

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Technical Assistance/Inquiries: 169 Soil/Hay Tests: 8 Farm Visits: 2

Technical Assistance was provided on land access, ag districts, farmland preservation, Catskills Kitchen (insurance, business structures, permitting & licensing), soil testing, forest management, pest and disease control, herbicide/fungicide control, grants and funding, weed ID, invasive species, pest management, tree care and arborist recommendation. 28 total Hours of Technical Assistance.

PAST WORKSHOPS

Produce Washing and Packing Facility Tour- June 3rd - 7 Attendees toured Berry Brook Farm, Hamden, NY, featuring their certified organic vegetable operation. The tour highlighted the process of efficiently delivering quality vegetables to market from harvest through a demonstration of the processes utilized in their wash and pack facility.

Farmland Forever: Understanding Easements and Funding for Long Term Farm Viability - June 4th - 19 people registered, 9 attended: Attendees learned how conservation easements can be tailored to protect farmland, support farm viability, and preserve working landscapes for future generations. The class began with a presentation from Michael Sweeton on agriculture-friendly conservation easements. Shanna Abeles, OCLT Conservation Project Manager, provided an overview of New York State's Farmland Protection Implementation Grant (FPIG) program, and we finished with a Q&A and open discussion.

Farmer Mixer at Little Pebble Farm - June 10th: 15 people attended. Attendees visited Little Pebble Farm, a flower farm located in Wurtsboro and were able to network and receive a tour and overview of the operation.

NY FarmNet Lunch and Learn Webinar - June 12th: 17 people registered, 8 attended. Attendees learned about the many offerings of NY FarmNet including financial counseling, business planning, retirement and transition planning, mental wellbeing support, agribusiness and business transfer. Participants were able to ask questions during the Q&A and gained contacts and resources to build their connections and explore future support options from FarmNet.

Gardening 101 Series Part 2: June 11th: Attendees participated in a hands-on garden workshop and were able to plant seedlings, seeds, identify and remove weeds and pests, and do some mulching and companion planting.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS for July

Edible Garden tour - July 16th: Participants will get a guided tour of the native edible garden tour – learning about each plant, tree, or shrub and the benefits of planting natives we can eat! Some of the highlights will be pawpaw tree, highbush blueberry, and edible flowers

Farmer Mixer at Winterton Farms - July 22nd from 5-7pm

FARMLAND PRESERVATION:

Number of Municipal 239 Review's: 1

Ag Assessment & Ag District Technical Assistance: 9

2025 Ag District 30 Day Window: A report has been created for the legislature with their recommendations and a public hearing will be held on July 17th. From there, a resolution will be presented in August, and if approved, the report to NYSDAM is submitted in September.

County-Wide Farmland Preservation Project (and Report from Orange County Land Trust)

CCE and the OCLT have hosted 2 workshops and a third class scheduled in August.

- **2nd Municipal Forum-** August 6th - Farm Friendly Zoning & Community Preservation Act: Attendees will learn more about Community Preservation Acts, what they are, how they are implemented across the Hudson Valley, and what steps municipalities and counties can take to adopt them.
- Created a designated page on the CCE Sullivan website about the farmland preservation project and resources available. The web page also contains a pre-application for landowners interested in protecting their land: [Cornell Cooperative Extension | Farmland Preservation Project](#)

OCLT Deliverables:

- Presented to the County legislature on the Community Preservation Act.
- Connected with the Town Of Bethel comprehensive plan committee member about strengthening the commitment to ag in the comp plan and carrying that into the zoning code.
- Connected with Assemblywoman Kay and Maher about carrying a bill to add Sullivan County to the CPA. They are both very interested.
- Working on preparing for the August 6th CPA workshop.
- Presenting at the municipal supervisors meeting on August 6th.
- Presentation planned for the Town Of Delaware on August 13th about farmland preservation.

BEGINNER FARMER PROGRAM:

- CCE Sullivan relaunched the Beginner Farmer Mentorship program in June. The program consists of 11 mentees and 11 Mentors. The program ends in February and over the course of a year, mentees must attend certain educational classes, farmer mixers, special training events and work one-on-one with their mentor for a minimum of 60 hours. The program primarily consists of Sullivan County, with a few farms located in the Hudson Valley. Farming operations include vegetable, fruit, flowers and livestock. CCE staff are currently in the process of conducting farm visits with the mentees and providing one on one technical assistance to them. For October, we have arranged a Farm Business Management Training Series, consisting of the following topics: business planning, marketing, recordkeeping, licensing and permitting and funding opportunities. The series is also open to people not in the Mentorship Program.

ORANGE COUNTY LAND TRUST MUNICIPAL CLASS 2: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACTS



Wednesday, August 6th, 6pm-8pm

Duggan Community Center: 3460 State Route 55, White Lake NY 12786

Learn more about Community Preservation Acts, what they are, how they are implemented across the Hudson Valley, and what steps municipalities and counties can take to adopt them.

Hear from our presenters and stay for a Q&A!

Planning and Zoning Board Members may be eligible to receive 2 trainings credits.

This class is part of a series. Stay tuned for more events!

Questions?

Contact Haley Collins at 845-292-6180 ext. 131 or email hc2246@cornell.edu

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



**Orange County
LAND TRUST**



SCAN TO REGISTER



sullivancce.org/CPAs

Funding for this program is provided by the County of Sullivan.
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