

# THE LATEST FROM AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY  
Cooperative Extension  
of Cape May County  
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

## RCE Events

### 2025 Garden and Grow Workshop Series



#### Growing Tree Fruits & Table Grapes in the Home Garden



Thursday, November 6, 2025  
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

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

Presenter:  
Hemant Gohil, Agriculture & Natural  
Resources County Agent II  
RCE Gloucester

Participants will learn...

- Cultural practices for growing peaches, apples, and table grapes in New Jersey
- Common problems faced by the home orchardists in growing tree fruits
- Peach and table grape Varieties suited to NJ climate

Cost: \$10

Register at: <https://go.rutgers.edu/vd42ie9r>



Questions: Call 609-465-5115, ext. 3607 or Email [capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu](mailto:capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu)

[Click Here to Register](#)

### 2025 Garden and Grow Workshop Series



#### Introduction to Home Composting



Tuesday, November 18, 2025  
6pm to 7pm

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

Presenter:  
Jen Sawyer Caraballo, ANR Program  
Associate II, Cape May County RCE

Participants will learn...

- Benefits of composting at home
- Common misconceptions in composting
- Essential elements in the composting process
- What to compost and what not to compost

Attendees will take home a compost/soil thermometer

Cost: \$15

Register at: <https://go.rutgers.edu/9urkbj1j>



Questions: Call 609-465-5115, ext. 3607 or Email [capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu](mailto:capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu)

[Click Here to Register](#)

## Gardening Tip By Jen Sawyer Caraballo

As summer flowers wane, allow some blooms to go to seed and collect those seeds for next year's flowerbeds. The seeds should be allowed to come loose from the blooms as they dry, then stored in a cool, dry place.



## Fact Sheets

- [FS1140: Incorporating Native Plants in Your Residential Landscape](#)
- [FS1205: Tree-Dwelling Lichens](#)
- [FS1376: Use Produce Safety Best Practices While Gleaning](#)
- [FS1328: Soil for Raised Beds](#)
- [FS1246: Spotted Wing Drosophila: A Key Pest of Small Fruits in New Jersey](#)

## Plant & Pest Advisory

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

## October 23, 2025

## Other Events

- 24 & 31 Oct [Financial Foundations Series. 12:00PM. Fee: \\$15](#)
- 30-Oct [AgWorks: Onboarding With the Future in Mind. 2:00 PM. Free Webinar](#)
- 1-Nov [The Plant Society of New Jersey- Fall Conference 2025: Weird NJ Plants. 9:00 AM. Free on Zoom](#)
- 3-Nov [Farm Stress Series: Disaster Recovery. 11:00 AM. Free Webinar](#)
- 19-Nov [Transitioning the Farm: Adding an Enterprise to the Farm. 12:00 PM. Fee \\$15](#)
- 19-Nov [AgWorks: Navigating Health Insurance for Farm Workers. 2:00 PM. Free Webinar](#)
- 20-Nov [Antlers and Academics: Managing Undesirable Plant Species. 6 PM. Fee: \\$15](#)
- 4-Dec [AgWorks: Mastering Team Dynamics. 2 PM. Free Webinar](#)
- 9-Dec [AgWorks: Farm Taxes—Basic Filing Requirements. 12:00PM. Free Webinar](#)
- 11-Dec [AgWorks: Managing Conflict. 2 PM. Free Webinar](#)
- 16-Dec [AgWorks: Farm Taxes - Recordkeeping Practices. 12:00 PM. Free Webinar](#)
- 16-Dec [AgWorks: Staying Compliant with Anti-Discrimination Laws. 12:00 PM. Free Webinar](#)
- 18-Dec [Forest Farming: Maple Syrup. 6:30PM. Free Webinar](#)

Contact us:  
[capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu](mailto: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

## Funding Opportunities

**Amber Grants for Women:** WomensNet funds several women business grants throughout the year — \$435,000 available. A single application can be submitted and be considered for all grants.

**Food Animal Concerns Trust Grants:** FACT awards scholarships of up to \$400 for livestock and poultry farmers to attend educational events – including virtual events – to learn knowledge, skills and best practices related to humane animal management, business and farm finance, and/or value-added production processes. Scholarships are for registration costs only.

**USDA Rural Cooperative Development Grants:**RCDG funding is used improve the economic condition of rural areas by helping nonprofit organizations to provide technical assistance to start, expand, or improve cooperatives and mutually owned businesses in rural areas.

**Agriculture & Food Research Initiative:**The goal of this program is to invest in agricultural production research, education, and extension projects for more sustainable, productive, and economically-viable plant and animal production systems.

**The FruitGuys Community Fund Applications** will start being accepted in December and into January 2026. These grants are up to \$5,000 for farm owners who have long-term land access and have operated for a minimum of two years.

**Farmers Grant from the For Farmers Movement** annually funds anything that strengthens a small farm—repairs, infrastructure, equipment, tools, projects, recovery, innovation, etc. This competitive award ranges between \$500 and \$1000. Applications will be accepted until October 31st and awards will be announced on December 3rd

## Resources

- [Creating an Inclusive Agritourism Experience](#)
- [Mental Health Awareness & Suicide Prevention](#)
- [National Cover Crop Survey Reports](#)
- [Guidelines For Developing Pollinator- Friendly Utility-scale Solar Projects](#)
- [Effective Pricing Methods for Produce at Farmers Markets](#)
- [Adding cover crops into integrated weed management programs](#)
- [Farmer Resource Guides](#)
- [Pricing Agritourism Events and Experiences](#)



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**CAPE MAY COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES**



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For more info, visit:  
[cpe.rutgers.edu/bees](https://cpe.rutgers.edu/bees)  
Questions?  
Pamela Mayer | [pspring@rutgers.edu](mailto:pspring@rutgers.edu)



### Bee-ginner's Beekeeping: The Basics of Apiculture

**October 1-31, 2025 (Online, Self-Paced) Course Code: AE0401WA26**  
**Fees: \$315; Students(\$175); Master Gardener & Beekeeping Association Members(\$295)**

Participants will be introduced to bee biology and management. Participants will also learn how to assemble hives, open and examine colonies, and see how honey and beeswax are harvested. This course fulfills the legal requirements of the State of New Jersey for beekeeper education: <https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/pdf/Diseasesofbees.pdf>.

**Course Topics:**

- Bee biology • Bees in an urban setting • Disease and mite prevention • Honey extraction
- Hive management & assembly • Queen bee purchasing • and much more!

**Earn a Digital Badge!** Participants who successfully complete this program will be issued a digital badge that details the course requirements.




Office of Continuing Professional Education | [www.cpe.rutgers.edu](http://www.cpe.rutgers.edu) | (848) 932-9271

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Classes  
begin  
January 20  
2026!

MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE  
IN YOUR COMMUNITY  
Become a  
RUTGERS ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARD





Join our expert-led course and make a lasting impact.

#### Course Features:

- 17 Weekly Classes with Environmental Experts
- Tuesdays, 5:30–8 PM | 13 Online Sessions + 4 In-Person Sessions to Key Environmental Sites
- Complete a project in your community
- No previous experience needed
- Annual ½ day conference in fall

#### Topics Covered:

- Climate Change, Invasive Species, Recycling, Soil Health, Renewable Energy, Water Quality, Habitat Conservation, Pollinator Protection, Food Waste, Environmental Justice

#### Program Fee:

- \$300 Early Bird (until December 31)
- \$325 Regular Registration

**Registration opens October 1**  
To learn more visit:  
[envirostewards.rutgers.edu](https://envirostewards.rutgers.edu)



**RUTGERS UNIVERSITY**  
Environmental Stewards  
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station



### Animal Waste Management Plan Assistance

**What can Cape Atlantic Offer?**

The Cape Atlantic Conservation District has partnered with the NJ Department of Agriculture to be able to offer both technical and financial assistance to farmers. This assistance will help you maintain compliance with state law, improve environmental concerns and help with overall farm management.

**Financial Assistance Available!**

Funding is available to help farmers implement the best management practices used to improve your animal waste management. Best management practices will be tailored to each farm but may include practices such as exclusionary fencing, filter strips, pasture management, etc.

We will write or update your farm's animal waste management plan  
**AT NO COST TO YOU!**

**Who needs an Animal Waste Management Plan?**

Animal Waste Management Plans are required by state law for any farms with more than 8 animal units (8,000lbs) of live animals. These plans lay out how manures will be handled to limit the environmental degradation they can cause.

**CONTACT US!**

 Riley.Blankenship@USDA.gov

 (609) 625-3144



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.

## RU READY TO FARM EQUIPMENT DAY

Sunday, November 9th  
11:00am - 3:00pm  
92 Chesterfield-Georgetown Road,  
Chesterfield NJ

### DEMONSTRATIONS / EDUCATION STATIONS

- 2-wheel Tractors
- Tillage Equipment
- IPM
- Soil and Plant Labs
- Equipment Safety
- Sprayer Calibration
- Food Safety
- And more!



**Pre-Registration Required**

**\$20 FEE - LUNCH + REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED**

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER OR SCAN QR CODE**





RUTGERS UNIVERSITY  
New Jersey Agricultural  
Experiment Station

**NEW** Check out these events with the Rutgers Gardens Student Farm in October!

**Register Here!**



Free, in-person workshop at the Rutgers Gardens Student Farm  
**Ecosystem Services**  
Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup>  
12pm to 2pm



**Register Here!**

**FREE FOOD!**

Free, in-person workshop at the Rutgers Gardens Student Farm  
**What to Expect When You're Being Inspected**  
Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 12pm to 2pm

Plus, enjoy this short video about farm **Record Keeping**, which will help producers better understand this component of their Organic System Plan



**Watch Here!**











## Agricultural Businesses Heat Stress Survey

- Climate change affects outdoor businesses
- New Jersey wants to help agricultural businesses respond to rising temperatures
- Tell us about your experience!

**Take the Survey:**



<https://forms.office.com/g/x53LeHDfKn>

**Respond by Friday, October 31, 2025**

Thank you!!





# NETWORKS TO REDUCE RISK: BUILDING VIABLE NJ FARMS

## Field Trip: Urban Agriculture Cooperative, Farm to City Center



Saturday, November 1, 2025  
9:00am - 1:00pm  
Fee: \$15

Urban Agriculture Cooperative (UAC) is an NJ-based food hub aggregating and distributing products from urban and small/medium farms in NJ through farmer's markets and wholesale. Attendees will start the day by meeting up at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Essex County in Roseland before boarding a bus that will transport the group to UAC. We will tour the facility with Emilio Panasci (Executive Director and Co-founder of UAC) to learn about this unique market channel and the role of food hubs in the food system. Attendees will also have the opportunity to talk with a UAC farmer-partner and enjoy informal networking over a chef-prepared lunch.

To register scan the QR code below or visit the link:

Registration deadline:  
October 25



<https://go.rutgers.edu/4mipihj>



# NETWORKS TO REDUCE RISK: BUILDING VIABLE NJ FARMS

## Annie's Project 101 Webinar Series OPEN TO ALL

Annie's Project 101 is an 18-hour risk management training course that covers all 5 areas of risk management - financial, human resource, legal, market, and production. The course will consist of six, 2-hour long webinars that focus on the 5 areas of risk as they relate to agriculture in the Garden State.

Wednesdays: January 7 - February, 18, 2026 | 6:00 - 8:00pm  
Fee: \$45

To register scan the QR code below or visit the link:



<https://go.rutgers.edu/sb9i57z0>





# Let's Grow Your Mind!

If you're curious about the quirky and unexpected aspects of horticulture, the Grow Your Mind talk series is perfect for you! This collection of engaging presentations explores delightful gardening "sidelines" that enrich your knowledge as a home gardener.

Led by enthusiastic Extension staff, these talks cover everything from plant folklore to soil secrets, sparking curiosity and smiles. Whether you're a seasoned grower or just starting, join us to expand your garden wisdom in delightful new ways!

**Wednesdays - 7 to 8pm**  
**Virtual**  
**\$20 - Registration Required**  
**[Extension.Rutgers.edu/events](https://Extension.Rutgers.edu/events)**

## FALL 2025 SCHEDULE

### NOVEMBER

- Winter Survival: How Plants Outsmart the Cold (11/5)**  
Discover how plants escape, evade or endure winter and how to care for them.
- Horticulture at the Intersection of Art & Science (11/12)**  
Before microscopes and molecular models, there were sketchbooks and watercolors. Discover how artists became scientists, transforming botany and reshaping the course of science with the stroke of a brush.
- Holiday Icons: Plants That Celebrate With Us (11/19)**  
Discover how five iconic plants became inseparable from our favorite holidays.
- Winter Interest: Designing a Landscape That Shines Year-Round (11/26)**  
In this inspiring lecture, discover how to transform your winter garden from bleak to beautiful.

### DECEMBER

- To-Do in the Landscape (12/3)**  
This lively talk covers smart December tasks for Zones 6 and 7, how to pamper your tools, and what to watch out for when the cold sets in.
- Houseplants Made Easy: Grow with Confidence! (12/10)**  
Ready to turn your indoor plant struggles into leafy triumphs? Join us for a lively and practical lecture to bring nature indoors.
- Against All Odds: How Desert Plants Defy Nature and How to Grow Them at Home (12/17)**  
Learn the secrets of succulents in this talk about how they evolved and how to care for them.



# NETWORKS TO REDUCE RISK: BUILDING VIABLE NJ FARMS



## Field Trip: Food Innovation Center

Wednesday, November 19, 2025 | 10:00am - 1:00pm  
Fee: \$15

The Rutgers Food Innovation Center (FIC) is a unique food business incubator that supports established early-stage entrepreneurs and existing food companies, from concept to commercialization. A team of food industry veterans offer expertise in business development, marketing, market research, R&D, food safety, manufacturing and sales. Attendees will tour the FIC with Julie Elmer (Associate Director of Food Technology), engage in moderated discussion about opportunities to create value-added products on a range of scales, and enjoy informal networking over lunch.

To register scan the QR code below or visit the link:

Registration deadline:  
November 12



<https://go.rutgers.edu/n2sc89zn>

