCCDKY junior board.

Eddie Noll

St. Xavier

I'm Eddie, a sophomore this year at St. Xavier. I'm Interested in mycology and fish. I also have an interest in foraging.



Durga Gaddam

Ignite Institute

Hello! My name is Durga Gaddam and I am a sophomore at Ignite institute. I enjoy running, soccer, and listening to music. I am interested in wildlife and nature.

Andrew Worrall

Covington Catholic

I am a junior at Covington Catholic High school. I am involved in Bowling, NEHS, the Biology Users Group, and the Bass Fishing Team. I am also interested in conservation of our natural resources with a special interest in herpetology. In my free time I like to hike, fish, and go herping.





Jason Ford

Covington Catholic

My name is Jason Ford. I am 15 years old and attend Covington Catholic High School where I am a part of the Biology Users Group and the wrestling team. I have a passion for conservation and love for wildlife. I enjoy hiking, fishing, and herping.

Sophi Muse

Home school

Sophia has a keen interest in animal and plant life. She enjoys learning all about natural science. When she can, she visits creeks looking for animals and fossils. As a young child, she and her brother would look for snakes together. She catches all kinds of animals on hikes. Sophia also cares deeply for young children and often teaches them art, games, nature, and stories. Sophia is an artist and writer. As a homeschool student, she has the flexibility and time to follow her passions to create tiny, crafty creations and write many stories.



Maddie Texter

Ignite Institute

Hi! My name is Maddie Texter and I am a sophomore at Ignite Institute. I enjoy soccer, rock-climbing, and reading. In my free time I like to cook and listen to music.

List of Junior Board Meetings

Wednesday, Sept. 28 2022, 6-8 p.m. at Boone Woods

Wednesday, Oct. 26 2022, 5-7 p.m. at BCCDKY Office

Tuesday, Nov. 22 2022, 6-8 p.m. at BCCDKY Office

Tuesday, Dec. 6 2022, 6-8 p.m. at BCCDKY Office

Tuesday, Jan. 24 2023, 6-8 p.m. at BCCDKY Office

Wednesday, Apr. 12 2023, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Thomas More Field Station

Monday, Apr. 24 2023, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Conservancy Park

Junior Board Events

- Salt Fest: Oct 16, 2022

We helped at a festival called the Salt Festival. We set up a tent. We had an animal track print area, also an area with animal scat and skulls. There were lots of other tents there too. They had lots of food tents and trucks too. We taught and talked to a lot of people. It was fun to be there. They had lots of things to do there, and lots of youth activities there too. It was very fun and nice to connect to so many people.



- Middle Creek Naturalist Day: Oct 22, 2022

Members of the Junior Board went to Middle Creek Park along with students from Thomas More. There under the guidance of the students the board members performed a survey which analyzed the growth of an area by the DBH (diameter at breast height) of the flora at different levels.



- Ed-mar Dairy Farm Tour: Jan 16, 2023

We went to a dairy farm and saw lots of cows. We got to see what kinds of food they eat. They ate so many different types of grains. We fed milk to the calves. We observed the cows being milked by machine. It had suction cups that latched on and the cows lined up to be milked. We also learned how they cleaned the barn floor. They used a big silo. It had lots of water in it. There was a pipe that went into the barn and it flushed out the dirt and waste. That was a pretty cool part of the trip. It was a great experience. We liked the man who showed us around the farm. He was nice and he did a great job.



- Owl Prowl: Feb 6, 2023

Members of the Junior Board attended an owl presentation from Raptor Inc. We got to see several live owls and learn about the owls' behavior, hunting skills, and habitats. We also helped with running a BCCDKY booth at the door to welcome guests to the presentation.

- Snake Tins

Jason, Andrew, and Susan went to the conservancy park and flipped the snake tins to see and track how many snakes were there. We Also set up trail cams to see how the different types of animals were behaving.



- Thomas More Field Station Tour: April 12, 2023

A group of our Jr. Board members took a tour of the Thomas Moore Field station along with a Thomas More environmental science class to learn about conservation efforts and studies in place at the field station. We got to learn and ask questions about current and past studies taking place at the field station.



- Salamander Search: April 2, 2023

Andrew, Emma and Sophie went to Middle Creek park on two separate occasions to help lead groups consisting mainly of families with children down to a creek to look for salamanders. Many salamanders of various varieties were found throughout the two days of this program.

“BIG PROJECT”: Community Orchard at Idlewild Park

Each year the Junior Board picks a “Big Project” to complete. The project is centered around educating the community about the environment as well as improving the environment. Last year, the project was aimed at erosion control of Camp Ernst Lake. This year however, the project is geared towards educating the public and providing habitat for native organisms by installing a community orchard in England Idlewild Park in Burlington Kentucky. The orchard will consist of native fruit and nut trees that are edible to wildlife as well as humans. The orchard will provide an oasis for native: pollinators, birds, mammals, and much more. The Junior Board has spent all year brainstorming and planning the execution of their project and on May 15th, 2023 the beginning steps of planting the trees will be completed. To help fund the project the board applied for the NK Urban Forestry Council’s “Mini Tree Grants” and was awarded \$2500. For the maintenance and upkeep of the orchard the Junior Board will work in hand with the Boone County Parks Department. Eventually, signs and a pathway will be added to the orchard for easier access and education. The signs will inform the public of the type of tree and the fruit it produces. The Junior Board is ecstatic to get to share this amazing experience with their community members and hope to get the word out about the new orchard at England Idlewild Park.

