



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

December 2, 2024

RCE EVENTS

Start Your Gardens 2025 **Vegetable Gardening Series**

This 4 Session Series will have everything you need to know about starting a vegetable garden...from planning & planting to harvesting.

All four sessions will be held at Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Cape May County, 355 Court House-South Dennis Road, CMCH, NJ.

Classes are open to all skill levels. Register for all 4 classes and only pay \$48 instead of \$60.

Register at: <https://go.rutgers.edu/4nwfsyeu>



"Garden Planning & Soil Basics"

January 15, 2025 * 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Cost: \$25 – includes a soil test kit

Register at: <https://go.rutgers.edu/s5k8836d>

"Seed Starting & Seedling Care"

February 12, 2025 * 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Cost: \$15 - includes seed starts to take home

Register at: <https://go.rutgers.edu/bnid4a8g>

"Planting and Plant Care"

April 16, 2025 * 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Cost: \$10

Register at: <https://go.rutgers.edu/aafai7q5>



"Harvesting, Preserving & Extending the Season"

June 18, 2025 * 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Cost: \$10

Register at: <https://go.rutgers.edu/bdr0dqzr>



**For information, call 609-465-5115, ext. 3607
or email 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.

[Click Here to Register for all 4 classes!](#)

[Click Here to Register for Garden Planning & Soil Basics](#)

[Click Here to Register for Seed Starting & Seedling Care](#)

[Click Here to Register for Planting & Plant Care](#)

[Click Here to Register for Harvesting, Preserving & Season Extension](#)

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

R RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

MASTER GARDENER TRAINING PROGRAM

Online Orientations starting in October for Cape May County! We will provide you with all the information you need to decide if becoming a Rutgers Master Gardener is right for you. We will review the program's role, structure, training, and commitment.

Scan below to register. Multiple dates and times available.

For more information, contact Jen Sawyer Carraballo, Cape May County Rutgers Master Gardener Program Coordinator at: 609-465-5115 ext. 3615 sawyer@njaes.rutgers.edu

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To register for Orientation: <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/master-gardeners/>

Classes begin January 21 2025!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY
Become a **RUTGERS ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARD**

A Rutgers Environmental Steward is a trained volunteer addressing local environmental issues.

Key program details include:

- Weekly classes with experts (Tuesdays, 5:30-8 PM; 11 online, 5 in-person)
- Field trips to significant environmental sites
- Topics: climate change, invasive species, recycling, soil health, renewable energy, water quality, habitat conservation, pollinator protection, food waste
- Requirement: Complete a 60-hour community project for certification
- Program fee: \$300 early bird (until Dec. 31), \$325 after.

Anyone can become an Environmental Steward!
No previous experience needed. You simply need a passion for the environment, a desire to learn, and a willingness to volunteer to create positive change in your community.

To register or learn more visit: envirostewards.rutgers.edu



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OTHER EVENTS

- 04-Dec [4 Ways to Financially Prepare for 2025-12:00pm-12:30pm- Free Virtual Live Webinar-12:00-12:30 PM-Free Webinar](#)
- 13-Dec [Essential Skills: Elevating Emotional Intelligence-12:00pm-1:00pm-Free Virtual Live Webinar](#)
- 10-Jan [Can You Afford Employees at Your Farm Business?-12:00-12:30 PM-Free Webinar](#)
- 13-Jan [Bee-ginner's Beekeeping – Rutgers NJAES Office of Continuing Professional Education](#)
- 17-Jan [About - Food for Profit: Pricing Your Proteins-12:00pm-12:30pm-Free Virtual Live Webinar](#)
- 04-Feb [Food for Profit: Learn the Basics of Google Ads-12:00 -12:30 PM-Free Webinar](#)
- 19-Feb [Expanding Your Retail Farm Market-12:00-12:30 PM -Free Webinar](#)

GARDENING TIP

By Jennifer Sawyer Caraballo

Prepping your garden for winter:
With our current drought conditions, it is important to still water your trees and shrubs until we have our first hard frost. It helps both evergreen and deciduous species. It is also a good time to add a bit more mulch around your perennial plants to help insulate them for the winter.



RESOURCES

- [Beat the Heat: Companies for Farmers to Source Heat Stress Prevention Supplies](#)
- [Farmer Resource Guides](#)
- [National Farm Safety and Health Week](#)
- [Adding cover crops into integrated weed management programs](#)
- [USDA Launches Assistance Network to Support Financially Distressed Farmers and Ranchers](#)
- [Guidelines For Developing Pollinator- Friendly Utility-scale Solar Projects](#)
- [Mental Health Awareness & Suicide Prevention](#)
- [Update on Right to Repair](#)
- [Promoting small-scale maple syrup production on Facebook. A field experiment testing emphasis message frames](#)
- [Farm labor report: Labor challenges persist](#)
- [Creating an Inclusive Agritourism Experience](#)

NEWS

- [The Rutgers Agrivoltaics Program launches a new website](#)
- [Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program - September Coverage Deadline](#)
- [Untreated Seed Pilot Program \(USPP\) Fall 2024 – Fall 2025](#)
- [Farmer Guide to Fertilizing with Urine](#)
- [Resistance-breaking Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus present in tomato in New Jersey](#)

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FACTSHEETS

- [E259: Deer and Elk Farming](#)
- [FS1359: Soil Health: Purpose and Management](#)
- [FS1917: Llamas and Alpacas.](#)
- [E296: Agricultural Management Practices for Commercial Equine Operations](#)
- [FS1081: To Blanket or Not to Blanket?](#)
- [FS1142: Winter Care for Horses](#)
- [FS1143: Winter Feeding for Horses](#)
- [FS886: Ostrich, Emu, and Rhea Production](#)

NOVEMBER INVASIVE SPECIES OF THE MONTH

“[Round-Leaved Bittersweet](#) is an invasive vine that climbs, strangles, and smothers live trees. Also known as oriental or Asian bittersweet, it is easy to identify this time of year due to its bright yellow and red fruit that are persistent through the winter and spread by birds.



The bright fruit has also made it in demand as a holiday decoration, aiding in its escape into nature. It is popular as a wreath and the seeds stay viable and can sprout when the wreath is discarded. Deer do not eat round-leaved bittersweet and it grows aggressively, smothering native vegetation that is critical for wildlife.”

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- [FSA Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops](#)
- [HFFI- Healthy Food Financing Initiative-FARE FUND](#)
- [NJ Innovative Healthy Food Retail Initiative](#)

BOBWHITE QUAIL SERIES
 A WFW webinar series focused on Northern Bobwhite biology, management, and current research.

OCTOBER 10 | BOBWHITE HABITAT
 NOVEMBER 14 | BOBWHITE IN AG SPACES
 DECEMBER 12 | BOBWHITE IN PASTURE SYSTEMS
 JANUARY 9 | BOBWHITE IN PINE FORESTED SYSTEMS
 FEBRUARY 13 | BOBWHITE IN HARDWOOD FORESTED SYSTEMS
 MARCH 13 | QUAIL MONITORING METHODS
 APRIL 10 | BOBWHITE BREEDING SEASON ROOST SITE IN AN AG LANDSCAPE

SCAN TO REGISTER: [www.nj.gov/ohd](#)

FARM MARKETING TIP By Claudia Gil Arroyo

Do you struggle to come up with captions for your posts? Maybe you have a long text that you want to summarize for your social media? Or you need a clever prompt for a contest?



Try AI, tools like Chat GPT can help you by creating interesting, attention catching captions and text for your posts.

All you need to do is give it your idea, or text and ask it to create something based on it.

PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

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



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



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