

Community Environmental Concerns

Programs and Assistance from Blueprint Kentucky

CEDIK is now Blueprint Kentucky

Beginning April 1, 2025, Community Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky (CEDIK) was renamed **Blueprint Kentucky** to reflect its growth since its founding in 2010. Over 15 years, CEDIK evolved into a recognized leader in economic and community development. Blueprint Kentucky honors that growth and broad mission.

A "Blueprint" captures the essence of our work: to help Kentucky communities build strategic plans, support growth through design, and strengthen local leadership capacity. The term conveys the foundational and intentional nature of our research-based work in planning, economic development, leadership development, community health, arts and design, and Extension support.

Engaged Communities. Vibrant Economies



Blueprint Kentucky focuses on economic development, leadership development, community health, and arts and design, as well as UK's land-grant mission.

- Provide research and information that supports community and economic development.
- Build the leadership and organizational capacity of peoples and communities.
- Support community decision-making and collaborative initiatives.
- Facilitate partnerships and networks that enable communities to thrive economically, physically and socially.

Environmental Technical Assistance

WHAT ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ARE ADDRESSED?

- poor air, water, and soil quality
- exposure to environmental hazards
- climate change resilience (preparation and response)
- clean energy transitions
- transforming former mine land

WHAT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS OFFERED?

- identifying and applying for funding
- navigating grant applications and systems
- developing strong grant proposals
- facilitating community input sessions
- strategies for community engagement
- connecting people with resources, new partnerships, or subject matter experts



Brownfields Technical Assistance

Brownfields are properties that contain or may contain a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant, complicating efforts to expand, redevelop or reuse them. Abandoned buildings, former factories and other blighted structures may be in urban or rural areas. Often, brownfields raise environmental and health concerns for communities, beyond the visual blight.

Examples include:

- Former gas stations, auto repair shops
- Former dry cleaning establishments
- Former factories, schools, hospitals
- Buildings with asbestos, lead and other hazardous materials
- Abandoned landfills, old mining sites, vacated lots, fallow land
- Old railyards and shipyards

Brownfields Technical Assistance

Instead of community problems, brownfield properties can be opportunities to clean up the environment, boost the local economy and build a stronger community. Brownfields can be redeveloped by private developers, local governments or through public-private partnerships.

Cleaning up and reinvesting in these properties:

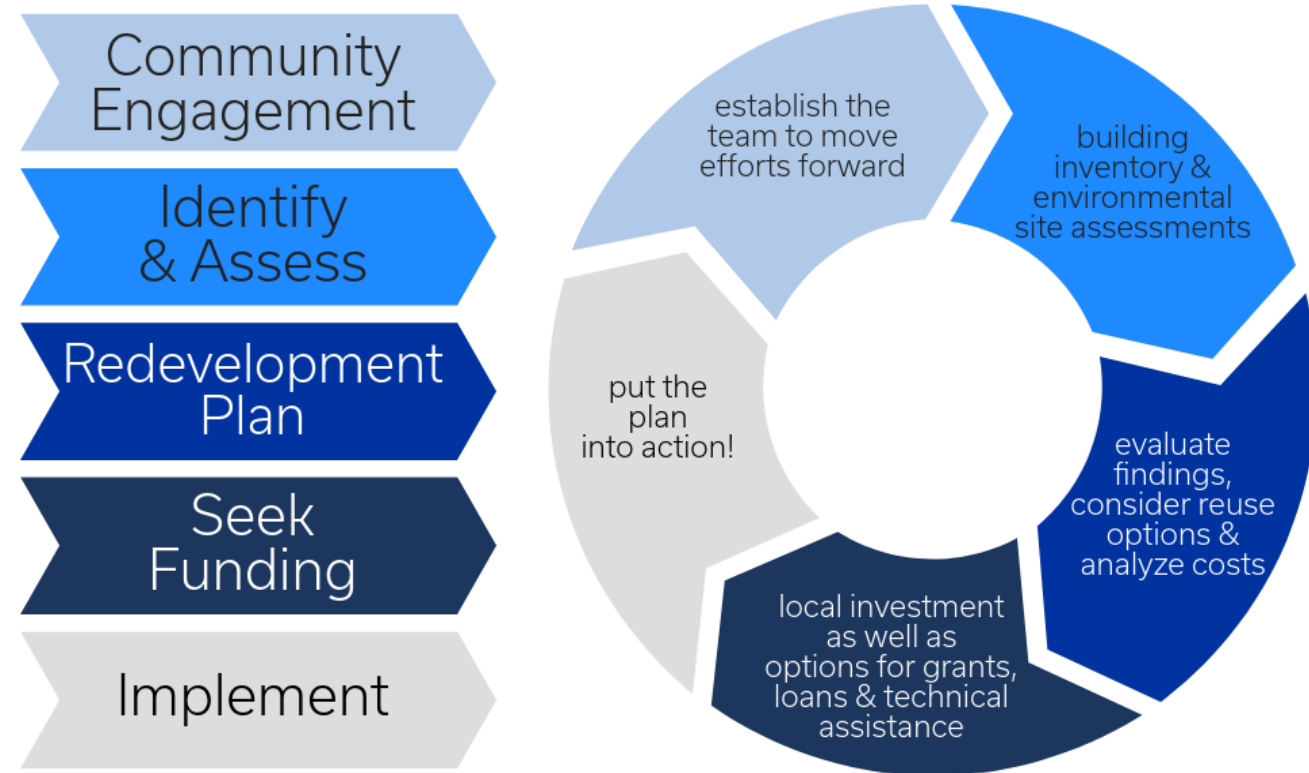
- Improves and protects the environment
- Increases local tax bases
- Facilitates job growth
- Makes use of existing infrastructure
- Takes development pressures off green spaces and working lands

Brownfields can become:

- Remodeled buildings with energy-efficient features
- Riverfront with entertainment and restaurants
- Park or recreation areas
- New retail/commercial property
- Residential housing
- Community amenities (centers, gardens, or farmers markets)

Brownfields Technical Assistance

1. Engage community and stakeholders
 - Drives long term vision, success and 'ownership'.
 - End use reflects the real needs of community.
 - Establishes the team to move efforts forward.
2. Identify and Assess
 - Building inventory (multipurpose)
 - Begin to prioritize intervention based on community objectives.
 - Phase I & II Assessments
3. Redevelopment Planning
 - Considers findings, cleanup options and reuse alignment.
4. Seek Funding and Financial Support
 - Assessment/Cleanup/Multipurpose grants, Revolving Loan Fund, TAB Awards



Brownfields Technical Assistance

2. Identify and Assess

- Building inventory (multipurpose)
- Begin to prioritize intervention based on community objectives.
- Phase I & II Assessments



Brownfields Technical Assistance

Manchester, KY – Building Inventory

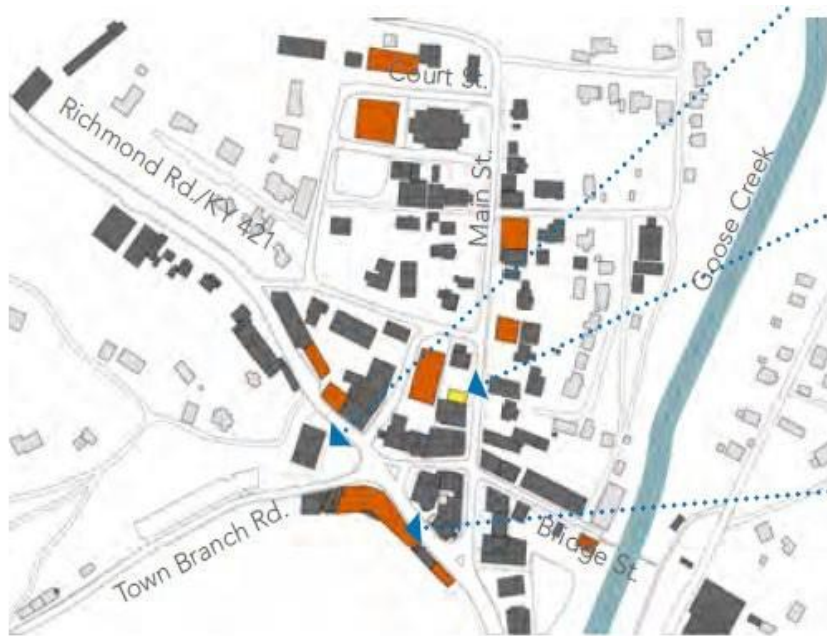
Buildings Lost Since 1980

Buildings lost

Primary remaining

Building collapsed
and demolished (as of
August 2018)

[Right]
Historic photos of
Manchester
Source: Clay County
Historical Society



Building Uses

Commercial

Residential

Civic

Active/Passive Uses

Active

Passive

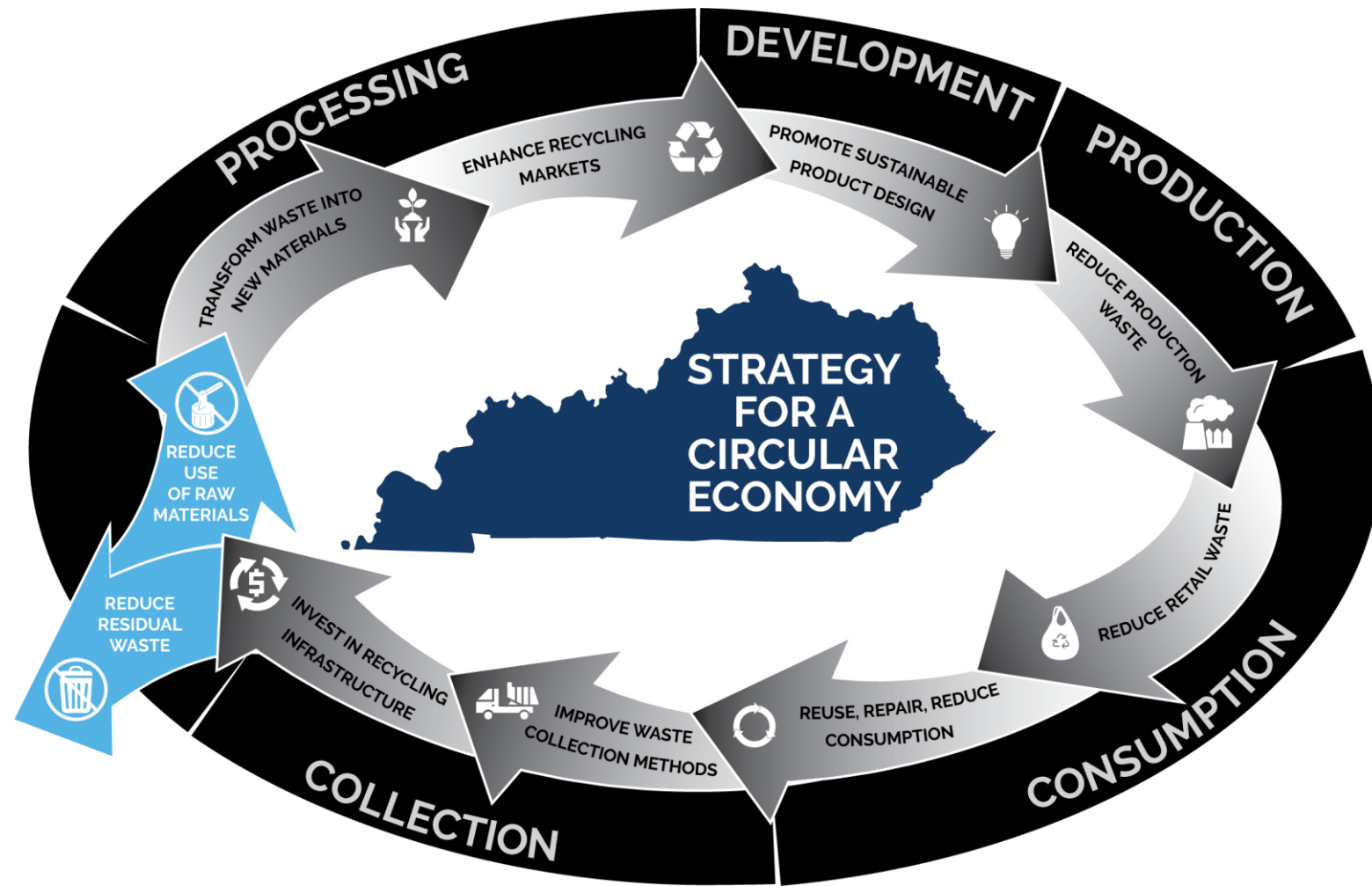


SWFR: Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling

- Partnership between Kentucky Division of Waste Management, Blueprint Kentucky, and University of Kentucky Recycling
- Develop a new statewide Sustainable Materials Management Plan
- Develop Recycling Strategy and new Statewide Recycling Goal
- Develop an Economic Impact of Recycling Study and Circular Economy Strategy
- Develop and implement statewide education and outreach campaign



SWFR: Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling



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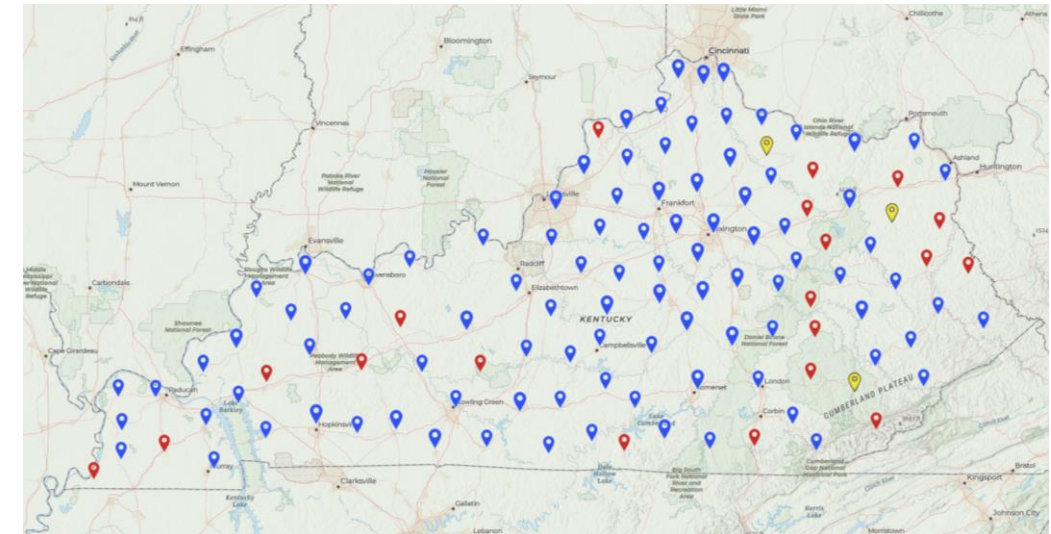
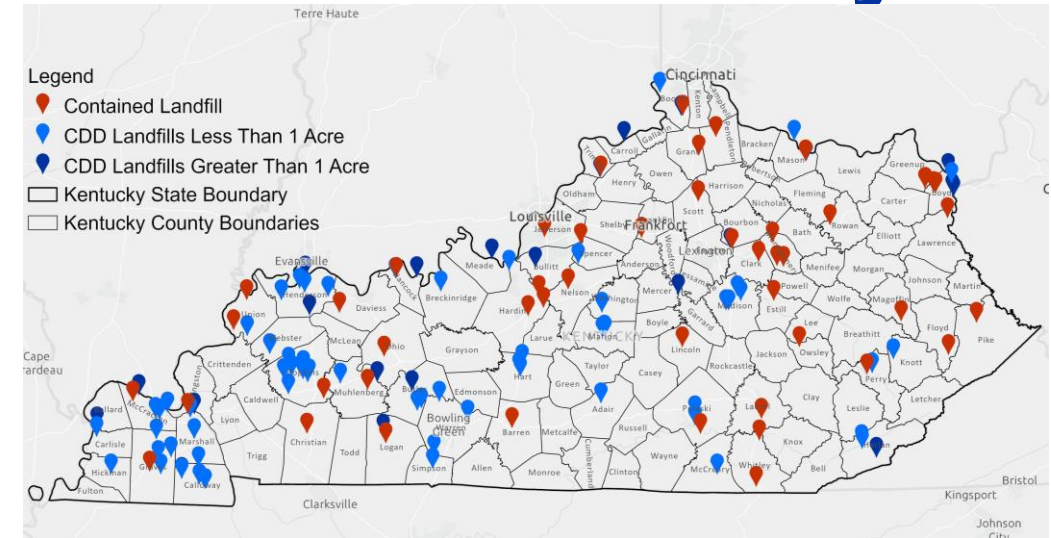
Join us in the fall for a community event focused on shaping the future of solid waste management in Kentucky. This in-person gathering is a great opportunity for stakeholders and residents to have their voices heard and contribute to the development of a sustainable plan for managing our waste.

Kentucky is drafting new statewide plans for recycling and waste management, and is seeking input from waste management professionals, the public, and industry leaders to guide their creation. Blueprint Kentucky, the Kentucky Division of Waste Management, and University of Kentucky Recycling are partnering for a series of community listening sessions in May and this Fall to learn from those with experiences in the field of waste management as well as the public at large. These conversations will help determine what goes into the new Sustainable Materials Management plan. One session will be held in each area development district, with additional city-specific sessions, but all are welcome to attend any event that is convenient.



SWFR: Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling

- Identify strengths, gaps, and areas for improvement.
- Discuss recycling, illegal dumping, landfills and reuse, composting, and reducing waste
- Perspectives from: solid waste management workers, waste industries, landfill operators, haulers, facility operators, local governments, and private citizens.



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