



**Working Wonders in Wood**  
**Real Wood.**  
**Real Stories.**

**MissionBell**  
reclaimed

## The Story: Kentucky Oak



In Central Kentucky, there are miles and miles of roads lined with black four-board fences. It's not clear who decided that fences in this area would be black, or why. It's been said that the black fences in Central Kentucky are the result of a 'keeping up with the Joneses' scenario. The owner of one farm who had a connection to the asphalt industry painted his fences with the sticky black pitch, almost as an advertisement for the diversity of the product, and before long his neighbors were following suit.

It's hard to say if that's the real reason but nevertheless, it seems that there are advantages of black paint. It lasts longer and contrasts beautifully with the rolling green hills. If you visit the region, you'll see men spraying fences along the road completely covered with black, their eyes peeking out over bandannas covering their noses and mouths. Over time the boards grow weathered and eventually are replaced. We are fortunate to have a fair amount of this storied wood. Whether you decide to leave it rough or sand it down, the hint of black paint reveals its previous use.



The mark of  
responsible forestry

FSC® Recycled 100%

Material #: KY-O – Kentucky Oak (*Quercus Alba* & *Quercus Rubra*)