



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

August 1, 2024

## EVENTS

- Aug 6 [Tips from the Road: Retail Farm Market Bus Tour Highlights](#). Free webinar, 12pm.
- Aug 8 [Living on a Few Acres: Greenhouse Hydroponic Production](#). Free webinar; 6-8 pm.
- Aug 12 [Five Tips for Managing Cash Flow](#). Free webinar; 12 pm.
- Aug 13 [Has it Always Been This Hot in NJ?](#) Free webinar, 11am.
- Aug 15 [Ocean City Green Fair](#)
- Aug 20 [Business Financial Tracking: There's an App for That](#). Free webinar, 12pm.
- Aug 22 [Forest Farming: American Ginseng and Seed Saving](#). Free webinar, 6.30pm.
- Aug 27 [Food for Profit: Getting Started with Value Added Products](#). Free webinar. 12pm.
- Sep 10 [Using YouTube to Grow Your Business](#). Free webinar. 12pm.

## NEWS

**USDA Announces August 14** Application Deadline for Emergency Relief Program Assistance for Commodity and Specialty Crop Producers Impacted by 2022 Natural Disasters - Click [here](#) for more information.

**The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in New Jersey is now accepting FY2025 applications** for the [Environmental Quality Incentives Program \(EQIP\)](#), climate-smart practices through EQIP funded by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) program and the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). While NRCS accepts applications year-round, New Jersey producers and landowners should **apply by October 18, 2024** to be considered for funding in the current cycle.

[Beat the Heat Checklist](#) - **Employer Checklist for Outdoor and Indoor Heat-Related Injury and Illness Prevention**  
**OSHA** has developed this checklist to help employers identify potential sources of heat hazards in their workplaces and develop a plan to address and respond to these hazards. An effective safety and health program must include Management Leadership, which is demonstrated when business owners, managers, and supervisors commit to controlling hazards, protecting workers, and continuously improving workplace safety and health.

## PARTNERSHIP SPOTLIGHT New Jersey Department of Agriculture

The [New Jersey Department of Agriculture \(NJDA\)](#), was established in 1916. The NJDA oversees programs that serve virtually all New Jersey citizens. One of the Department's major priorities is to promote, protect and serve the Garden State's diverse agriculture and agribusiness industries.



In addition to the programs they offer to support production agriculture, NJDA also manages programs that: feed schoolchildren; distributes surplus federal foods to soup kitchens and pantries that serve needy citizens; conserve precious soil and water resources; protect farmland from development and preserve it for future agricultural use; expand export markets for fresh and processed agricultural products, and promote our commercial fishing industry; administer the complete program of agriculture, food and natural resource education, including the State Association.

## GARDENING TIP – August reminders By Jennifer Sawyer Caraballo

Now that it is August, we should all be harvesting lots of tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, etc. Make sure to discard (away from the garden) any rotten or diseased fruit/plant material. It's also a great time to get those cool season crops planted/sown. Place those orders for garlic, so you can plant it by mid-late October. Have you ordered your spring bulbs yet? Don't forget to deadhead your perennial & annual flowers for plant health and more blooms!



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



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## RESOURCES

- [Farm Market & Agritourism: Build a value ladder and they will climb](#) – Vegetable Growers News
- [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
- [NCAT 2023 Annual Report](#) - Learn how NCAT's sustainable agriculture programs served military veterans, women farmers, Hispanic and Latino farmers, and others during the past year. Also, discover how NCAT's sustainable energy programs are making a real difference for households and the environment.
- [Farm market & agritourism: Brand vs. logo](#) – Vegetable Growers News
- [Beat the Heat: NWS Forecast Tools – Expanded.](#)

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- [Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Program](#)
- [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!
- [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.
- [USDA Funding Opportunities for Beginning Farmers and Ranchers](#). Learn how USDA provides financial assistance to individual farmers through loans, cost share and grant opportunities. Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at 3:00 pm Eastern
- [New Dairy Processor Start-up Grant](#). The Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center (NE-DBIC) announces funds to support new dairy processing projects throughout the Northeast. Application open until September 2, 2024 at 2pm ET.
- [Beecology: Citizen Science Project for Native Pollinator Conservation.](#)
- [RFN-NJ Education Stipends for Historically Underserved Farmers](#)

## FARM MARKETING TIP by Claudia Gil Arroyo

CLICK HERE



Social media is a great tool to get your name out there and share information, but if you want for your followers to actually purchase your products or visit your farm you need to do more!

Including a call to action in your social media posts can do that for your business.

A call to action is a prompt that encourages people to take a desired action, like clicking on a link, or leaving a review.

So don't forget to include them in your posts, call to actions like "buy now", "get started", "learn more" or "check it out" are just some examples of text that while short can make a difference in engaging with your audience!

Meet TED the **first straddling autonomous robot** dedicated to **vineyards in the USA!**

Friday August 2, 2024

Free Admission - from 1PM to 4 PM

Many tasks shown: soil and canopy management!

**PUBLIC DEMO**

organized in collaboration with Rutgers University Bellview Winery Vitis-Import

BELLVIEW WINERY

150 Atlantic Street  
Landisville  
NEW JERSEY  
08326

naio  
Technologies

VITIS  
- IMPORT

**R** RUTGERS New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

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## RUTGERS MASTER GARDENERS OF CAPE MAY COUNTY



Rutgers Master Gardeners volunteers were present at the Cape May County 4-H Fair on July 18 through the 20, 2024.



Our volunteers were sharing information, answering questions and teaching kids about gardening and agriculture.

## FACTSHEETS

- [FS945: Bison Husbandry](#)
- [E291: Feeding Nitrate-Containing Forages](#)
- [FS1358: Developing Your On-Farm Food Safety Worker Training Program](#)

## PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

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

## Protect Yourself From H5N1 When Working With Farm Animals

H5N1 is a bird flu virus that could make you sick. Wear recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) when working directly or closely with sick or dead animals, animal feces, litter, raw milk, and other materials that might have the virus.

**Wash hands with soap and water, then put on PPE in this order:**

1. Fluid-resistant coveralls
2. Waterproof apron, if needed for job task
3. NIOSH Approved\* Respirator (e.g., N95\* filtering facemask respirator or elastomeric half mask respirator)
4. Properly-fitted unvented or indirectly vented safety goggles or face shield
5. Head cover or hair cover
6. Gloves
7. Boots

**While wearing PPE**

- Use separate designated clean areas, one for putting on PPE and one for taking off PPE.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose after touching any contaminated material.
- Do not eat, drink, smoke, vape, chew gum, dip tobacco, or use the bathroom.

**Follow these steps to safely remove PPE**

1. Remove the apron, if worn
2. Clean and disinfect boots
3. Remove boots
4. Remove coveralls
5. Remove gloves
6. Wash hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub
7. Remove head cover or hair cover
8. Remove goggles or faceshield and then remove respirator
9. Wash hands again with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub

**After removing PPE**

- Shower at the end of the work shift.
- Leave all contaminated clothing and equipment at work.
- Watch for symptoms of illness while you are working with potentially sick animals or materials. Continue watching for symptoms for 10 days after finishing working, if you get sick, tell your supervisor and talk with a doctor.

**Reusable and disposable PPE**

- While removing PPE, dispose of all disposable PPE appropriately and set aside reusable PPE
- Clean and disinfect reusable PPE after every use

## Prevent Heat Illness at Work

Outdoor and indoor heat exposure can be dangerous.

### Ways to Protect Yourself and Others

**Ease into Work.** Nearly 3 out of 4 fatalities from heat illness happen during the first week of work.

- ✓ New and returning workers need to build tolerance to heat (acclimatize) and take frequent breaks.
- ✓ **Follow the 20% Rule.** On the first day, work no more than 20% of the shift's duration at full intensity in the heat. Increase the duration of time at full intensity by no more than 20% a day until workers are used to working in the heat.

**Drink Cool Water**  
Drink cool water even if you are not thirsty – at least 1 cup every 20 minutes.

**Take Heat Breaks**  
Take enough time to recover from heat given the temperature, humidity, and conditions.

**Find Shade or a Cool Area**  
Take breaks in a designated shady or cool location.

**Dress for the Heat**  
Wear a hat and light-colored, loose-fitting and breathable clothing if possible.

**Watch Out for Each Other**  
Monitor yourself and others for signs of heat illness.

**If Wearing a Face Covering**  
Change your face covering if it gets wet or soiled. Verbally check on others frequently.

## First Aid for Heat Illness

**The following are signs of a medical emergency!**

- Abnormal thinking or behavior
- Slurred speech
- Loss of consciousness
- Seizures

1. CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY
2. COOL THE WORKER RIGHT AWAY WITH WATER OR ICE
3. STAY WITH THE WORKER UNTIL HELP ARRIVES

**Watch for any other signs of heat illness and act quickly. When in doubt, call 911.**

**If a worker experiences:**

- Headache or nausea
- Weakness or dizziness
- Heavy sweating or hot, dry skin
- Elevated body temperature
- Thirst
- Decreased urine output

**Take these actions:**

- Give water to drink
- Remove unnecessary clothing
- Move to a cooler area
- Cool with water, ice, or a fan
- Do not leave alone
- Seek medical care if needed

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**GOT GARDEN QUESTIONS?**  
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 Horticulture Helpline  
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