

Thank you

The Campbell County Conservation District and Campbell Conservancy extend their deepest appreciation to all those who helped make the Hawthorne Crossing Conservation Area become a reality.

Thank you to everyone who supported this project in many ways, especially:
Representative Joe Fischer
Senator Katie Stine
The late Ms. Virginia Macke
Campbell County Fiscal Court
Campbell County Planning and Zoning
Citizens who purchase Kentucky Nature License plates
Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board & Staff
Northern Kentucky University Center for Applied Ecology
Sanitation District #1
Vision 2015

Thank you to those who assisted with the dedication today.

Campbell County Road Department
Campbell County Fiscal Court
Campbell County Community Media
Helen Fehr
Licking Valley Baptist Church, Pastor Stephen Fite and Deacon Dennis Bush
Northern Kentucky Water District
Taft, Stettinius & Hollister LLP

Thank you to those who furnished photographs for the photo journal of Hawthorne Crossing.

Campbell County Historical and Genealogical Society
Mary Kathryn Dickerson
Stephen Fite
Justin Flamm
David Peck
Buck Seibert
Larry Varney



Campbell Conservancy, Inc.
8351 East Main St., Suite 104
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Board : David Peck, Chairman; Lisa Araya; Peter Garrett; Don Girton; Joe Piller; Yvonne Meichtry; Judge-Executive Steve Pendery; Dennis Walter; and, Melissa Williams.
Advisors: Mary Kathryn Dickerson, Peter Klear, DJ. Scully.

The Campbell Conservancy is a private, non-profit corporation formed in 2001. The mission of The Campbell Conservancy is to conserve green space and preserve land that has unique or significant natural, historical or scenic value in order to enhance the quality of life for current and future generations. The Conservancy may preserve land intact as natural space or develop it for use, in whole or part, by residents of the County. In addition to the Hawthorne Crossing acquisition, the Conservancy holds a conservation easement on the 100 acre St. Anne's Wetland in Melbourne. The wetland will soon feature an education program and trail system entailing a variety of unique habitats. The Conservancy also owns 9.5 acres of land next to A. J. Jolly Park that is undergoing work to restore a riparian buffer zone and native trees and grasses.



Campbell County Conservation District
8351 East Main St., Suite 104
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Board : Dennis Walter, Chairman; Larry Varney, Vice-Chairman; Alan Ahrman, Secretary/Treasurer; Gene Dobbs; Ken McCormick; Ron McCormick; and, Sanford Record.
Staff: Mary Kathryn Dickerson, Linda Grizzell, Mandy Hils, and Kristin Scott.

The Campbell County Conservation District is a governmental unit of the state, formed by referendum of the citizens in 1945. It is charged with the duty to work for the improvement and conservation of the soil, water, and related natural resources. It is the mission of the Campbell County Conservation District, in accordance with state statute, to plan for the best use of land and other natural resources within the district, encourage the use of Best Management Practices to control soil erosion and sedimentation during all land use activities, improve water management, and encourage the improvement of damaged lands, croplands, forests, and wildlife habitat.

Hawthorne Crossing Conservation Area

Campbell County, Kentucky

Dedication
Friday, October 3, 2008
2:00 p.m.



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2:00 p.m.

*Dennis Walter, Chairman
Campbell County Conservation District*

*David Peck, Chairman
Campbell Conservancy*

*W. Horace Brown
Kentucky Heritage Land
Conservation Fund Board*

*Steve Pendery, Judge Executive
Campbell County Fiscal Court*

It is the vision of the Campbell County Conservation District, Campbell Conservancy, and Campbell County Fiscal Court to see that this land is protected for the future. Work will be undertaken to restore and protect native prairie and woods, as well as to preserve a log cabin home site.

The property will be open in the future for citizens to hike, bird watch, study nature, access the Licking River for canoeing and kayaking, and enjoy beautiful views of the Licking River Valley. It is our hope that this special place will foster in our citizens a new-found stewardship for the land and waters of our county.



Hawthorne Crossing Conservation Area

Hawthorne Crossing Conservation Area, Campbell County's first natural area, was recently acquired through the combined efforts of the Campbell County Conservation District, the Campbell Conservancy and the Campbell County Fiscal Court. The property is bordered by the Licking River and Ripple Creek, both of which give a unique character to the land. Two knolls, often disappearing in the morning mist, provide outstanding views of the river valley.

The property came to the attention of the Campbell Conservancy when it was listed for sale in 2006. The Conservancy pursued private funding to purchase the property and ultimately turned to the Campbell County Conservation District to assist. Being a governmental unit of the state, the Conservation District was eligible to apply for, and received, a grant through the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund. In August 2008, the Conservation District purchased 135 acres of land. The Campbell Conservancy, with assistance from the Campbell County Fiscal Court, acquired an additional five acres. They join today to dedicate this land to the future of Campbell County and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

The name Hawthorne Crossing Conservation Area was chosen to honor the history of this land. In earlier days, the shallow riffle in the Licking River near the community of Hawthorne allowed travelers an easy crossing into present-day Kenton County. The community of Hawthorne has since disappeared, although its name still appears on county maps.

Although history is silent on the origin of the name, Hawthorne was once a thriving community with a school, businesses, and a post office. Records show that James H. Rusk was postmaster in 1880, followed by Thomas Jenkins in 1893, and Theodore Shanks in 1913. Service was discontinued in August 1914 and mail was sent to Alexandria. The 1930 census lists a population of 26. The name Hawthorne is still shown on county maps.

Buck Seibert, a resident of Campbell County and member of the Campbell County Historical Society, has family ties to Hawthorne. His father was born in the house on the property and grew up in the community. He recalls family stories of his grandmother being taken to the midwife who lived in the log cabin on the hill when his father was born. Mr. Seibert's great-grandfather ran a blacksmith and wagon shop in the community. An inn, believed to be known as Six-Mile House, was located just south of the property. Farmers would stay there on their way into Newport and other towns to sell their produce. An old toll gate was located in the community, lending its name to the present day Tollgate Road. We hope that neighbors and members of the community will help us fill in the missing pages in the history of Hawthorne.

Providing Funds for Preserving and Conserving Natural Areas



The Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund (KHLCF) was established by the 1994 Kentucky Legislature and is administered by a 12-member board. The board's mission is to award funding for the purchase and preservation of selected natural areas in the Commonwealth, to protect rare and end-endangered species and migratory birds, to save threatened areas of natural importance, and to provide natural areas for public use, outdoor recreation and education.

The Heritage Land Conservation Fund Board gives special consideration to funding agencies working together to meet these goals. The fund is supported by the state portion of the unmined minerals tax, environmental fines, the \$10 additional fee to purchase a Kentucky Nature License Plate, and interest on the fund's assets. Grants can be awarded to local governments, state colleges and universities, and specified state agencies to acquire and protect areas of natural significance. Since the first awards were made in October 1995, the Heritage Fund has helped protect 31,658 acres of land in 55 counties of the Commonwealth. To learn more about the KHLCF, visit <http://www.dnr.ky.gov/heritageland/>

