



THE LATEST FROM AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF CAPE MAY COUNTY

September 13, 2023

The Latest from Cape May Ag

WHAT'S NEW

[2023 Spotted Lanternfly Tracking Survey \(psu.edu\)](#)

The Penn State Extension Grape and Wine Team is calling on those who own, operate, or manage a farm or vineyard in the Mid-Atlantic region to participate in a survey that aims to track the spread and severity of nymph and adult spotted lanternfly populations during the 2023 season.

NEWS ARTICLES

[Organic growers seek climate change solutions via Farm Bill - Vegetable Growers News](#)

[USDA to Invest \\$3 Million to Support Cooperative Soil Science and Soil Survey Research | Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) plans to invest \$3 million in partnerships to promote research that informs and improves soil surveys at the regional level, which is part of an ongoing effort to continue to provide critical data to the country...

RESOURCES

[Farm Market & Agritourism: Build a value ladder and they will climb](#) – Vegetable Growers News

An [Economic Analysis of Market Impacts of the National Watermelon Promotion Board: 2017-2021](#) by the National Watermelon Promotion Board shares findings of a new study that shows how the organization's marketing activities help shape the demand for watermelons.

[Mix organic, conventional methods to boost soil health](#) – Vegetable Growers News

[Farmland access](#) – ATTRA Publication

[Resilient Farmers, Ranchers and Communities: Social Sustainability in Agriculture](#) – SARE Outreach

[Risk Management Education for Farmers with On-Farm Visitors](#) – Iowa State Extension

[Farmer's guide to direct sales software platforms](#) – National Young Farmers Coalition

PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

[Landscape, Ornamentals, Nursery, and Turf Pest Notes](#)

[Vegetable Crop IPM update](#)

[Tree Fruit IPM Report](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[SNAP Online Grant](#)

MarketLink is offering a grant to help direct-marketing farmers accept SNAP benefits online. The grant will cover all SNAP online transactions through GrownBy and WorldPay during the first year, as well as technical assistance with the USDA SNAP retailer authorization, training support, and ongoing maintenance.

[Deer Fencing Grants for Unpreserved Farms](#). Unpreserved farm owners or operators in New Jersey may receive up to 50 percent matching funds (\$20,000 maximum, no more than \$200 per acre) from NJDA.

[Organic Certification Cost Share Program \(OCCSP\)](#). Certified operations may receive up to 75 percent of their certification costs paid during the program year, not to exceed \$750 per certification scope.

[Soil Health Academy Scholarship](#). Scholarships are available to attend one of their 3-day event. [Apply here](#).

[Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network \(FRSAN\)](#). The long-term goal of the FRSAN projects is to establish a Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network that provides stress assistance programs to individuals who are engaged in farming, ranching, and other agriculture-related occupations on a regional basis.

[Safeguard NJ Wetlands](#). The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) helps landowners, land trusts, and other entities protect, restore, and enhance wetlands or protect working farms and ranches through conservation easements.

[Environmental Quality Incentives Program NRCS](#). Applications are due October 20, 2023!

Contact us:
Claudia Gil Arroyo
Agriculture and Natural
Resources Agent III

capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu
(609) 465 5115 Ext. 3602

355 Court House – South
Dennis Rd.
Cape May Court House,
NJ 08210
Mon – Fri 8:30AM – 4:30PM



GOT GARDEN QUESTIONS?
Call the Cape May County
Horticulture Helpline
(609) 465 5115 Ext. 3653



If you no longer wish to be part of our mailing list, please email us at capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu



THE LATEST FROM AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF CAPE MAY COUNTY

September 13, 2023

EVENTS/COURSES

- Sep 13 [Fencepost Fundamentals: Cover Crop Benefits](#)
9am. Fee: \$5. Webinar. Increase your understanding of cover crop benefits, including impacts on soil conservation, soil health, nutrient management, and more.
- Sep 15 Raising healthy calves is a crucial aspect of any dairy operation, as a herd's future depends on its calves' health. Ensuring that these calves receive the healthiest start possible and continue to receive proper nutrition benefits both the calf and the dairy farm's profitability. This virtual event is the first in a series that will discuss socially raised dairy calves. Melissa Cantor, along with Hayley Springer, will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of calves raised in paired housing systems. This includes but is not limited to social benefits, nutritional requirements, current research on paired housing, and upcoming mandates that may change how calves are raised in the United States. Register: [Socially Raised Calves: Pair Housing](#)
- Sep 16-17 NJDEP Fish & Wildlife | Trapper Education:
Courses are offered in Late March/April and September/October of each year. Program materials will be provided to registered students. Students must attend **both days of a two-day class** (where applicable) (Specific location details will be sent at the time of registration)
Register: [NJDEP Fish & Wildlife | Trapper Education and Trapping Season Information](#)
- Sep 21-24 The New Jersey Woodland Stewards Program is an outreach effort for those who embrace a forest stewardship ethic, who want to learn more about sustainable forest management, and are willing to share what they learn with others. If you have any questions about the application process or the NJWS Program, please contact Lori Jenssen by phone (908-832-2400), or by e-mail njfa_director@gmail.com
- Sep 26 [Meeting Critical Human Needs Within Our Community Forest Capabilities \(cvent.com\)](#)
12:00-1:30 pm EST. Registration required. Join us for an informative webinar to discuss how community forests can provide many critically needed environmental and societal services while buffering local heat and moisture swings.
- Sept 27 [Produce Safety for Beginning Farmers](#)
This workshop will allow farmers to set themselves up for success in on-farm produce safety from the beginning, instead of having to go back later to correct infrastructure, systems, or training. A farm that has a well-established food safety culture is better able to meet market demands & consider production changes when planning for the future. Click link for more information.
- Oct 2-31 [On-Line Bee-ginner's Beekeeping: The Basics of Apiculture](#)
Participants can complete the course content (which will take approximately 14-16 hours) at their own pace anytime during the period the course is open. There is an optional live Q & A session with the instructors during which you can ask questions about the course content.
- Oct 26 [Renewable Energy Academy: Applied Energy Efficiency for Homes and Businesses \(cvent.com\)](#)
9:00 AM - 11:45 AM ET via zoom. Participants will be able to identify common strategies for energy efficiency upgrades to a home or business, understand how to interpret the results of an energy audit report, and outline the next steps for implementing energy efficiency measures. Registration required.



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:
[CAPE MAY COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL
RESOURCES](#)



Contact us:
Claudia Gil Arroyo
Agriculture and Natural
Resources Agent III

capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu
(609) 465 5115 Ext. 3602

355 Court House – South
Dennis Rd.
Cape May Court House,
NJ 08210
Mon – Fri 8:30AM – 4:30PM

If you no longer wish to be part of our mailing list, please email us at capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners.
Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.