



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

April 24, 2024



START YOUR GARDENS!



This is a vegetable garden 5 session series.
Click the links below to choose the sessions you wish to register for.

May 22	6.00pm	Zoom	Harvesting: Use and storage	\$5
June 12	6.00pm	RCE office	Extending the season	\$5

Partnership Spotlight: NJ Audubon

“New Jersey Audubon is committed to connecting all people with nature and stewarding the nature of today for all people of tomorrow. We will build and integrate our commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion and justice into our vision and mission, as well as our conservation priorities and organizational structure. By celebrating New Jersey’s diversity as a strength and affirming everyone has a right to enjoy and conserve nature, we are able to carry out our work with mindfulness and inclusivity. Through reaching out beyond our centers to connect all people with nature where they live, work, and play, we endeavor to promote a greater understanding and respect for diversity and nature by all whose lives we touch.”



Check out their website: <https://njudubon.org/>

OTHER EVENTS

On Demand Recorded Webinar
[Transitioning Land to a New Generation: Getting Started](#) builds on our previous Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program, or BFRDP, grant project, Farmland for the Next Generation.

Apr 25 [Tree Seedling ID](#) Webinar with Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Morris County 1-2:30 pm. Registration required

The **2024 National Agritourism Survey** is now collecting responses, and you are invited to participate! All agricultural operations that welcome visitors – whether for on-farm education, direct sales, entertainment, recreation, special events, and more – are invited to complete it.

[Click here](#) to complete the survey

NEWS

[RMA Offers New Resource for Specialty and Small-Scale Farmers | Farmers.gov](#)

NRCS Conservation Stewardship Program Webinar recording is available [here!](#)

Free event with NOFA NJ
Learning from farming in Colonial America: using archaeology and insects to advance sustainable agriculture

FREE event, Wednesday May 1, 2024 10:30am – 2:00pm
Rutgers Specialty Crop Research & Extension Center Conference Room
283 Route 539, Cream Ridge, NJ 08514
Scan for more details and parking information:

Lunch included with registration!

Insect Painting
Archaeological Bugs
Experiential Learning & More!

or go HERE:
<https://go.rutgers.edu/ml166dzo>

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station
RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK
Entomology
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences

#BugDayNJ

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

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

355 Court House – South
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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



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FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:

[CAPE MAY COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES](#)



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[New Jersey Conservation Stewardship Program NRCS](#) Whether you are looking to improve grazing conditions, increase crop resiliency, or develop wildlife habitat, we can custom design a CSP plan to help you meet those goals.

[Braiding Seeds Fellowship](#) The Braiding Seeds Fellowship, a project of Soul Fire Farm Institute in collaboration with the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund, carries on the legacy of the braided seeds by providing beginning farmers with resources, professional development, and mentorship to support their livelihood on land. Applications due May 1, 2024.

[Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans & Grants](#) fund renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements for agricultural producers and rural small businesses. Multiple deadlines.

[USDA Value-Added Producers Grant](#) The Value-Added Producer Grant program helps agricultural producers enter value-added activities to generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities, and increase producer income.

[Amber Grant for Women](#)

WomensNet launched the Amber Grant in 1998 to honor the memory of an ambitious young woman who died at the age of 19, before she could realize her entrepreneurial aspirations. Every month, WomensNet awards one or more Amber Grants of \$10,000 each. Then, at the end of the year, one of those grant recipients is selected to receive \$25,000!

[Farm Business Mgmt. & Benchmarking Program](#)

The Farm Business Management and Benchmarking Competitive Grants Program provides funds for improving farm management knowledge and skills of agricultural producers by maintaining and expanding a national, publicly-available farm financial management database to support improved farm management.

[Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program](#)

The primary goal and objective of the GusNIP Produce Prescription Program is to demonstrate and evaluate the impact of projects on the improvement of dietary health through increased consumption of fruits and vegetables, the reduction of individual and household food insecurity and the reduction in healthcare and associated costs.

[FSA Online Loan Application Home \(usda.gov\)](#)

NRCS NJ Urban Grant opportunity has opened today (April 4th) and will be open until June 7th. The NRCS Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO), Opportunity Number USDA-NRCS-NJ-CGARD-24-NOFO0001359, has been posted to Grants.gov and is open for applications through June 7th, 2024. The opportunity can be found easily on Grants.gov through the basic search criteria by using the opportunity number, searching the CFDA of 10.902, or from this direct link: <https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/3533>

[EPA's Community Change Grants Program](#) has announced \$2 billion dollars in Inflation Reduction Act funds for environmental and climate justice activities. Application deadline: Nov. 21, 2024.

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FACTSHEETS

[FS1357 Fescue Grasses as Permanent Cover Between Rows of Blueberry](#)

[Invasive Species of the Month: Jetbead](#)



PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

- [Landscape, Ornamentals, Nursery, and Turf Pest Notes](#)
- [Vegetable Crop IPM update](#)
- [Tree Fruit IPM Report](#)



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RESOURCES

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

[Economic Analysis of Market Impacts of the National Watermelon Promotion Board: 2017-2021](#) by the National Watermelon Promotion Board

[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

[CSA Innovation Network](#) - The CSA Innovation Network is a resource base of programs and tools built by and for individuals and organizations supporting CSA development.

[Farm Stress Management | UME Agriculture and Food Systems \(teachable.com\)](#) Farm stress management training will equip Agricultural Service Providers with skills and knowledge to support farm families in times of distress.

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

GARDENING TIP

BY Jennifer Sawyer Caraballo

When planting something new or maybe moving some established plantings, always make sure you are putting the right plant in the right place!

Does it like full sun, partial shade, acidic soil, well draining soil? Can it handle drought? How big will the mature plant be?

All of this information is readily available on the plant tags that come with them at the nursery, and you can find many fact sheets from universities on specific plants and their care!

Want to know if what you want to plant is right for your area? Give us a call at the Horticulture Helpline! (It's free!) Or fill out our online helpline form: <https://go.rutgers.edu/nxjktlth>



FARM MARKETING TIP By Claudia Gil Arroyo

Using short videos to market your farm and products it's a great way to catch people's eye! Short videos are the most effective and have the greatest return on investment in the most used social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram.

You don't need a big budget to start creating and posting short form videos, and as they name says they don't have to be very long. Show your current harvest, what products you have available for customers and visitors, or even just your farmland as a way of checking in with your audience and sharing what you are up to.



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



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