

FEBRUARY 2023 AG REPORT

Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County

PAST WORKSHOPS

Farm Business Planning Series: The series kicked off on February 8th, with 26 participants, many of which are beginner farmers looking to start their business in Sullivan County. Participants have been learning about ag land use, ag taxes, certifications and licensing, production, farm food safety, funding opportunities, business and marketing planning and agri-tourism. This training will help participants qualify for the County loan program.



(Part 1) Agricultural Training Series for Municipal Officials: Agricultural Districts vs Agricultural Assessments: Wednesday, February 15th @ 6pm at Mamakating Town Hall. Over 50 municipal officials, CEO's and realtors were in attendance. Participants heard from from NYS Dept. Of Ag & Markets and CCE staff about what agricultural assessments and agricultural districts are and how they apply to the local municipality and ag community.



Integrated Pest Management for your Home Garden: Thursday, February 23rd 6-7:30pm.

This class was a first in a series of horticultural programming being offered in 2023 both in person and by webinar. Participants will learned how to prevent and manage pests and disease in their home garden by biological, physical and cultural methods.

FUTURE WORKSHOPS

Sensory Garden for Kids: Plants to foster the love of Gardening in Children: March 28th

Join us for a zoom presentation where you will learn about 16 different plants that will help foster an interest in gardening for kids. We will also discuss why kids love these plants, and how to take care of them.

Food Business Planning Series returns for two – 6-part series. The Food Business weekly Series run April 4th - April 20th (Tuesdays & Thursdays).

(Part 2) Agricultural Zoning Training Series: Wednesday April 26th 5:30-7:30pm Location TBD. Learn about different farm friendly zoning and farmland preservation techniques and how to implement them in your municipality. This workshop is open to municipal officials as well as the general public who would like to learn more about land use and agriculture.

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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Farm Visits: 2 **Technical Assistance/Inquiries:** 102 **Soil Tests:** 5 **Hay Tests:** 0

Agritourism, FSMA, Business and Marketing Plans, Sales Channels, beginning farmer, livestock pricing, poultry production, plant pests, disease and ID, cover crops, hay testing, whole farm planning, farmers markets, Farm to School, vegetable production, compost/manure, alternative ag production, ag assessment, financial planning, soil tests, agricultural districts and Grant and Funding sources.

Horticulture Program: Technical Assistance was provided to 12 individuals. Topics consisted of tree and orchard care, information on arborists to help with fruit tree maintenance, plant sales, and gardening.

Catskills Kitchen Program: We currently have 6 renters using the kitchen. We provided technical assistance to 5 inquiries on licensing and permitting for Dept of Health Commissary, NYSDAM 20c licensing, starting a food truck, starting a catering business, and assistance on how to start an incubator and teaching kitchen.

PROJECTS/UPDATES

- **USDA American Rescue Technical Assistance Grant:** CCE Sullivan recently received a 5 year grant from the USDA to develop a Beginner Farmer Program, with a special emphasis on traditionally underserved and veteran farmers. As part of the program we have hired a new ag educator, Taylor Adam to help implement the program. The program will focus on providing technical assistance on business and marketing, production, farm food safety, land access and other topics. As part of the program, participants can enroll in beginner farmer cohorts, which will allow them to access on-farm workshops and mentorship from a Farmer Advisory Committee. Stay tuned for the program to be launched.
- **Livestock Program Work Team:** Staff continue to participate in this program work team. The team is developing educational programming and resources for the year, along with updates to the new Livestock website: www.ccelivestock.com
- **Farm Food Safety Program:** Staff participated in a Food Safety Modernization Act training in Wayne County, PA to help further connect and provide training for the program. Staff have also been meeting with farmers and extension staff to implement the program. The next steps are to formally launch the outreach for this program in the Spring for Sullivan County. For more information: <http://sullivanccce.org/agriculture/farm-food-safety>
- **Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Grant Project:** CCE Staff are part of a team conducting a research project on broiler poultry production and ways to make the process more efficient. Staff are currently working with small and mid size poultry farms on analyzing their data. For 2023, we are looking for additional farmers to participate in the program. Farmers will receive a stipend. A farmer broiler production meeting is scheduled for 3/23 and a workshop is scheduled for the fall.

Get Everything You Need to Create a **RECIPE FOR SUCCESS**



Are you starting, or do you own an existing Food Business? Don't miss this 6-session series where experts share strategies for building or improving your food business! Classes are available in-person or via virtual connection. A short application and \$50 fee is all that's needed to begin!

APRIL 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20 5:30-7:30PM

April 4 Planning Your Food Business

April 6 Business Plan Development

April 11 Operating & Logistics

April 13 Planning & Funding

April 18 Local & Regional Markets

April 20 Marketing & Consumer Insights

*Learn & Grow
Your Business!*

JUST \$50 FOR 6 SESSIONS! REGISTER: WWW.SULLIVANCCE.ORG/EVENTS

Sessions held at CCE Sullivan
Extension Education Center

64 Ferndale-Loomis Road in Liberty

**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Sullivan County**



**Hudson Valley
AgriBusiness**
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Co-Sponsored by HVADC with support from the
USDA Rural Business Development Grant
#R0104160 70426 & a Local Food Promotion
Project Grant #21LFPPNY1056-00

Agricultural Training Series for Municipal Officials and CEOs Part Two: Tools and Techniques to Help Your Zoning be Farm-friendly

Wednesday, April 26th, 2023

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Cornell Cooperative Extension Education Center

**Stay tuned for more information about upcoming workshops:
Part 3: Agri-Tourism Zoning and Techniques for Municipalities**

Come learn how to tackle the loss of farms and farmland through implementing farm-friendly land use and zoning tools. Topics covered will include zoning law barriers, conservation subdivision, density instead of lot size, Transfer and Purchase of Development Rights, agrivoltaic practices, and more. This workshop will be taught by Nan Stolzenburg, FAICP CEP, principal consultant with Community Planning & Environmental Associates who concentrates on planning for small and rural communities throughout eastern and central New York.

**Planning and Zoning Board members are eligible for 2 NYS training credits (if approved by their municipality).
Light refreshments will be provided.**

Registration is required in advance. Available spots limited!

https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events.cfm

Co-sponsored by CCE, Sullivan County Division of Planning and Community Development and Sullivan County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board.

**Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County provides equal program and employment opportunities.
Contact the office to request accommodations.**

