

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Farm Visits: 1 Technical Assistance/Inquiries: 75 Soil Tests: 3

Business and Marketing Plans, Sales Channels, Ag Districts, beginning farmer, soil tests, field crops, poultry production, plant pests, disease, and ID, vegetable production, whole farm planning, farmers markets, Farm to School, Grant and Funding sources, Mobile Markets, agricultural job posting, beginner farm/starting farm, County loan program, NRCS funding and the Beginning Farmer Mentorship Program.



Catskills Kitchen: We currently have 4 renters using the kitchen. We provided technical assistance to 4 inquiries on licensing and permitting for Dept of Health Commissary, NYSDAM 20c licensing, testing, labeling and packaging on potential food businesses such as chili oil, wine and rum cakes, mushroom infused honey and candy.

Horticulture: Technical Assistance was provided to 25 contacts. Topics consisted of soil testing, fertilizer, composting, deer proofing and tree planting, invasive species and garden design. Staff are also working on starting an herb garden with a local school district.

PAST WORKSHOPS

Farmer Mixer at Somewhere in Time Farm on December 4th: 15 People attended our December Farmer Mixer. These events are organized as networking opportunities for aspiring, beginner, and seasoned farmers in our region. Approximately 15 people attended this event. Our 2024 Farmer Mixers will begin in February.



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Funding Webinar Series: The series will be monthly 1-hr informational webinars about agricultural funding resources January– March. Each month will focus on a different funding resource: Farmer Service Agency, Natural Conversation Resources Services, NYS Grown & Certified, General Funding Opportunities. The webinars will be added to the CCESC YouTube page to be available for future viewership.

Crop Planning Panel on January 23rd: The crop planning workshop will have a panel of seasoned farmers, Brenda Miller from Bobolink Farm, Jack Whettam from Hidden Acre Farm, and Greg Swartz from Willow Wisp Farm. The panel will represent a range of different size farm operations, each panelist will share a 10-minute explanation of their farm and crop planning process.

This project is supported by USDA, National Institute of Food and Agriculture award #2022-06508. Cornell Cooperative Extension Sullivan County provides equal program and employment opportunities. Contact the office to request accommodations.

Horticulture Workshops



Invasive Species in Sullivan County: Wednesday, January 10th via Zoom. Help stop the spread of invasive species in Sullivan County! The spotted lanternfly is now present in Sullivan County and numbers are likely to increase this upcoming summer. Learn more about invasive species including Emerald Ash Borers, Spotted Lanternflies, Japanese Knotweed, and Water Chestnuts. Join to learn how to remove these invasive species and prevent their spread in Sullivan County.

Garden Design Series: February 8th and February 15th via Zoom. Get ready to dig into our two-part series on garden design, and start taking notes for your own green oasis! Learn about site assessment, elements of design, garden styles and plant selection.

SULLIVAN FRESH

- **Mobile Farmers Market:** For 2023, the Sullivan Fresh mobile market sourced from 11 farms, purchasing **\$28,546.80** in farm products. For this season, our incentive program redemption rates increased substantially. We processed \$5,745 (A 36% increase from 2022) in Farmers Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) Coupon, \$2,880.35 in SNAP/EBT (a 16% increase from 2022) and \$1,512 in Fresh Connect and Double Up Food Bucks.
- **Farm to Food Pantry Program:** For 2023, we purchased **\$29,630** in farm products for our mobile food pantry program, from 5 local farms and Hudson Harvest, a local food hub that helped us to source fruit for the program. For 2023 we served approximately 240,000 meals to about 500 people on a weekly basis.

