PUBLIC INFORMATION & ENGAGEMENT MARKETING UPDATE

Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee

Angela Poe, Public Information & Engagement Section Manager

October 7, 2025





Liked by dannydude3303 and others

January 31, 2023

livegreenlex Trees have so much to teach us! Families at Maxwell Elementary Science Night recently learned about how important trees are for stormwater as they looked... more



Overview

- Public Information & Engagement (PIE)
 Section At-a-Glance
- Marketing Team Responsibilities
 - Traditional Mass Marketing
 - Social Media
 - Mailings
 - Website
 - Outreach Design
- Roles and Limitations of Marketing
- Measurement
- Quick Compost Update



Purpose

Our mission is to . . .

Inform the public about the services provided by EQPW and engage the public in behaviors that benefit our department and community.





PIE Responsibilities

Div. Environmental ServicesJennifer Carey, Director

Marketing Team

Angela Poe, Program Manager Senior

Community Team
Alana Insko-Kelley,

Education TeamDanny Woolums,
Program Manager

Primary Responsibilities

- Website upkeep
- Mailed publications (newsletters + postcards)
- Social media
- Weekly/monthly paid print and radio ads
- Creative contracts
- Mass media placement contract
- Public surveys
- Press releases

Primary Responsibilities

- Programs
- Events: major, minor, trailer/tabling

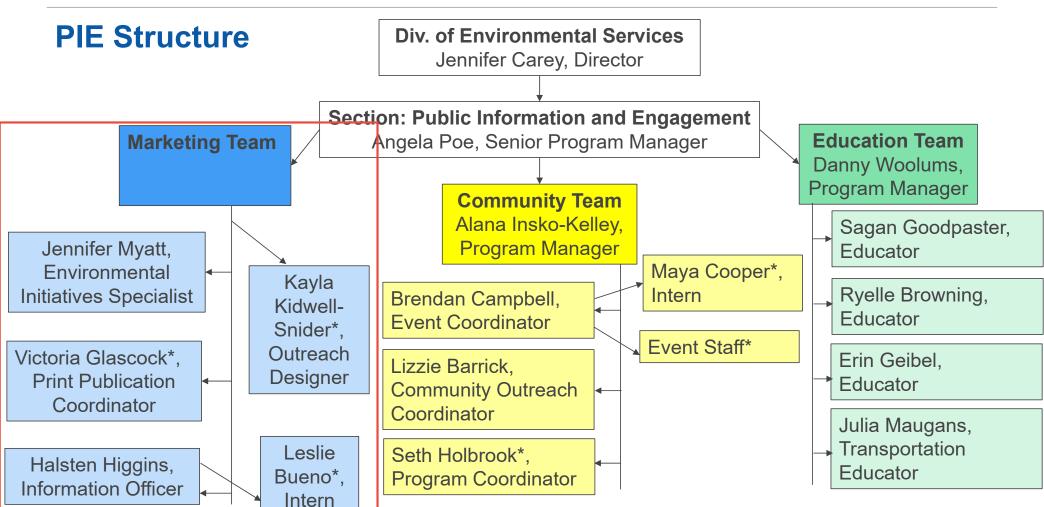
Program Manager

- Direct community outreach
- Displays, handouts, giveaways
- Career recruitment

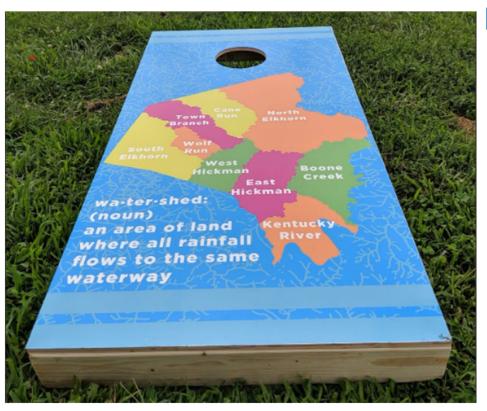
Primary Responsibilities

- K-12 units of study with field experiences
- Out-of-school time programming, after school and breaks
- Teacher professional development
- Career connections
- Transportation outreach & events









Marketing Team Responsibilities

- Traditional Mass Marketing
- Social Media
- Mailings
- Website Maintenance
- Outreach Creation / Design



Traditional Mass Marketing

- Press releases
- Paid ads







Paid Ads: Considerations

- Purpose of ad
- Audience characteristics: demographics, attitudes, beliefs, knowledge, current behaviors, etc.
- Priorities
- Budget
- Context



Paid Ads: Types of Outlets

- Streaming and traditional television
- Print
- Radio
- Billboards
- Bus ads
- Digital
- E-newsletters
- Social





Next week, city crews will glance inside recycle & yard carts on the curb in some neighborhoods

This will help us make a plan to reduce contamination - unwanted items that can cause entire trucks of recyclables or yard waste to be landfilled

🯠 If your cart is audited, you'll get a door hanger:

Green = Great job! Your cart has what we want

Yellow = Oops! A few things don't belong. Check your door hanger for tips

Red = Too much contamination. Material will be sent to the landfill. Check your door hanger for what should go in your cart

We'll post more info about how the audits work & what we learn next week, so stay tuned!





Social Media

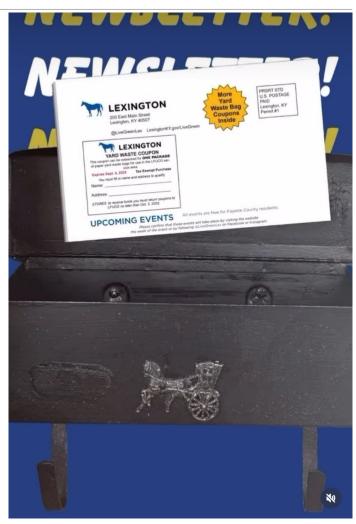
- Facebook
- Instagram
- X
- NextDoor
- YouTube (coming soon!)

Primary: @LiveGreenLex



Mailings

- Physical Mailings
 - At Your Service
 - Postcards
- Digital mailings
 - Newsletters formal & informal stormwater, Community Environmental Academy Alumni (coming soon)
 - 311 alerts text and email (system transition in process)





Community Environmental Academy

EQPW speakers bureau

Environmental education overview

Geocaching

Go See Trees

Gobble Grease Toss

Kentucky River Clean Sweep

Lawn care

Lex Glow Ride

Pavement management plan

Pick Up and Play!

Plant by numbers

Reforest the Bluegrass

Riparian buffers

SHARE Fair

StreetFest

Tree Week

Art by Nature schedule

- Opening reception | October 17 | 6 8 p.m.
- Gallery Hop | November 21 | 6 8 p.m.
- Closing reception | December 13 | 11 a.m. noon
- Art pick-up is after the closing reception | Noon -2 p.m.

Past Art by Nature exhibits

Thank you to all who submitted art and visited our gallery!













Website

- Assisted Government Communications with transition
- Write copy
- Keep updated

MISSED YOU

collection program. Unwanted items can lead to entire truckloads of material going to the landfill instead of being mulched. This is expensive and inefficient.

Your yard waste cart wasn't out today, so we'll stop by on a future collection date. Reminders:

- + Never bag yard waste that you put in your cart.
- + Only use paper bags for overflow yard waste.
- + Put ONLY the following items in your gray yard cart:

YARD WASTE



sticks, branches (4 ft. max length)





Place extra yard waste in paper yard waste bags.



plant clippings



into bundles, 4 ft, max length and max 50 lbs

Set paper yard waste bags and bundles at the curb on your regular collection day.

Only place plant material in the gray yard waste cart.

NO TRASH. NO PLASTIC BAGS.

Additional information can be found by visiting LexingtonKY.gov/YardWaste.

Stay up to date on yard waste collection and other city initiatives by following @LiveGreenLex on Facebook and Instagram.





Outreach Design

- Videos
- Still graphics
- Outreach tools
- Swag





Limitations of Marketing

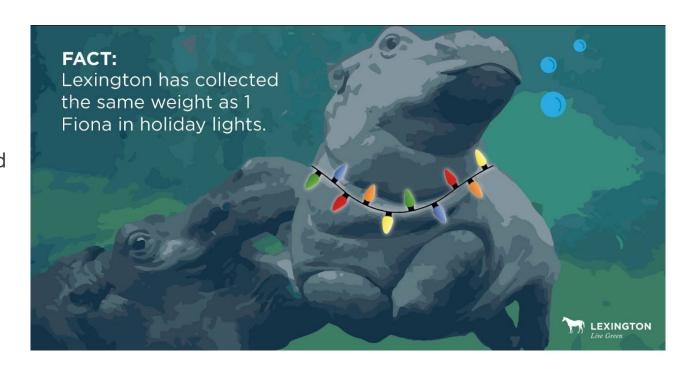
- Not a good tool for behavior change or habit formation when used alone
- Doesn't counteract skepticism or doubt well
- One outlet is never sufficient
- Repeated exposure is necessary
- Resource intensive time & money
- (Most of it) one-way communication
- Difficult to measure impact
- Increased fracturing of where people get information





Role of Marketing

- Closing a knowledge gap
 - Willing to do the "right" thing but unaware of what it is
 - Promoting an opportunity people are already inclined to do – attend an event – Reforest the Bluegrass, Household Hazardous Waste, etc.
- Build trust
- Awareness / familiarity
- Curiosity





Context of Marketing Efforts

- Marketing efforts are done in concert with other outreach efforts
- Create a wave of related, consistent information







Measuring Success

IMPACT, not impressions

- Impressions
- Engagement
- Target behaviors
 - Stories, conversations, feedback
 - Focus groups
 - Surveys





Quick Compost Update

- 482 households trained since 2021
- Open to all residents
- Workshops happening in late winter 2026
- Workshops led by Seedleaf; UK extension and The Arboretum came on board in 2025
- Participating households get a \$50 compost voucher for online store
- Funding capacity to serve 300+ households this FY

Questions?

