

June brings exciting new opportunities for KY HEARS and the communities we visit

The new KY HEARS mobile clinic has finally arrived! We are excited to begin seeing patients in our self-sufficient clinic. In this state of the art clinic, we will be able to perform hearing tests for up to six people at a time. The addition of this clinic will allow us to expand our services, visit health fairs, provide OSHA testing for hearing healthcare compliance, and bring our professional staff to more areas of the commonwealth.



If you would like for our team to visit your community or attend one of your events, please call us at 800-958-9610 or send an email request to <u>kyhears@thehearinginstitute.org</u>.

Meet some of the KY HEARS Team

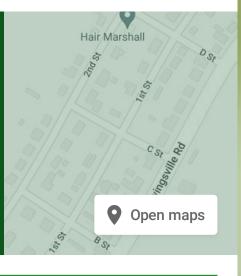


The KY HEARS Team is excited to begin our third year of mobile clinics. Our fantastic team of hearing healthcare professionals enjoy traveling throughout the state and meeting amazing people along the way. Thank you for allowing us to visit your communities!

June Clinic

Event Information **Montgomery County Hearing Clinic** Please call 800-958-9610 if you would like to schedule an appointment When? **Thursday, Jun 13, 2024, 09:00 AM**

Where? 117 Civic Center Mt. Sterling KY 40353



June Health Fairs in Louisville

Our team will be attending the following Health Fairs in Louisville during the month of June. If you are attending one of these events, please stop by our booth to get resources and information about hearing healthcare.

Norton Healthcare Prevention Health Fair

St. Rita's Catholic Church 6/15/2024 9am - 12pm

Crowne Plaza Health, Wellness, and Financial Fair

Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Expo Center 6/25/2024 1pm - 4pm

Galt House Health, Wellness, and Financial Fair Galt House Hotel 6/26/2024 1pm - 4pm

Embassy Suites Health, Wellness, and Financial Fair Embassy Suites Hotel Louisville Downtown 6/27/2024

1pm - 4pm

Protecting Your Hearing on The Fourth of July

As the Fourth of July nears and growing numbers of Americans are reporting hearing loss, the American Academy of Audiology and Heuser Hearing Institute are cautioning the public to protect their hearing during firework displays. Noise from fireworks can reach up to 155 decibels. To put this into perspective, this is louder than a jet plane taking off (150 decibels) or a jackhammer. Damage to hearing can come from multiple lifetime exposures as well as a one-time blast, or extended exposure up to eight hours. According to the Centers for Disease Control, <u>loud noise over 120 decibels can cause immediate harm to hearing.</u>

Surprisingly, the greatest risk to hearing is not the professional fireworks displays (although these can pose a risk), but the backyard fireworks people use themselves to celebrate. Never hold a firework or firecracker, with the intention to throw it before it explodes. Even if you do throw it in time (to avoid injury to your hands and face), if it is anywhere close to you when it explodes, your hearing can be immediately, permanently damaged. The inner ear contains delicate hair cells which do not regrow. Once these are damaged by noise, the result is permanent hearing impairment. Signs of hearing loss may include:

- Hearing ringing, buzzing, or hissing noises one or more days after exposure to fireworks.
- Muffled hearing after the fireworks

- Suddenly having to turn up the volume of the television, radio, or stereo and having other family members complain that the volume is too loud.
- Difficulty understanding people speaking to you and asking people to repeat themselves.
- Difficulty with phone conversations and understanding the other person.
- Sudden inability to hear the door bell, crickets, the dog barking, and other household sounds.
- People telling you that you speak too loudly
- Ringing in the ears.
- Ear pain.

The National Institutes of Health <u>recommends using ear plugs</u> when around fireworks or other loud noises.

Children are at particular risk for hearing loss from 'backyard' fireworks displays, because of their excitement and curiosity and wishing to be close to the activity.



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