

THE LATEST FROM AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

April 22, 2026

RCE EVENTS

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

"GARDEN & GROW" WORKSHOP SERIES

Advanced Concepts in Composting

Thursday, May 7, 2026
6pm to 7:30pm

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

Presenter: Belinda Chester, Consumer Horticulture Program Assoc., RCE, Atlantic County

Attendees will learn:

- Indoor composting methods
- Vermicomposting
- How to build a mini-worm bin with worms

Participants will take home a compost/soil thermometer and a DIY worm bin!

Cost \$25, registration required at:
<https://go.rutgers.edu/hibfb05>

Questions: Call 609-465-5115, ext. 3607 or Email: capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu

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

"GARDEN & GROW" WORKSHOP SERIES

IPM for Home Gardeners

Tuesday, May 19, 2026
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

Participants will learn:

- the basics of Integrated Pest Management
- how to create an IPM plan
- about common garden pests

Attendees will take home basic IPM scouting kit!

Cost \$20, registration required at:
<https://go.rutgers.edu/gcjkduu9>

Questions: Call 609-465-5115, ext. 3607 or Email: capemayag@njaes.rutgers.edu

OTHER EVENTS

- 29-Apr [When Seasons Shift: New Challenges for Nature](#). 12:00PM. Webinar. \$5
- 12-May [Know Your Numbers: Applying for Financing](#). 12:00PM. Free webinar
- 13-May [Securing Your Financial Future: Retirement Planning](#). 9:00AM. \$5.
- 29-May [Constructing a Personal Budget Sheet as a Farm Owner](#). 12:00PM. Free webinar.
- 17-Jun [Transitioning the Farm: Fair Versus Equal](#). 12:00PM. Free webinar.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- [Food Animal Concerns Trust Grants](#): Grants funds to improve farm animal welfare, expand humane farming, and support capital and operational work. FACT awards scholarships of up to \$400 for livestock and poultry farmers to attend educational events.
- [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.
- [FARM FUND](#): Farm Fund grants are open to farmers who are 35 and under, who are committed to agroecological cultivation methods. Grants available: One \$30,000 Transformation grant to facilitate a seismic change and four \$15,000 and seven \$8,000 Resilience grants to help reinforce young farmers at ground level. Applications close on May 31, 2026.

GARDENING TIP By Jen Sawyer Caraballo

As danger of frost passes us by, it's time to start weeding, planting and mulching!

Plant perennials, summer annuals and deadhead spring bulbs as they fade (but don't remove the foliage).

To help keep down the weeds and help retain moisture in your landscape or vegetable gardens, put down a layer of mulch. Apply mulch at a depth of 2 to 4 inches to balance weed suppression with adequate soil aeration.



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





FACTSHEETS

- [FS232: Diamondback Moths in the Home Garden](#)
- [FS1124: Vegetable Disease Recommendations for Home Gardens](#)
- [FS1123: Vegetable Insect Control Recommendations for Home Gardens](#)
- [FS1123SP: Recomendaciones para el Control de Insectos de Hortalizas en Huertos Urbanos](#)
- [FS1140: Incorporating Native Plants in Your Residential Landscape](#)
- [FS1237: Japanese Stiltgrass Management in the Home Lawn and Landscape](#)
- [FS1391: Deer Damage Control in the Vineyard](#)
- [FS1392: Northern Red Oak in New Jersey](#)

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](#)
- [A Food Hub Operator's Toolkit](#)
- [Identifying under performing products in your farm market](#)
- [Strawberry Fungicide Recommendations Resource for 2026](#)

PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

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

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT:
 Eat Your Way to a Healthy Environment**



All images courtesy of Wikimedia Commons (<https://commons.wikimedia.org>)

This spring, we explore how everyday food choices can support a more sustainable planet. Your appetite for learning about responsible foraging, sustainable agriculture and fisheries, safe fish consumption practices, and how food donations help reduce waste while strengthening communities will be satisfied. Together, you'll get your fill of practical, science-based insights to empower healthier eating habits that protect both people and the planet.

April 13 – Foraging: Unearthing Nature's Harvest
 Brooklyne Wassel, University of Georgia

May 4 – Food Donations & New Jersey Guidelines
 Jennifer Shukaltis, Rutgers University

April 20 – Sustainable Agriculture
 Warren Love, Foodshed Alliance

May 11 – The Value of Bivalves: Shellfish Aquaculture
 Dr. Mike Acquafredda, Rutgers University

April 27 – Sustainable Seafood Explained
 Max Mossler, University of Washington

May 18 – Fish Smart, Eat Smart: NJ Fish Consumption Advisory Program
 Dr. Dan Millemann, NJ Department of Environmental Protection

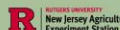
All webinars start at 6:30pm



To register for this webinar series, please visit:

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

This webinar series is a collaboration between two Extension programs: Earth Day, Every Day (E2D2) and the Marine Extension Program Seminar Series (MEPSS). If you want to learn more about E2D2 or MEPSS please visit <https://envirosteward.rutgers.edu/earth-day-every-day/> or <https://ocean.njass.rutgers.edu/marine/marine-extension-program-seminar-series/>.



Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Educational programs are offered without regard to race, sex, disability, color, national origin, or age. Rutgers Cooperative Extension is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture

Clean means clean, with no residue seen

NJ Pesticide Container Recycling

Collection Sites-2026

Helena Chemical
 67 Middle Road
 Hammonton, NJ 08037
 April-10, May-15, June-12, July-17
 August-14, September-11, October-10

Helena Chemical
 440 N. Main Street
 Woodstown, NJ 08098
 April-17, May-22, June-19, July-24
 August-21, September-18, October-23

Rutgers Specialty Crop Research & Extension Center
 283 Route 539
 Cream Ridge, NJ 08541
 April-24, May-29, June-26, July-31
 August-28, September-25, October-30

Program Details
 Program is offered to licensed pesticide applicators. Sites are accepting #2 HDPE containers, sizes up to 55 gallons.

Containers MUST be triple rinsed and free of all residues, dried, and EPA labels removed. Non-refillable containers must have 6" hole or slit on the bottom.

Contact
 609-414-0464
 rachel.deflumeri@ag.nj.gov
 www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/anr/recycling.shtm

Recieve 1 CORE Credit

Drop off from 9AM to 12PM

BEEF Save The Date

2026 NORTHEAST BEEF PRODUCER WORKSHOP

April 24-25, 2026
 Saratoga Springs, NY

Workshop Partners:
 Butcher Solutions, Farm Credit Northeast Ag Enhancement, Beef Quality Assurance

FEATURED SPEAKER:
 Sierra Anthony
 Lead Butcher with Butcher Solutions, LLC

SUBMIT YOUR RSVP HERE



NETWORKS TO REDUCE RISK: BUILDING VIABLE NJ FARMS

Welcome to the Jungle: Managing Risk on Your Agritourism Farm

A Field Trip to the Rutgers Snyder Research and Extension Farm

Tuesday, April 28, 2026 | 10:00am - 1:00pm

Fee: \$15

Welcome and Introductions (10:00 - 10:10 am)

Striking the Balance with Agritourism (10:10 - 10:25 am)

Walking Tour (10:25 am - 12:25 pm)

- Stop 1 – Central Reporting Area for Workers, Visitors
- Stop 2 – Keeping Everyone Safe in the Parking Lot
- Stop 3 – Practical Solutions for Your Pesticide Use Area
- Stop 4 – Key Equipment Safety Points for Users and Visitors
- Stop 5 – Hay Wagon Considerations
- Stop 6 – Conservation Installations

Walk back to building (12:25 - 12:30 pm)

Networking lunch (12:30 pm – 1:00 pm)

Program wrap-up (1 pm)

Registration
deadline:
April 21

*Light lunch and refreshments will be provided. To register scan the QR code below or visit the link:



<https://go.rutgers.edu/ncudh8xr>



This work is supported by the Northeast Extension Risk Management Project Award Number 2024-70027-42540, from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture



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CAPE MAY COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES





NETWORKS TO REDUCE RISK: BUILDING VIABLE NJ FARMS

Program Wrap Up & Field Trip to Montclair Community Farms

Saturday, June 13, 2026
10:00am - 12:00 pm
Fee: \$5

Join us as we celebrate the completion of our program with a fun field trip to Montclair Community Farms! This is a wonderful chance to connect, learn, explore, and enjoy time together as we wrap up the program.

Learn about urban agriculture, sustainability, and community food systems. Light snacks and refreshments provided. It will be a great opportunity for photos, connection, and closing out the program together!

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



<https://go.rutgers.edu/lxjqrrv7>



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Cooperative Extension
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station



El Servicio de Extensión Agrícola de la
Universidad de Rutgers se complace en presentar:

El Huerto Urbano



Acompáñanos en 8 talleres virtuales en 2026:

Marzo 5 y 19

Abril 2, 16, y 30

Mayo 14 y 28

Junio 11

Los jueves de 7:00pm a 8:00pm

¡Aprende sobre cómo iniciar un huerto,
suelos saludables, hierbas medicinales
y más!

PROGRAMA DE TALLERES VIRTUALES
EDUCATIVOS DE AGRICULTURA
URBANA EN ESPAÑOL

Para más información e
inscripción visita:

<https://go.rutgers.edu/va9cc9lh>

o comuníquese con Claudia Urdanivia por
correo: cru1@njaes.rutgers.edu

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Board of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Hudson County, Hudson County Department of Health and Human Services, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.