

Major Licking River Watershed County Profiles

The Licking River Watershed or River Basin physically includes Magoffin*, Morgan*, Rowan*, Bath*, Fleming*, Bourbon, Harrison*, Nicholas*, Robertson*, the majority of Pendleton*, and parts of Menifee*, Montgomery, Clark, Elliott, Lewis, Mason, Bracken, Campbell*, Kenton*, Boone, and Grant counties.¹ The Licking River Region report also includes Gallatin and a portion of Carroll counties. Hinkston and Stoner Creeks join in Bourbon County to form the South Fork of the Licking River which joins the main stem in Falmouth. The North Fork joins the Licking River near Sunrise, north of Claysville, in Harrison County, around its northern border with Pendleton County. The North Fork forms the border between Bracken and Robertson counties.

The Licking River was officially discovered by Thomas Walker in June of 1750 who named it Frederick's River. The Native Americans called it *Nepermine* and used the river to transport goods for trade and to travel to the central Kentucky grassland areas for hunting. Charles Kerr's History of Kentucky (1922) says that the Licking means "land with springs and meadows." An earlier name, Great Salt Lick Creek, referred to the salt licks along the river. The Licking River was first officially surveyed in 1835. The Licking River is noted to be 320 miles long. The Licking River was an important route of transportation for timber operations that floated logs down the river to Covington.

Cave Run Lake, the only impoundment on the river, was formed in 1974. It has a summer pool of approximately 8,200 acres. Cave Run Lake is one of the most productive muskie fisheries in the Eastern United States. The dam was constructed by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and the project was completed at a cost of about \$71,000,000. Another dam was planned in the Falmouth area in 1936, however, it was placed in the Corp's inactive file in 1981 due to lack of funding. There have been recent attempts to revive the plan for a dam at Falmouth to help protect property from flooding and to enhance the area for recreational uses.

Cave Run Lake is located in the Daniel Boone National Forest. The Daniel Boone National Forest contains over 660,000 acres in portions of twenty-one eastern Kentucky counties. It was named the Cumberland National Forest when established in 1937 but the name was changed in 1966 to honor pioneer explorer Daniel Boone.

Magoffin County

The waters of the Licking River rise in Magoffin County. Magoffin County was formed in 1860 from parts of Floyd, Johnson, and Morgan Counties. It was named for Beriah Magoffin, Governor of Kentucky from 1859 – 1862. The county seat, Salyersville, originally known as Adamsville, was named in honor of State Representative Samuel Salyers who introduced the bill that established Magoffin County. It is located on the western edge of the Eastern Coal Field region of the state, generally known as the Cumberland Plateau. The elevation in the county ranges from 785 to 1640 feet above sea level. In 2000, the county population was 13,332 in a land area of 303 square miles.

Native peoples used the Licking River valley as a home, trade route, and hunting ground for thousands of years before European settlers came to Kentucky. Dr. Thomas Walker's surveying party reached the present location of Salyersville on June 2, 1750, and noted the presence of native inhabitants camped at nearby "Elk Lick." A settlement was eventually established around 1800 at Licking Station or Prater's Fort, (now known as Ivy Point) about one mile downstream from Salyersville. Salyersville was built on

¹ An * denotes the counties we will travel through during *Reading the River*. Those counties are included in this summary.

the flood plain of the Licking River and has been subjected to periodic flooding. The largest floods occurred in 1927 and 1939.

Timber production dominated the county's economy in the 1890's and early 1900's. Coal mining soon followed and has remained the dominant force in the county's economy through the 1900's. In 1997, there were 373 farms in Magoffin County, covering about 40,715 acres of the county's 198,093 acres. The main crops are burley tobacco, corn and hay. Livestock includes cattle, calves, hogs, and a small number of sheep. Coal, oil, gas and limestone are also produced from the county. Magoffin County lies in the Big Sandy Natural Gas Field which also includes the counties of Martin, Johnson, Pike and Knott. Magoffin County is also noted as a major source of apple production in the 1970's.

Other than the flatter valleys along the river, most of the soils in the county are generally not suited to cultivated crops because of the rugged terrain and the steep slopes. Many of the soils in the flood plains have been taken out of production and converted to urban development. Upland soils are underlain by interbedded sandstone, siltstone, shale, and limestone of the Pennsylvanian and Mississippian Systems. Common trees on ridgetops are Virginia pine, pitch pine, scarlet oak, chestnut oak, and mockernut hickory. Eastern hemlock, American beech, white oak, chestnut oak, northern red oak, red maple, sugar maple, and yellow-poplar are native trees.

Morgan County

Morgan County was formed in 1822 from parts of Floyd and Bath counties. It was named for General Daniel Morgan, a veteran of the French and Indian War who, as a colonial officer, fought in the attack on Quebec during the Revolutionary War. It is located on the western edge of the Eastern Coal Field region of the state, generally known as the Cumberland Plateau. The elevation in the county ranges from 690 to 1400 feet above sea level. In 2000 the county population was 13,948 in a land area of 382 square miles.

The county seat is West Liberty, situated along the Licking River. It was known as Well's Mill until the county was formally organized and the county seat incorporated in 1836. According to tradition, when Well's Mill was to be named the county seat, Pike County (to the east) was also forming its county seat to be named Liberty (but named Pikeville instead). Morgan County chose the name West Liberty to avoid confusion. The present-day town of Liberty is in Casey County, west of West Liberty.

The Licking River flows an estimated 30 miles across the county. Cave Run Lake forms a portion of its northwest boundary, backing water up to the mouth of Blackwater Creek, about 45 miles upstream of the dam. In 1997, there were 698 farms in Morgan County, covering about 111,300 acres of the county's 245,542 acres. The main crops are burley tobacco, corn and hay. Livestock includes cattle, calves, and hogs. Morgan County is often referred to as "the Bluegrass county of the mountains."² Coal, oil, gas, limestone and clay are also produced from the county. Morgan County is a source of cannel coal, which was originally known as *candle coal* because it burns easily, has a silky luster, leaves little ash, and emits a bright flame. This coal was used extensively for residential and commercial heating until the late 1960's. Most coal now is mined for electric power generation.

Most of the soils in the county are generally not suited to cultivated crops because of the rugged terrain and the steep slopes. Soils on the valley floors and ridgetops are used for cultivated crops and pastures. Upland soils are underlain by interbedded sandstone, siltstone, shale, and limestone of the Pennsylvanian and Mississippian Systems. Common trees on ridgetops are Virginia pine, pitch pine, scarlet oak, chestnut

² Kleber, John E., Editor in Chief, 1992. The Kentucky Encyclopedia, University of Kentucky Press, Lexington, Kentucky.

oak, and mockernut hickory. Eastern hemlock, American beech, white oak, chestnut oak, northern red oak, red maple, sugar maple, yellow-poplar, and American basswood are native trees. A portion of the northwest corner of the county is included in the Daniel Boone National Forest.

Rowan County

Rowan County was formed in 1856 from parts of Fleming and Morgan counties. It is located in the Eastern Coal Field region of the state. In 2000, the county population was 22,094 in a land area of 280 square miles. The county was named for Judge John Rowan, noted as one of the Commonwealth's most famous attorneys. He also served in the U. S. House of Representatives and U. S. Senate.

The elevation in the county ranges from 625 to 1435 feet above sea level. The highest point in the county is Limestone Knob, located 3 miles southwest of Morehead, 1435 feet in elevation. The county seat is Morehead, located on Tripplett Creek. The town was incorporated in 1869.

Morehead State University, located in Morehead, was named for James T. Morehead, Governor of Kentucky from 1834 – 1836. The school was founded in 1887 as Morehead Normal School with a \$500 gift from a former Confederate soldier from Lexington, William T. Withers. It was operated by the Kentucky Christian Missionary Society and was intended to have an “educational, religious, and stabilizing influence on the county after the Rowan County War, one of the state’s bloodiest feuds.”³ The Rowan County War, as the Tolliver-Martin feud was known, lasted from 1884 – 1887, and had its beginnings in the valley of Tripplett Creek. Twenty men were killed and sixteen were wounded in the feud which started as a result of the 1874 circuit judge’s race between Thomas F. Hargis of Carlisle, a former Confederate officer and Democrat, and George Thomas, a prominent Republican from Vanceburg. Efforts were even begun in the state legislature to abolish the county, but received no support from neighboring counties.

The Daniel Boone National Forest covers a large part of the county and the southwest boundary of the county is formed by Cave Run Lake, an impoundment of the Licking River. About 35% of the land in Rowan County is owned by the Federal Government. Several railroads were built in Rowan County to service the timber and mining industries and were in use between the late 1800’s through the late 1940’s.

In 1997, there were 413 farms in Rowan County, covering about 42,472 acres of the county’s 183,309 acres. The main crops are burley tobacco and hay. Livestock includes cattle, calves, and some hogs. Sawtimber, pine for pulpwood, and hardwoods for charcoal are harvested from the county. Limestone and fire clay are the main mineral resources. Rowan County, along with Carter and Greenup counties, are included in the Eastern Kentucky fire-clay district.

Most of the county is hilly to mountainous, making most soils unsuitable for cultivation. Many of the soils in the flood plains have been taken out of production and converted to urban development. Soils are underlain by sedimentary bedrock consisting mainly of acid sandstone, shale and siltstone. Common trees on ridgetops are Virginia pine, pitch pine, and shortleaf pine. Other common species are scarlet oak, chestnut oak, pignut and mockernut hickories, white oak, black oak, and black gum.

³ Kleber, The Kentucky Encyclopedia

Menifee County

Menifee County was formed in 1869 from parts of Bath, Morgan, Powell, Wolfe and Montgomery counties. It was named for Richard H. Menefee (note variation in spelling), an attorney and congressman. Menifee County is located at the western edge of the Eastern Kentucky Coal Field region, in the foothills of the Cumberland Plateau. It is an upland area with narrow, but often flat-topped ridges. A series of these ridges at elevation 1428 feet form the drainage divide between the Kentucky and Licking Rivers. The Red River, a tributary of the Kentucky River, forms a portion of the county's southern boundary. The elevation in the county ranges from 670 to 1428 feet above sea level.

In 2000, the county population was 6,556 in a land area of 203 square miles. The county seat is Frenchburg, elevation 870 feet. It is located on the headwaters of Beaver Creek, a tributary to the Licking River (Cave Run Lake). A flood attributed to heavy rainfall caused Beaver Creek to overflow in June of 1882 killing six people. Broke Leg Falls, where Broke Leg Creek falls about 110 feet over a rock ledge into a ravine below, is located about ten miles east of Frenchburg on US 460. It is one of the area's most famous attractions.

In 1997, there were 346 farms in Menifee County, covering about 38,135 acres of the county's 131,744 acres. The main crops are burley tobacco and hay. Livestock includes cattle, calves, and some hogs. Sawtimber, pine for pulpwood, hardwoods for charcoal, and limestone are harvested from the county. Menifee County was home to William Suiters who discovered a new grass on farms he purchased in 1887. The grass was known as Suiters' Grass until it was officially recognized in 1931 as Kentucky 31 Fescue, which is widely used in Kentucky and surrounding states as pasture grass.

Menifee County is an upland area with narrow, but often flat-topped ridges. A series of these ridges at elevation 1428 feet form the drainage divide between the Kentucky and Licking Rivers. Soils are underlain by sedimentary bedrock consisting mainly of acid sandstone, shale and siltstone. Common trees on ridgetops are Virginia pine, pitch pine, and shortleaf pine. Other common species are scarlet oak, chestnut oak, pignut and mockernut hickories, white oak, black oak, and black gum.

Bath County

Bath County was formed in 1811 from portions of Montgomery County. Bath County is located in northeastern Kentucky where the Outer Blue Grass region meets the Eastern Coal Field. The elevation in the county ranges from 590 to 1388 feet above sea level. The county is mainly hilly to mountainous with some flat areas along the Licking River and in western parts of the county. Tater Knob, 6 miles southeast of Salt Lick in the Daniel Boone National Forest, is the highest point at 1388 feet.

In 2000 the county population was 11,085 in a land area of 279 square miles. The main waterways that drain Bath County to the Licking River are Slate Creek, Salt Lick Creek and Flat Creek. Bath County is named for the medicinal springs found there with Olympian Springs, discovered in 1791, being one of the more famous. The springs, formerly known as Mud Lick, included a salt well, a salt-sulphur well, a black sulphur well, an alkaline-saline well and spring, and two chalybeate (iron salts) springs. Kentucky's first stagecoach line, established in 1803, ran from Lexington to Olympian Springs, a distance of about thirty-six miles.

The county seat is Owingsville, elevation 1000 feet, incorporated in 1829. A contest to see who could build the finest home in the shortest time was held between Richard Menefee and Col. Thomas Dye Owings, owner of a nearby iron foundry, to determine for whom the town would be named. Owings won.

The county was an important source of iron in the early 1800's. Clear Creek Furnace, Owing's Furnace and the Bourbon Iron Works are listed by the Kentucky Historical Society. Agriculture is now the mainstay of the county's economy. In 1997, there were 799 farms in Bath County, covering about 128,696 acres of the county's 181,754 acres. The main crops are burley tobacco, corn, hay, and some soybeans. Livestock includes cattle, calves, and some hogs. About 18,000 acres in the southeastern section of the county are in the Daniel Boone National Forest. The main tree species are the hardwoods - walnut, oak and buckeye - and the softwoods - pine and cedar.

Nicholas County

Nicholas County was formed in 1799 from parts of Bourbon and Mason counties. It is in the Outer Bluegrass region of the state and was named for General George Nicholas, a famous Kentucky lawyer. The Licking River forms most of the north county boundary and Hinkston Creek forms the southwest county boundary. The elevation in the county ranges from 565 to 1060 feet above sea level. In 2000, the county population was 6,813 in a land area of 196 square miles. The county seat is Carlisle, founded in 1816 on fifty acres of land that had been a peach orchard.

The first settlement in Nicholas County was made around 1784 at Blue Lick by David Tanner. The site is also known as Blue Lick Springs, Lower Blue Lick Springs, and Salt Springs, taking its name from the blue-gray limestone, and mineral water that flowed from the springs toward the Licking River. Both the Upper Blue Licks, located near present-day Milltown, and Lower Blue Licks were known as important salt-producing sites for many years. By 1845, the site had become an important health resort, home of the Arlington Hotel. During the cholera outbreaks in Kentucky between 1833 and 1849, the resort was free of the disease. The hotel was destroyed by fire in 1862, but restored and became popular again in the late 1880's. Water was bottled and shipped to many states and several foreign countries and continued to be a profitable enterprise until 1896 when the spring ceased to flow.

In 1997, there were 567 farms in Nicholas County, covering about 106,292 acres of the county's 125,991 acres. The main crops are burley tobacco and hay. Livestock includes cattle, calves, and some hogs. The county is mainly rolling to hilly. Eden soils are the dominant type in the county, underlain by nearly level thin-bedded limestone, siltstone and calcareous shale. Flooding is common along most streams. Oak-hickory forests make up about 50 percent of the county's sparse forest cover with oak-pine making up about 18 percent.

Fleming County

Fleming County was formed in 1798 from part of Mason County. It is located in the Outer Bluegrass region of the state. The eastern part of the county is in the Eastern Coalfield region, with a narrow band of Knobs region. It is named for Colonel John Fleming, a native of Virginia, who came to the county in 1786 and established Fleming's (also known as Stockton's) Station in 1787. The county seat is Flemingsburg, located near the old station.

The elevation in the county ranges from 590 to 1420 feet above sea level. The Licking River forms much of the western boundary of the county, about 28 miles. Fleming, Triplett and Fox creeks also run through the county. In 2000, the county population was 13,792 in a land area of 351 square miles.

Maxey Flats, a nuclear waste disposal site located in the southern part of the county, was operated between 1963 and 1977 with over 4.5 million cubic feet of waste stored there. The county was also home to several mineral spring resorts and is a source of limestone, sandstone and sand.

In 1997, there were 1,132 farms in Fleming County, covering about 189,048 acres of the county's 224,621 acres. Livestock includes cattle, calves, and some hogs. In 2001, Fleming County ranked third in the state for milk production. The main crops are burley tobacco, hay, corn, soybeans, and winter wheat. The county has more than 50,000 acres of prime farmland. Except for some nearly level areas on flood plains and near streams, most of the county is gently sloping to very steep. Characteristic trees are American beech, American sycamore, black locust, black oak, black walnut, chestnut oak, chinkapin oak, hickory, northern red oak, pin oak, red maple, sugar maple, white ash, white oak, and yellow-poplar.

Robertson County

Robertson County was formed in 1867 from portions of Nicholas, Harrison, Bracken and Mason counties. The county was named for Judge George Robertson. He served two terms in the United States Congress, was secretary of state for Kentucky, and was chief justice of the Kentucky Court of Appeals. Robertson County is located in the Outer Bluegrass region of the state. The Licking River forms the southern and western boundaries of the county, and the North Fork of the Licking River forms the northern boundary. Other major waterways in the county are Cedar, Johnson, Panther and West creeks. The elevation in the county ranges from 550 to 1009 feet above sea level. The entrance to Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park is 692 feet above sea level.

In 2000, the county population was 2,266 in a land area of 100 square miles. It is the least populous county and the least densely populated county in the state. The county seat is Mount Olivet, established in 1820. According to local tradition, it was once called Hell's Half Acre, but when incorporated in 1851, named for the biblical Mt. Olivet.⁴ However, Rennick in Kentucky Place Names, states there is no basis for the popular opinion that it was once called Hell's Half Acre.

Robertson County is the site of what many historians call the last battle of the Revolutionary War. On August 19, 1782, at Blue Licks, 176 Kentuckians met with about one hundred Native Americans led by the British and the renegade Simon Girty. Daniel Boone's son Israel was killed in the battle. A monument was erected in 1882, and Blue Licks Battlefield State Park was established in the 1930's.

Robertson County is mainly an agricultural county. In 1997, there were 272 farms in Robertson County, covering about 47,849 acres of the county's 64,231 acres. The main crops are burley tobacco and hay. Livestock includes cattle, calves, and some hogs. The county is hilly with about 25% of the land covered with forests. Cedar is the only softwood tree of commercial significance.

Harrison County

Harrison County was formed in 1793 from parts of Bourbon and Scott counties. It was named for Colonel Benjamin Harrison, the first sheriff of Bourbon County, a pioneer settler in the area and Harrison's representative to the Kentucky Legislature at the time of the formation of the county. Harrison County later gave up land to form parts of Campbell, Pendleton, Boone, Owen, Kenton and Robertson counties. Harrison County is in the Bluegrass Region.

The highest point in the county, 1060 feet, is on a ridge on the Harrison-Scott County line west of Leesburg. This ridge forms part of the drainage divide between the Licking and Kentucky Rivers. The Licking River forms the eastern boundary of the county and the South Fork of the Licking River runs through the county.

⁴ Kleber, The Kentucky Encyclopedia

The population of the county in 2000 was 17,983. The county seat is Cynthiana, established in 1793. The town was built on a 150-acre tract donated by Robert Harrison and named for his two daughters, Cynthia and Anna. Cynthiana is located on the South Fork of the Licking River.

Harrison County is gently rolling to hilly with rich productive soils. In 1997, there were 1,079 farms in Harrison County, covering about 169,381 of the county's 198,253 acres. During the period before the Civil War, the county raised grain for the growing distillery business and quickly grew to be a major cattle-producing region. Whiskey production continued to be a major part of the county's economy throughout the nineteenth century. In 2001, Harrison County ranked tenth in the state for burley tobacco production. Other major crops include hay, corn, wheat, and soybeans. In 1997, Harrison County ranked sixth in the state in beef cattle production, but fell to 18th in 2001. Cynthiana is an important burley tobacco marketing center. Harrison County now also has a strong industrial base, including the only manufacturing location of the 3M "Post-It" notepads.

Pendleton County

Pendleton County was formed in 1798 from parts of Bracken and Campbell counties. The county is named for Judge Edmond Pendleton (1721 – 1803), a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses, the first Continental Congress, governor of Virginia, and chief justice of the Virginia Court of Appeals.

Located in the Outer Bluegrass region of the state, the elevation in the county ranges from 455 to 960 feet above sea level. The Ohio River forms a five-mile segment of the county's northeastern border. The Licking River crosses the county with the South Fork and the main stem joining in Falmouth. Major flooding has affected the county in many ways. Falmouth Lake, now Lake Kincaid in the state park, was built to help control flooding.

The Licking River was a main avenue of travel and exploration for early Kentuckians. The county seat, Falmouth, elevation 558 feet, is believed to be the first settlement in the county and was established about 1780. It was in June 1780 that the British Captain Henry Bird used the South Fork of the Licking River to aid in an attack on Ruddell's and Martin's stations in central Kentucky during the Revolutionary War.

The county is rolling to hilly. In 2000, the county population was 14,390 in a land area of 280 square miles. In 1997, there were 816 farms in Pendleton County, covering about 116,691 of the county's 180,148 acres. Tobacco production formed the basis of the county's economy. By the 1890's, the intensive production of tobacco had depleted the soils of essential nutrients. It is noted that sweet clover was brought from Alabama in 1895 and was planted to help restore the productivity of the soils. Alfalfa was introduced into the county between 1900 and 1910, probably by traveling Mormon preachers. This crop flourished and by 1925 was exported to other counties. The main crops today are burley tobacco, hay, soybeans, and corn. Livestock includes cattle and calves, beef cows, and hogs.

Kenton County

Kenton County was formed in 1840 from part of Campbell County. The county was named for General Simon Kenton, a frontier woodsman and companion of Daniel Boone. It is located in the Outer Bluegrass region of the state. The elevation in the county ranges from 455 to 960 feet above sea level. The Ohio River forms the northern border of the county, and the Licking River forms the eastern border. The Licking joins the Ohio at Covington, a place historically called "the Point." One of the first pioneers, Christopher Gist, led an exploration party sponsored by the Ohio Land Company, which landed at the Point in 1751. Daniel Boone, Simon Kenton and others used this site as a camp.

In 2000, the county population was 151,464 in a land area of 162 square miles. The county seats are Independence and Covington. Covington, established by the state legislature at the Point in 1815, was the boyhood home of Daniel Carter Beard, one of the founders of the Boy Scouts of America. Covington was originally known as Kennedy's Ferry. It was a part of a military warrant to George Muse for service in the French and Indian War. Thomas Kennedy purchased the land in 1791. It was named after General Leonard Covington, of Maryland who served valiantly in the war of 1812.

When Kenton County was formed in 1840, the establishing law required that the county seat be located near the geographical center of the new county. The new town was incorporated in 1842 and named Independence to declare the county's separation from Campbell County. However, the residents of the more populated northern section of the county started to use the old Covington city hall as a center to transact business. The main offices were moved to Covington, and Independence housed branches of the offices, remaining the official county seat.

The county is mainly hilly with few flat areas. Kenton County contains soils mainly of the Eden-Cynthiana and Faywood-Nicholson soils associations. Most of the soils formed in material weathered from limestone or calcareous shale. Many soils in the northern-most parts of the county formed in glacial deposits. In 1997, there were 442 farms in Kenton County covering about 37,788 acres of the county's 105,561 acres. The main crops are burley tobacco and hay. Livestock includes cattle and calves, and beef cows. County farmers are looking to goats and sheep as an alternative to tobacco production. Agricultural land uses are most predominant in the southern section of the county.

Campbell County

Campbell County was formed in 1794 from parts of Scott, Harrison and Mason counties. The original county included all of present day Boone, Kenton, Pendleton and most of Bracken and Grant counties. Campbell County is named in honor of John Campbell, an Irish immigrant who was a soldier, explorer, statesman and one of the drafters of the first Kentucky Constitution. The first known settlement in Campbell County was Leitch's Station, 1789, about 7 ½ miles south of Newport on Ky. 9.

The Ohio River forms the northern and eastern borders of the county, and the Licking River forms the western border. The Licking joins the Ohio at Newport (Covington in Kenton County). The lowest elevation is 455 feet at the confluence of the Ohio and Licking Rivers. The highest point in the county is 920 feet above sea level.

In 2000, the county population was 88,616, in a land area of 102,067 acres. The county seats are Newport and Alexandria. Newport was chosen as the county seat in 1794. The county seat was moved to Visalia for about a year to be near a proposed railroad, but returned to Newport. It remained at Newport until part of Campbell County was taken to establish Kenton County and the state legislature required a county seat near the center of the county. A courthouse was established in Alexandria. To accommodate citizens, another courthouse was built in Newport in 1883, and county offices are still housed in both locations. Newport gained notoriety as a center for organized crime and gambling during national prohibition in the 1920's.

Northern Kentucky University is located in Highland Heights, formed in 1968. The university is located on three hundred and twenty-five acres at the junction of present-day I-275 and I-471.

The county is mainly hilly with few flat areas. Over 60 percent of Campbell County consists mainly of soils of the Eden-Cynthiana soils association. Most of the soils were formed in material weathered from

limestone or calcareous shale. Many soils in the northern-most parts of the county formed in glacial deposits. In 1997, there were 503 farms in Campbell County covering about 45,108 acres of the county's 102,067 acres. The main crops are hay, corn and burley tobacco. Livestock includes cattle and calves and beef cows. Cattle production is being increased throughout the county. Originally both Kenton and Campbell Counties were covered with deciduous forest. Except for a few areas, they were cleared for farming. Much of the woodland has been converted to urban development. Black walnut and white oak are common tree species, along with ash, red cedar and hackberry.

References and Resources:

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Tonning, Barry, Pamla Wood, and the Licking River Region Team, 1998. The Licking River Region in Kentucky: Status and Trends, Kentucky Division of Water, Frankfort, Kentucky.

United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service) and the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station. Soil Survey for various counties. Soil surveys are available through the county Conservation District and/or NRCS offices, or you can visit this web site for more information on soil surveys (some are available online).
http://soils.usda.gov/soil_survey/pub_sur/ky.htm

Web Sites:

Daniel Boone National Forest, <http://www.southernregion.fs.fed.us/boone/>

The Kentucky Atlas, <http://www.uky.edu/KentuckyAtlas/21037.html>

Originally compiled by Shindlia Mauk, Natural Resources Conservation Service intern, and Mary Kathryn Dickerson, District Coordinator for the Boone, Kenton and Campbell County Conservation Districts in June 2001 for Reading the River, an educational workshop sponsored by Northern Kentucky University and Morehead State University. Revised and expanded by Dickerson in May 2003. Reviewed in May 2004.