



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

May 8, 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

Getting a Head Start and Keeping the Season Going
Tuesday, May 21, 2024
Virtual Program 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

With Presenter: **Richard W. VanVranken**
Agriculture & Natural Resources County Agent I, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Atlantic County

Topics to include:

- Season extension is not a new concept, but we have many more new tools and techniques to use.
- Production practices go beyond hot caps and row covers.
- The marketing season doesn't end with the last harvest.

Register at: <https://go.rutgers.edu/unt90dv2>
For information, call 609-465-5115, ext. 3601

Getting a Head Start and Keeping the Season Going

May 21, 2024
6:00pm
Webinar

Presenter :
Richard VanVranken
Ag Agent for Atlantic
County

This is a free webinar!

Register here: <https://go.rutgers.edu/unt90dv2>
For information call 609 465 5115 ext. 3601 or email
capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu

Coastal Stewardship Course

Register here: <https://go.rutgers.edu/wxbl8p84>

- Ten weekly evening classes (7:00 – 9:00pm)
- May 28 through July 30
- In class and webinar participation options
- One field trip on Saturday, June 29
- Program fee: \$60.00 per person

Register here: <https://go.rutgers.edu/wxbl8p84>

For more information, contact:
Dina Baudo, Administrative Assistant
dbaudo@co.ocean.nj.us / 732-349-1152
Douglas Zemeckis, Ph.D., County Agent II
zemeckis@njaes.rutgers.edu / 732-349-1152

OTHER EVENTS

- May 21 CSA Ideas Lab: How to offer CSAs with Online SNAP – Webinar 11am-12pm, CDT.
In this session, we will hear from Local Food Marketplace about their support of online SNAP/EBT for qualified markets and learn how Rosebird Farms has updated their CSA program to accommodate online SNAP payments. <https://www.csainnovationnetwork.org/event-details/csa-ideas-lab-how-to-offer-csas-with-online-snap>
- May 28 Food for Profit: Tips for Effectively Managing Teens at Your Business – Webinar 12pm EST
Register: <https://web.cvent.com/event/47d1cd31-345d-414e-bf6e-0784930514ed/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. Learn about selecting forages and day-to-day activities on a pasture-based diversified livestock operation. 6-8pm
<https://nofanj.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/nofanj/eventRegistration.jsp?event=6153>

Several vineyards in New Jersey experienced frost damage due to cold temperatures in the early morning of Friday, April 26, 2024.

To better understand frost damage and effective mitigation practices, Rutgers NJAES requests that you respond to the survey questions. Please use the below link, it will take only a few minutes to complete the survey.

https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eJmTilk4AgMKOxg

New Jersey Ruminant Report

The New Jersey Ruminant Report Newsletter provides information from a multi-discipline group of Rutgers NJAES Cooperative Extension Specialists and Agents representing diverse expertise in animal and forage crop production. On a biannual basis through the Ruminant Report Newsletter, the Rutgers NJAES Cooperative Extension Specialists and Agents will present current, relevant, and innovative information on ruminant management, nutrition, and health. The spring issues can be accessed at <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/ruminant-report/>

Contact us:
Claudia Gil Arroyo
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(609) 465 5115 Ext. 3602

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



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

May 8, 2024



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, provide 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. 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 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.

PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Cape Atlantic Soil Conservation District

For more than 70 years, the District has been dedicated to the conservation of natural resources in Atlantic and Cape May Counties. Through programs that address soil erosion and sediment control on construction sites to farmland preservation efforts, the supervisors and staff of the Cape Atlantic Conservation District have helped protect our soil and water. Education programs for the children and the citizens of our District stress the importance of natural resource conservation efforts. Technical resources and staff are available at the District Office to assist people with questions regarding natural resource conservation.

The mission of the New Jersey conservation partnership is to provide leadership in the planning and implementation of natural resource management programs for the agricultural and development communities and the general public through a locally based delivery system with local, state and federal partners.



CAPE ATLANTIC
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Check out their website: <https://www.capeatlantic.org/>

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](#) 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

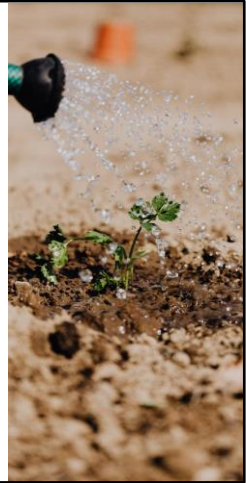
GARDENING TIP – Watering By Jennifer Sawyer Caraballo

How often, how much and when should you water? Well, that depends on what you are watering.

Container plants may dry out quicker and need more frequent waterings per week. Check containers daily and water as needed. Lawns need about 0.5-1.5" of water per week depending on soil type. In the vegetable garden – shallow rooted plants need to be watered twice a week to a depth of 0.5", with deeper rooted plants needing about 1" of water weekly. Established trees and shrubs rarely need additional water unless there is a drought event. Newly planted trees and shrubs need a nice deep watering, down 8-10", weekly. Watering in the morning will allow the water to seep down and will reduce the amount of water lost to evaporation.

The trick to watering is to make sure you are watering enough to get the water down to the deepest roots, where the plant can take up what it needs. Avoid overhead watering to cut down on evaporation and risk of disease.

Looking for ways to conserve water in the landscape? Try planting drought tolerant varieties; use drip irrigation and mulch; have your sprinkler system calibrated to the level of water your lawn/garden needs on a weekly basis.



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



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FARM MARKETING TIP By Claudia Gil Arroyo

Social media is one of the most important marketing tools for many reasons. Did you know that people are not only using it to find information but also to discover new products and make purchases? Audiences prefer because it simplifies their shopping experience, with one click they can have direct access to the products they are interested in. But this can also help you! You can include direct links to your website or shop in your social media posts, allow in app purchases (think TikTok Shop or Facebook Marketplace) and connect with your customers through direct messaging (DMs). If you currently do not have the capacity to take orders online, no problem! You can sell gift cards that can then be exchanged in person.

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

Cornell University announces they will be hosting the International Pepper Conference 2024. Visit Internationalpepper.org to register, arrange accommodations and plan your travel

