



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

May 22, 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.



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|---------|--------|------------|--------------------------------------|-----|
| June 12 | 6.00pm | RCE office | Extending the season | \$5 |
|---------|--------|------------|--------------------------------------|-----|

COMING UP AT THE RCE

Rain Barrels & Water Conservation



Thursday, June 13

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension
355 Court House - South Dennis Road
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Presenter: Kerstin Axe
AmeriCorps NJ Watershed
Ambassador, WMA 16

Participants will learn:

- Importance of water conservation
- How to create a rain barrel
- Rain barrel installation & maintenance



Cost: \$5

Register early at: <https://go.rutgers.edu/r5zs5emz>



WEBINARS: DON'T SWEAT HEAT STRESS IN AGRICULTURE



Wednesday, June 5 from 7:00-8:00 PM

An introduction to heat stress issues in agriculture. We will also share tools farmers can use to evaluate heat risk and recommended resources for guidance on heat stress prevention.

Wednesday, June 12 from 7:00-8:00 PM

An overview on signs of heat stress and corresponding first aid, as well as strategies for heat stress prevention. A panel of farmers will discuss their currently used strategies for employee management during periods of high heat.

You must register to attend these webinars by visiting

<https://go.rutgers.edu/heat-stress-in-ag>.

Questions? Contact Kate Brown, County ANR Agent with RCE-Somerset County, at 908-526-6293 x4 or kbrown@njaes.rutgers.edu

OTHER EVENTS

- May 28 **Food for Profit: Tips for Effectively Managing Teens at Your Business.** Free webinar 12pm EST Register: <https://web.cvent.com/event/47d1cd31-345d-414e-bf6e-0784930514ed/summary>
- Jun 1 **Heather Holm: The Pollination of Native Plants.** Free event, 1 – 3pm at the Cape May Point Science Center. Offered by New Jersey Audubon – Cape May Bird Observatory. [Register here.](#)
- Jun 6 **Food for Profit: Elevate Your Food Photography.** Free webinar, 11:30am EST. Register here: <https://web.cvent.com/event/220816b0-641b-41ba-816d-566cb29ac516/summary>
- Jun 13 Join NOFA NJ at Lima Family Farms in Hillsborough, NJ for a pasture walk and overview of rotational grazing practices with farmer John Lima and Tim Fritz, President of King's AgriSeeds. 6-8pm <https://nofanj.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/nofanj/eventRegistration.jsp?event=6153>
- Jun 14 **Manage Better: Time and Expectations Mastery for Entrepreneurs.** Free webinar, 12pm EST. Register here. <https://web.cvent.com/event/93fcba0e-39d8-40ef-bbf8-822eda768fe7/summary>
- Jun 17 Farm Tax Record-Keeping Practices: Prepare for Next Year. Free webinar, 12pm EST. Register here: <https://web.cvent.com/event/511f66d7-2c2f-4aa6-a745-5d404ffd349d/summary>
- Jul 11 **Tips from the Road: Retail Farm Market Bus Tour Highlights.** Free webinar, 12pm EST. Register here: <https://web.cvent.com/event/08eb7f80-7dd2-49b5-a579-9c0190bb575f/summary>
- Jul 16 **Small Business Success: Essential Tips for Summer Recordkeeping.** Free webinar, 12pm EST. Register here: <https://web.cvent.com/event/fa53c24a-3f41-439f-a4af-9103d6f6b2da/summary>

Contact us:
Claudia Gil Arroyo
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capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu
(609) 465 5115 Ext. 3602

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Mon – Fri 8:30AM – 4:30PM



QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer — the 3 simple steps anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide.

QPR Training

June 4 @ 2pm CST: <https://shorturl.at/cvNS8>

June 12 @ 12pm CST: <https://shorturl.at/xD239>

June 25 @ 12pm CST: <https://shorturl.at/iLKGJ>

Length of training is one hour and 30 minutes, with an additional optional 30 minutes for Q&A.

NJ ManureLink | Home (rutgers.edu)

The New Jersey ManureLink website was designed to help connect those who have manure or compost with those looking to acquire manure or compost via an online tool. The connections made create the possibility of tapping into the natural source of organic fertilizer that is local and available from a New Jersey equine farm owner or a New Jersey farmer who is looking to find an outlet for their excess composted manure or homemade compost. Use the map and listings to help you find the opportunity you've been searching for.



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FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:

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



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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

[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. At the end of the year, one of those grant recipients is selected to receive \$25,000!

[Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Sustainable Agricultural Systems](#)

Projects should focus on approaches that promote transformational changes in the U.S. food and agriculture system. NIFA seeks creative and visionary applications that take a systems approach for projects are expected to significantly improve the supply of affordable, safe, nutritious, and accessible agricultural products, while fostering economic development and rural prosperity in America. Applications due on June 6, 2024.

[NJ Innovative Healthy Food Retail Initiative](#)

Grants for innovative, community-focused healthy food retailers striving to improve access to affordable, fresh, and healthy foods in underserved areas of New Jersey. Applicants must submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) in order to determine eligibility. LOI submission periods: May – June 14, 2024

NRCS NJ Urban Grant opportunity has opened today (April 4th) and will be open until June 7th. 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>

[HFFI Planning Grant Program](#)

A planning grant aims to transform an idea into an actionable plan and support access to the resources needed to advance towards implementation. A webinar will be held for potential applicants at 2:00 PM Eastern Time on Thursday, May 16, 2024. To register for the webinar, go to: <https://bit.ly/hffi-planning-grant>. Applications due on June 17, 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 (June 30, September 30).

[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.

PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Farm Credit East

Farm Credit East is a part of the Farm Credit System, a nationwide agricultural network providing credit and affiliated services to those in agriculture and related industries across the United States. Since 1916, the Farm Credit System has supplied the nation's agricultural industry with nearly one-third of its credit needs. Farm Credit's mission is to support rural communities and agriculture with reliable, consistent credit and financial services, today and tomorrow.



FARM CREDIT EAST

Check out their website:
<https://www.farmcrediteast.com/en>

PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

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

26th Biennial International Pepper Conference September 9-11, 2024

Cornell University announces they will be hosting the International Pepper Conference 2024. Visit [Internationalpepper.org](https://internationalpepper.org) to register, arrange accommodations and plan your travel

FACTSHEETS

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

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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](#) 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 – Direct Sow Vegetable Seeds By Jennifer Sawyer Caraballo

It's the end of May - which is good time to direct sow some vegetable seeds! Beans, such as both bush & pole limas, or snap beans; Beets, Carrots, Chard, Radish can all be direct sown.

End of May – June you can set out your eggplant and tomato transplants.

Not sure what to plant when? Check out: [FS129: Planning a Vegetable Garden \(Rutgers NJAES\)](#)



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



FARM MARKETING TIP by Claudia Gil Arroyo

Customers now are more concerned with sustainability (social, environmental and economic) and will favor businesses that show them that they take sustainability into consideration in their operations and practices. Even if that means paying a little more.

Is there anything you do in your operation that preserves natural resources? Does it contribute in any way to be betterment of the planet? If the answer is yes, make sure you share that with your audience.

Show them how you do your part in taking care of the planet and you will gain loyal customers!



GRAPE AND WINE SCIENCE CERTIFICATE

This program will provide foundational knowledge in three major areas of grape and wine science – grape growing, wine making, and business operations – following the path of grapes from the field to the winery to the glass.

The program will feature 4 weeks of classroom instruction, complemented by hands-on workshops. Then students will complete a 4-week winery internship where they can put their new knowledge and skills into practice



Full details on program, registration link and other information available at <https://cpe.rutgers.edu/food-science-safety/grape-and-wine-science-certificate>

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