

## JULY 2024 AG REPORT

## Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

**Farm Visits: 12    Technical Assistance/Inquiries: 184    Soil Tests: 8**

Business Planning, Tax Forms, Ag Assessments, Beginner Farmer, NRCS programs, Markets in Sullivan County, FSA Farm ID numbers, Establishing a business in NYS, Sullivan County Revolving Loan Fund, Ag Districts, Farm Tax Info, Rehoming animals, Soil & Water testing, Mentorship Program, Butchering Contacts, Catskills Kitchen, farmers market incentive programs, ag districts, ag zoning, farmland preservation.

**Horticulture:** Technical Assistance was provided to 36 contacts on soil testing, native plants, pest ID, plant ID, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, re-meadowing, Asian jumping worm, feral swine, deer proof plants. Staff have also been busy doing outreach in the community on invasive species.

### PAST WORKSHOPS

**Forest Ecology: Forest to Farm 07/02:** 31 registered, 13 attended. Participants were guided on a tour through the forested areas of Unbroken Acres with owner, Anna Zabirova and forester, Laurie Raskin, of DHW Forest Consulting. Laurie Raskin explained the functionality of forested ecosystems in Sullivan County, the effects of climate change on forest ecology, how to use the forest systems to manage crop production, and programs that support forest management in NYS.

**Farmer Mixer at Winterton Farms 07/15:** 33 attended. An informal farmer networking event for aspiring, beginner, and seasoned farmers. Co-owner, Erika Malmgreen, led a farm tour of the property focusing on lavender production and their new commercial kitchen on the property.

**Invasive Species to Have on Your Radar 07/17:** 15 attended. Educated on the principles, methods, and FSMA regulations of on farm composting and soil health. The workshop focused on small scale vs large scale composting, and the basics of vermiculture.

**Composting and Soil Health 07/29:** 10 attended, 18 registered. The webinar discussed the tier 1, 2, and 3 invasives that pose a threat to Sullivan county. We covered how to identify, aquatic vs terrestrial, what we stand to lose if they become established, and management practices.

### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS for August (Visit [www.SullivanCCE.org](http://www.SullivanCCE.org) for full listings)

- Soil Health and SARE Grants Webinar (08/01): 6:00 - 7:30PM
- Swales: Water Management for Farms at Unbroken Acres (08/05): 6 - 8:00PM
- Farmer Mixer at Gorzynski Farm (8/13) 6:00 - 8:00PM
- Integrated Parasite Management for Livestock (8/14) 10:00AM - 1:30PM
- Native species of the northeast (8/14) 6:00 - 7:00PM
- Broiler Day at Majestic Farm (8/20)



### LAND ACCESS, AG ZONING, FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROJECTS

**Land Access:** Staff are currently in the process of developing a training series in partnership with the planning department and the County Ag Board for municipal officials on agri-tourism, and also looking at hosting a municipal training at a farm. The County Ag Board is also looking at developing farmland preservation projects for the County. Staff have also been busy connecting landowners and land seekers with the Farmland for New Generation program.

**SC Ag Board & Ag Districts:** The public hearing for properties to be included into an ag district was held on July 25th. In total, almost 460 acres was recommended by the County Ag Board for inclusion into the existing districts. The legislature will then vote to include these properties at their August meeting.

### SPECIAL PROJECTS

**2024 Beginner Farmer Mentorship Cohort** – We hosted a Farmer Mentorship Cohort Meet Up for mentors and mentees. This was an informal networking opportunity for mentors and mentees to build relationships to further the potential success of their farm businesses and the regional agricultural community. The next Cohort Meet Up will be on Thursday, August 22nd, this event will be held outdoors at the CCE office for mentors & mentees. CCE staff will provide a short presentation on our Farm Food Safety Program with the Food Safety Modernization Act. We are currently updating the mentorship application for mentees for the 2025 cohort with the hopes to open the 2025 application window in October.

#### Fresh Rx:

In partnership with Garnet Health, staff are continuing to provide educational workshops on different healthy recipes, while also working to enroll additional farmers into this new Produce Prescription Program. Eligible people attend a nutrition demonstration and then receive \$20 to spend at the farmers markets on fruits and vegetables.

#### Sullivan Fresh:

Staff continue to get farm fresh products out into the community, provide educational demos and develop kids programs at the Sullivan Fresh Markets and the Sullivan Fresh Community Cupboard. Since the program started in 2019, we have purchased over **\$190,000** in products from local farms.

#### Sullivan Catskills Farmers Markets

Staff continue to promote the farmers markets throughout Sullivan County with the Sullivan Catskills Farmers Markets initiative. We have recently published newspaper ads and social media posts to promote the different incentive programs available at the market.

#### Farm to School:

In partnership with Sullivan 180 and other non-profit organizations and schools districts, we are working to organize a training on Farm to School for Food Service staff at the Center for Discovery. Staff also continue to work with local farms on farm food safety plans so that they are able to sell to larger institutions. In addition, we are working to organize a wholesale market readiness training in the fall.

**Catskills Kitchen:** Technical assistance was provided to 8 farm and food producers on the following: Turning farm produce into value added products such as pesto, dehydrated mushrooms and apple cider vinegar, event meal prep, baked goods, food trucks, porridge and licensing and permitting.



**SENIORS! Get \$25 to Spend**  
at the Farmers Market  
or Mobile Market  
Age 60 and over. Based on income. NYS Resident.

Use the Coupons at  
these Farmers Markets  
or Mobile Markets

TUESDAY	FRIDAY
Sullivan County Public Health Woodridge	Garnet Health Liberty Farmers Market Mamakating Farmers Market
WEDNESDAY	SATURDAY
Fallsburg Loch Sheldrake	Barryville Farmers Market Kauneonga Lake Farmers Market Narrowsburg Farmers Market Rock Hill Farmers Market
THURSDAY	SUNDAY
Sullivan Fresh Monticello Farmers Market Wurtsboro	Callicoon Farmers Market Livingston Manor Farmers Market

**Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Sullivan County**

**WHERE CAN I GET COUPONS?**  
At a special event at a market or the  
Office for Aging at the Sullivan Government Center.  
100 North Street  
Monticello, NY 12701  
845-807-0241

For a full listing of Farmers Markets and Mobile Market locations visit:  
[SullivanCatskillsFarmersMarkets.com](http://SullivanCatskillsFarmersMarkets.com)  
Locally Grown. Farmer Known.  
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