

Ohio River Valley, Outer Bluegrass Region



The bluffs of the Ohio River at Maysville rise nearly 400 feet above the river and provide spectacular views of the valley. The 1932 Simon Kenton Bridge is in the foreground and the J.M. Stuart coal-fired power plant is upstream on the Ohio side. A floodwall and levee system protects the low-lying areas from flooding. The river provides transportation, cooling water, and drinking water from its alluvial aquifers. Although it bounds a part of every major region in the state, the Ohio River Valley provides a unique environment and a home for many of Kentucky's largest cities.



The new U.S. 62/68 bridge west of Maysville is the first cable-stayed bridge in Kentucky. A similar bridge on U.S. 23 connects South Portsmouth in Greenup County with Portsmouth, Ohio. Photos by Dan Carey, Kentucky Geological Survey.