

February 14, 2022

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CCE

Saratoga County

Cornell Cooperative Extension

NEWSLETTER

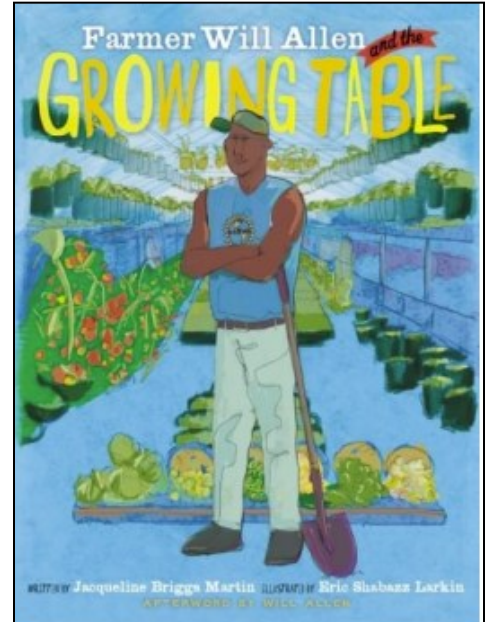
EXTENSION NEWS

Ag Literacy Week: Volunteers Needed

In March, volunteers from the community will read to elementary classrooms across Saratoga County in an effort to increase Agricultural Awareness. Agricultural Literacy Week is a celebration of our county's heritage and our number one industry that works to produce healthy, local food 365 days a year!

We need YOUR help as volunteer readers to visit local classrooms and read to the students. All materials and directions will be provided to you. Please contact the 4-H office to sign up at 518-885-8995. We could not run this program without the help of our volunteers. No experience is necessary!

Ag Literacy Week Runs March 21-25, 2022.



4-H Tractor Safety

The Capital District 4-H would like to welcome all area youth who are 14 years and older, to participate in the 2022 Capital District 4-H/HOSTA Tractor Safety Program. This program is a great opportunity for youth who currently work on farms or around machinery, those who will be seeking employment on a farm, or anyone who would just like to learn more about farm and machinery safety. Participants will gain hands-on experience with a variety of equipment including tractors and implements, skid steers, ATVs and chainsaws. They will also visit a variety of agribusinesses, and receive HOSTA certification upon successful completion of the program.

The orientation for this year's event will be via Zoom on April 7th at 6:30 PM.

For more information, please contact your local Cornell Cooperative Extension Office. Saratoga County youth contact Leland at glb76@cornell.edu or 518.885.8995

To sign-up, please visit:

https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/20224HTractorSafety-2_241



OUR MISSION

Cornell Cooperative Extension puts knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability and social well-being. We bring local experience and research based solutions together, helping New York State families and communities thrive in our rapidly changing world.

Job Opportunities

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS), FULL-TIME SEASONAL POSITIONS

AIS Watercraft Steward Supervisor

Responsible for supervising the day-to-day activities of AIS Watercraft Stewards and Lead Stewards. In addition, this position performs the responsibilities of an AIS Watercraft Steward or Lead Steward as needed or assigned. This position requires data review of reported AIS.

Compensation:

AIS Watercraft Steward Supervisor - \$17/hr.

[To Apply Click Here](#)

Watercraft Stewards and Lead Steward

Watercraft stewards work independently at various boat launch locations throughout the Capital Region PRISM region. Watercraft Stewards collect survey data through interactions with the public. The Lead Watercraft Steward will assist in providing oversight to Watercraft Stewards. The Lead Steward will work independently and travel frequently between various boat launch locations throughout the Capital Region PRISM region. *Lead Steward will be promoted based on program needs.

Compensation:

Watercraft Stewards: \$15/hr.

Lead Watercraft Steward: \$16/hr.

[To Apply Click Here](#)

Locations:

As part of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County's Capital Region Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) program, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Watercraft Stewards provide public education and outreach at boat launches regarding statewide Clean, Drain, Dry practices in order to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species. Watercraft stewards work independently at various boat launch locations. Counties of employment include Albany, Saratoga, Schenectady, Greene, Washington and Columbia. A list of boat launch locations can be found [here](#).

Durations:

Watercraft Stewards and Lead Watercraft Steward: work on a full-time, seasonal basis from May through September. Work schedules are typically Thursday—Monday, 7:00 AM—3:30 PM though schedules may also vary depending on program needs. Holiday and weekends are required. The Watercraft Steward Program runs from the Friday before Memorial Day through Labor Day, with three days of required programmatic training from May 23rd to May 25th.

AIS Watercraft Steward Supervisor: works on a full-time, seasonal (temporary) basis. The Supervisor schedule follows that of Watercraft Stewards and Lead Stewards during the season, Thursday-Monday from 7:00 AM—3:30 PM, though schedules may also vary depending on program needs. Holidays and weekends are required. The pre and post season schedule will be Monday—Friday.

Candidates should apply online by:

AIS Watercraft Steward supervisor—February 28, 2022

Watercraft Stewards & Lead Watercraft Steward—February 25, 2022

Cornell Cooperative Extension is a collaboration among Cornell University, the United States Department of Agriculture, the State of New York, and the residents of New York State. Per NYS Law, county and regional extension service associations are subordinate governmental agencies. This employment opportunity is with the entities listed and not with Cornell University. Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans,

Highlights from the 2021 Capital Region PRISM Annual Report



The PRISM has categorized invasive species based on known populations into a tier ranking system. The purpose of the tier system is to focus attention on high threat species that are not found in our region or are appearing in small populations that are manageable with limited resources. Preventing the introduction of new species is the most cost-effective strategy in controlling invasive plants and animals. A rapid response to new infestations found in small populations is the next practical approach in management. The act of early detection with a rapid response can result in a successful eradication effort.

The Capital Region PRISM has an updated [Aquatic and Terrestrial Tier List](#) for the region. In addition, The New York State Natural Heritage

Program also has developed a [New York Statewide Tier List](#) for invasive species. Feel free to use both resources. The PRISM focuses work efforts on Tier 1 and 2 species, particularly on public lands that are ecologically significant and at risk of invasion. Exclusion and suppression efforts of Tier 3 and 4 species occur when rare, endangered, or species of concern are at risk.

The PRISM in 2021 was active with a focused approach towards the management of invasive species when conducting early detection, rapid response, and control strategies. The team continued to focus work within Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) and Priority Waterbodies (PWBs) for early detection and management. PCAs and PWBs are areas that are ecologically significant and are at a high risk of invasion. PCAs and PWBs have been identified throughout the eleven counties that make up the Capital Region PRISM. In addition to our conservation targets we assist our partners to help solve their unique challenges related to invasive species management.

Acres Surveyed

- The PRISM conducted a total of 57 surveys in both the Aquatic and Terrestrial fields in 2021.

- The total terrestrial surveyed area for PCA's in 2021 was 739.9 acres. All terrestrial sites surveyed accounted for 1,802.3 acres.
- The AIS team surveyed a total of 24 waterbodies accounting for 2,017 acres of water.
- Together, an estimated 3,819.3 acres received early detection surveys in the Capital Region PRISM for invasive species

Acres Controlled for Invasive Species in the Region

- 22 sites for invasive species were directly managed 108 acres for invasive species by the staff
- Together the PRISM and Partner network managed 33 invasive species over 814 acres in 2021.

Invasive Species Outreach and Education Events

- 44 Events Reaching 1600 Direct Participants
- 4,122 Indirect contacts reached through tabling events and community outreach.
- 30,000 Views reached through Social Media and Websites and Press Releases.

Watercraft Steward Program

- 11,467 Boat Inspection
- 16,868 Individuals Reached and Educated on Clean Drain Dry practices
- 533 Invasive Species Intercepts Removed During Launch and Retrieval
- We are hiring for 2022! Follow the links Below.
[Watercraft Steward Supervisor](#) and [Watercraft Stewards](#)

One of the PRISM's greatest accomplishments in 2021 were the services that were delivered to partners and the public at large. Collaborations with strategic partners have evolved into more closely developed pairings focused on conservation-based actions. To find out more on how to partner with the PRISM capitalregionprism.org/staff.html The PRISM recognizes the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, the Cornell University Cooperative Extension Network, and our numerous partners who aided us in achieving our goals in 2021. The recognition of considering invasive species in conservation efforts is paramount in protecting our environment..

[2021 CRP Annual Report](#)

[2021 CRP Aquatic Invasive Species Spread Prevention Program Report](#)

Exploring the Small Farm Dream Course

Mondays—March 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2022

Mondays, 6:30 PM—9:00 PM

via Zoom

If you are considering launching a small farm enterprise, but are not sure where to start, this 4-session series will give you the tools to start making choices to determine if farming is right for you.

The Exploring the Small Farm Dream course (designed by the New England Small Farm Institute and taught by trained facilitators) is designed to help you, and your partner, decide whether starting a farm business is right for you. This ten-hour (four evening sessions) virtual course includes exploratory discussion, curated research tools, and self-assessment activities provided by the instructors as well as a workbook for hands-on application both during class and at home. Each week we will hear from subject matter experts and community partners, as well as existing farmers. By the end of the series, you will create an action plan that works best for you and will have the tools and contacts to help you get started.

Who is this course for?

- Anyone interested in starting a small farm business
- Hobby and lifestyle farmers who are considering developing their farm into a business
- Recently retired individuals who will retire soon and think they may want to start a small farm business
- Immigrants with agricultural experiences who wish to start farming in the U.S.
- Recent high school or college graduate who are considering a career in agriculture
- Individuals who are inheriting or taking over a farm from a family member
- Those who are considering an on-farm market, farmers' market vendors, farm stands, livestock and poultry growers, and specialty products—such as mushrooms or maple syrup, which are all business that started somewhere.

Fee: \$75 per family, includes a workbook valued at \$25. Extra workbooks can be purchased for \$25. Please include all email addresses of those who should receive the zoom link in your registration. Veterans located in NY or NJ may attend free of charge with support from the Canandaigua VA and Cornell Small Farms Program Farm Ops Initiative.

https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/.../main/events_landing.cfm...

Farmland Access Workshops

Resources for new and beginning farmers are being held via Zoom. Presented in part with Saratoga PLAN, American Farmland Trust | New York, NY FarmNet, and Kilcoyne Farms. The following is the last class in a series of a total of 4 workshops carefully curated for the Farming Community. Hosted by *Saratoga PLAN & Cornell Cooperative Extension*

Farmland Succession

February 16th @ 6:00 PM

Presenters:

Megan B. Harris-Pero, Esq. (Harris & Betelho, PLLC)

Cody LaPage (Charter Oak Financial)

To register, contact Nicolina Foti at nvf5@cornell.edu or call 518-885-8995

Apply for the 2022 New York Farm Bureau Agriculture Youth Scholarship

High School seniors interested in pursuing an agricultural career can now apply for the 2022 New York Farm

Bureau Agriculture Youth Scholarship. Changes this year include higher scholarship values for statewide and district winners. It is also open for students attending either college or an advanced training skilled trade program.

Click here for more info:

<https://www.nyfb.org/prog.../promotion-education/scholarship>



Starting a Farm Business

February 23, 6:30pm



Steve Hadcock, Beginning Farmer and Market Development Educator with the CCE Capital Area Agricultural and Horticultural Program, will be answering your questions about starting a farm business. What are the risks of starting a farm business? Can I make enough income to sustain the business? What does it take financially to start a farm business?

Marketing Ag Products

March 2, 6:30pm



Sophie Ano, SUNY Cobleskill professor, Ph.D., Department Chair for Business, Food, Service and Agriculture, will be discussing the basics of marketing your farm or food business using social media and other outlets.

Conservation Easements for Agriculture

March 9, 6:30pm



May Leinhart, Otsego Land Trust Stewardship Associate, Master's degree in Geography, will talk about private conservation easements, state and local tax credits, and options farmers and landowners have in conserving their property.



Farmland Succession Planning

March 16 - 6:30pm

Farm Net Farm Business Management Specialist Gabriel Gurley will discuss the fundamentals of farm succession and how to develop a succession plan.

What's New at NYSAMP?

March 16 - 7:30pm



The New York State Agricultural Mediation Program (NYSAMP) is "More than Mediation". Welcome to an overview of NYSAMP and the ways it can serve farmers, their

families and their businesses, presented by Christine Tausel. We look forward to seeing you!

Fee: \$10 per class, \$25 for all

To register please visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/FarmSeries>

Questions?

Contact Jessica Holmes

jmh452@cornell.edu / (518) 234-4303 ext. 119

**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Schoharie and Otsego Counties**

Farmer Resource Guide



FARM CREDIT EAST

FARM CREDIT

(518) 692-0269
394 State Rt 29, Greenwich, NY 12834-2650

Provides Farm Loans and Agricultural Finance Services



SARATOGA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

(518) 885-6900
50 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Agricultural Exemptions, Erosion Control Assistance, Fish Stocking Program, Soil Information and Maps, and much more.



FARM BUREAU

(518) 436-8495 or (800) 342-4143
159 Wolf Road, Suite 300
Albany, NY 12205-0330

Solving economic and public policy issues challenging the agricultural industry



NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL MEDIATION PROGRAM

(866) 669-7267
4 Pine West Plaza #411, Albany, NY 12205

Help farmers identify and create their own solutions to family and business challenges and conflicts



NY FARM NET

(800) 547-3276
Cornell University, Warren Hall, 350
Ithaca, NY 14853

Providing farmers assistance in all aspects of business transfers



SARATOGA PLAN

(518) 587-5554
112 Spring Street, Room 202
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Helping landowners conserve their farmland, woodlands and natural habitats to sustain the county's "quality of place" and the environment, economy, and public health



CORNELL SMALL FARMS

(607) 255-9227
Cornell University, Plant Science Bldg, G15A
Ithaca, NY 14853

Since 2001, the Cornell Small Farms Educational Program fostered programs that support and encourage the sustainability of diverse, thriving small farms.



AMERICAN FARMLAND TRUST

(518) 581-0078
112 Spring Street, Suite 207
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Protect farmland, Promote Sound Farming Practices, and Keep Farmers on the Land



FARMLAND for a NEW GENERATION

(844) 737-6506
fngny@farmland.org

A program coordinated by American Farmland Trust—in partnership with the State of New York, agricultural organizations, land trusts, and others—that helps farmers seeking land and landowners who want to keep their land in farming.



CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION Saratoga County

(518) 885-8995
50 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

The association is part of the national cooperative extension system, an educational partnership between county, state and federal governments. As New York's and grant university, Cornell administers the system in this state. Each county extension office provides researched based information and programming to the public.

The Game of Logging

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Warren County, NY is proud to announce the following 3 workshops:

- The Game of Logging Level 1 – Wednesday, April 27
- The Game of Logging Level 2 – Thursday, April 28
- The Game of Logging Storm Damage Response – Friday, April 29

All 3 workshops will go from 7:30 am - 5:00 pm and will be held at the property of Gary Flint, 7168 Antioch Rd (southeast corner of Antioch and Clark Roads) in Middle Grove, NY.

Please bring a lunch, chainsaw, and safety equipment (hard hat/shield, hearing protection, chaps, steel toe boots). Rain or Shine. Due to a generous grant from International Paper cost per person, per class is only \$45.00. Pre-registration is required. There will be no refunds if canceling less than 5 days prior to a given class.

For more information or to register, please contact Dan Carusone by email at djc69@cornell.edu or by phone at (518) 623-3291.



PURDUE HORSE EXTENSION Webinar Wednesdays

New Extension Program this Spring, and it is FREE!!! Webinar Wednesdays will occur once a month from February through April, and feature Purdue Experts talking about timely and important topics for your horse care. All sessions are at 7 pm Eastern, and it is free to attend, but we do ask that you register.

<https://tinyurl.com/3vxtxn88>



February 16

Preparing Pastures for Spring w/ Dr. Keith Johnson

March 9

Health and Vaccinations w/ Dr. Amanda Farr

April 20

Trailer Safety w/ Dr. Robin Ridgway

All sessions at 7:00 EST

Saratoga County HORSE SYMPOSIUM

CCE Equine is excited to host our Saratoga Horse Symposium on May 14th at the 4-H Training Center in Ballston Spa, NY. This exciting educational event is a celebration of the horse for new, aspiring, and experienced horse owners and professionals.

Registration for general admission, vendors, and sponsors will be open soon. Look updates on our [Facebook page](#) or [website](#).

If you would like your business to be added to the email or mailing list please call our office at 518-885-8995 or email bh548@cornell.edu



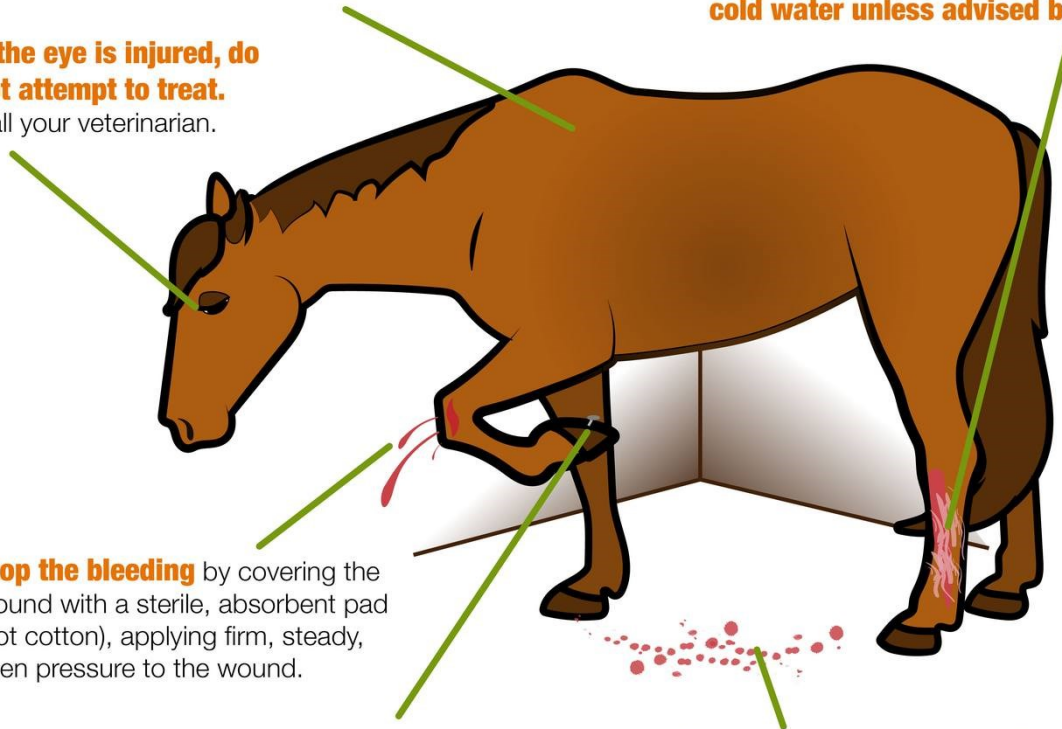
GUIDELINES FOR EMERGENCY WOUND CARE



Catch and calm the horse to prevent further injury. Move the horse to a stall or other safe location if this is possible without causing distress or further injury. Do not attempt to treat or evaluate the wound if it's not safe.

Consult with your veterinarian regarding a recommendation before you attempt to clean the wound or remove debris or penetrating objects, as you may cause further damage. **Don't put anything on the wound except a compress or cold water unless advised by your veterinarian.**

If the eye is injured, do not attempt to treat. Call your veterinarian.



Stop the bleeding by covering the wound with a sterile, absorbent pad (not cotton), applying firm, steady, even pressure to the wound.

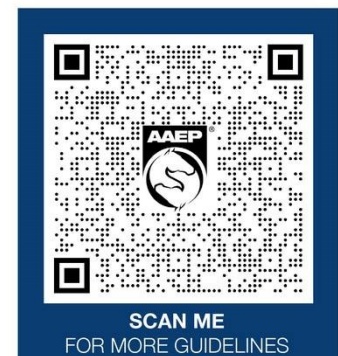
If a horse steps on a nail or other sharp object and it remains embedded in the hoof, **consult with your veterinarian regarding a recommendation before you remove the nail.**

Do not medicate or tranquilize the horse unless specifically directed by your veterinarian. If the horse has suffered severe blood loss or shock, the administration of certain drugs can be life-threatening.

Call your veterinarian for a recommendation anytime you are unsure or feel your horse is in need of emergency care.

Examples of **situations where your veterinarian should be called include:**

- There appears to be **excessive bleeding.**
- The **entire skin thickness has been penetrated.**
- The **wound occurs near or over a joint.**
- Any **structures underlying the skin are visible.**
- A **puncture** has occurred.
- A severe wound has occurred in the **lower leg at or below knee or hock level.**
- The **wound is severely contaminated.**



How do honey bees survive winter?

Linda Aydlett , Master Gardener Volunteer with CCE Columbia and Greene Counties,
and Cornell University Master Beekeeper



We're in the midst of winter, the weather's frigid and there's not a bloom in sight. Honey bees are one of the few species of bees that form colonies and are able to survive year after year. Hopefully these colonies are now ensconced in a warm dry cavity that could either be the hollow of the tree or inside a manmade hive. And if the

prior seasons were bountiful,

there's plenty of honey stored away to hold them until the nectar-rich blossoms are once again plentiful in Spring.

Even though they're not out foraging, they're working hard within the hive, keeping each other fed and quite toasty warm 24/7, even during blizzard conditions outside the hive.

But until Spring comes, how do honey bees survive winter?

As cold-blooded creatures that don't hibernate, honey bees have developed several means to help the colony survive in cold climates. Starting when temperatures dropped to the lower and mid-50s individual members of the colony gather to form a huddle about the size of a soccer ball. This is what beekeepers call the winter cluster. As temperatures drop even further, the winter cluster tightens and becomes even more compact. At the same time, the honey bees on the outer edges of the cluster are packing as tightly together as they can against each other to form a shell that basically encases the cluster, much like the mantle encases the core of our Earth. This mantle forms an insulating shell an inch or two thick so that the heat is kept inside the cluster and helps preserve precious energy. With an insulating layer in place, the cluster simply doesn't need to heat unoccupied space within the hive box.

Using thermal image cameras, researchers discovered that individual bees, called heater bees for the task they're performing at the time, can provide enough warmth to keep the nest at precisely the right temperature in spaces immediately around themselves.

Heater bees use an anatomical feature all bees have in a surprising way that allows the cluster to keep even warmer ... and it's on their wings, believe it or not!

Honey bees can't fly at temperatures much below the mid-50s. It's just too cold for them to move their flight muscles. So, in winter, they're stuck inside the cluster. While it is indeed much warmer, there's simply no room to fly.

Using a ridge of hooks (called hamuli), each individual honey bee is able to temporarily unhinge and detach all four of her wings from her body so that she can use her flight muscles in a vibrating or shivering movement. So instead of taking off in flight, she's literally shivering in place. This shivering raises the body temperature of each honey bee, and collectively they produce the right amount of heat needed to keep the queen toasty warm, somewhere in the mid-80s. Yes, that's 80°F, even when the wind's howling and snow's piling up outside. And if the comb at the center of the winter cluster contains brood – that is, eggs, larva and pupa – this helps the cluster keep the temperature to an even hotter, tropical-like 95 degrees or so needed for the brood to develop into adults.

While the center of the winter cluster is being kept toasty warm, quite the opposite is true for the honey bees on the outer mantle layer who are continually being exposed to the bitter cold. To survive, they enter into a state called torpor, which means that their metabolism slows down so much they appear quite motionless, if not dead. If left in this state they could indeed freeze to death. To prevent this from happening, honey bees on the outer rim are slowly rotated towards the center of the cluster, exchanging places with their warmer sisters.

It's remarkable that at no time is any one bee in charge, not even the queen. Each individual works in concert with the others for the common good, which, at this moment, is to preserve the colony through the severest season of the year, winter. Cooperation, communication, and resiliency are traits we'll see repeated throughout the seasons.



Resolve to Eat More Fish in 2022

Health Benefits of Fish

- Low-fat, high quality protein
- Filled with omega-3 fatty acids and vitamins such as D and B2 (riboflavin)
- Rich in calcium and phosphorus. Great source of minerals.
- The American Heart Association recommends eating fish at least twice a week as part of a healthy diet. Fish is packed with protein, vitamins and nutrients that can lower BP and help reduce the risk of a heart attack or stroke.
- Since fish are an important source of omega-3 fatty acids, eating them can keep our brain and heart healthy.
- Our bodies do not produce omega-3 fatty acids, so we must get them in the food we eat.
- Omega-3 fatty acids are especially high in fatty fish (greater than 10% fat) like salmon, trout, sardines, herring, canned mackerel, canned light tuna, and oysters.



Photo: thriftyfun.com

Learn how to properly cook fish and try some healthy recipes:

<https://doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/Food/Fish/HealthBenefits/Recipes>

- The general cooking time is 10 minutes for each inch of thickness.
- Serving size for fish: for an adult, one serving is 4 ounces; for children, a serving is 1 ounce at age 2 and increases with age to 4 ounces by age 11.

[Upcoming Free Fishing Dates](#)

Tips for Losing Weight & Keeping It Off

Wednesday, February 16, 2022
via Zoom



Reaching and maintaining a healthy weight reduces the risk of chronic disease and adds a wealth of mental health benefits, too. In this interactive workshop we won't be discussing the latest diet trends or any lose weight quick schemes. Our goal is to empower you to make simple changes to the food you enjoy and make the lifestyle choices needed to help you live your best life!

11:00AM - 12:00PM Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://cornell.zoom.us/j/99919162924?pwd=NTVIUEVBNy9ITXA3TFcwenhiRHo0dz09>.

6:00PM - 7:00PM Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://cornell.zoom.us/j/92837306343?pwd=cENXN2JGd1FONDl1N1pma1B0bzU2Zz09>.

Presented by CCE Albany County

Winter One-Pot Comfort Foods

Wednesday, February 23, 2022
6:00 PM—7:00 PM
via Zoom

What is better on a cold winter day than a steaming hot, delicious soup or stew for dinner? A recipe will be shared ahead of time so that you can cook along with Karen in a Dutch oven, crock pot or electric pressure cooker.

Registration is required at the following Zoom link - https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcsdO-spzkiE9ZuuFxFuYpKna_4Y6pRCG2B.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the meeting.

Please contact Karen Roberts Mort from CCE Albany by e-mail kem18@cornell.edu or leave a message at 518-765-3552, if you have questions.

Presented by CCE Albany County

HOMESTEADING & SELF-SUFFICIENCY

CCE Saratoga educators have created an [educational webpage](#) where people can learn all aspects of becoming self-sufficient and what it means to have a homestead. The informational platform brings together agriculture (Livestock & Animal Husbandry, Food Preservation & Preparation, Hunting & Gathering, and Planting & Growing recourses.



If you missed the 8-week video series for Homesteading and Self-sufficiency [you can find it here.](#)



Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program

The Department of Environmental Conservation is now accepting applications for the cooperative Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program, which allows people to participate in raising and releasing pheasants to enhance New York's fall hunting opportunities. The program is provided through DEC's partnership with hunters, 4-H youth, and interested landowners.

The Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program began in the early 1900s when the State Conservation Department (precursor to DEC) distributed pheasant eggs and chicks to farmers and rural youth, a tradition that continues to this day. Day-old chicks are available at no cost to participants who can provide a brooding facility, covered outdoor rearing pen, and an adequate release site. Approved applicants will receive the day-old chicks in April, May, or June. No chicks obtained through the Day-Old Pheasant Chick Program can be released on private shooting preserves and all release sites must be approved in advance by DEC and be open for public pheasant hunting opportunities.

Applicants are required to provide daily care to the rapidly growing chicks, monitor the birds' health, and

ensure the chicks have adequate feed and water. The pheasants may be released beginning when they are eight weeks old and must be released no later than Dec. 1. The program is funded through the State Conservation Fund from license fees paid by hunters, trappers, and anglers.



In 2021, DEC distributed more than 34,500 day-old pheasant chicks to qualified applicants. This year marks a new chapter for the program as DEC transitions to an online application process. The [application can be found on the Day-old Pheasant Chicks webpage](#), along with a "[Pheasant Rearing Guide \(PDF\)](#)." People without internet access or who encounter technical difficulties with the online application are advised to [contact their regional wildlife office](#) to apply. **Applications must be submitted by March 25.** For questions about the program or eligibility, email wildlife@dec.ny.gov or call 607-273-2768.



Green Cleaning Recipes

OVEN CLEANER

- 2 Tbsp vegetable oil based liquid soap
- 2 Tbsp borax



Mix the soap and borax in a spray bottle. Fill the bottle with hot water and shake well. Spray on oven and leave for 20 minutes. Scrub off.

NON-ABRASIVE SOFT SCRUBBER

- ¼ cup borax
- Vegetable oil based liquid soap
- ½ tsp lemon essential oil

In a bowl, mix the borax with enough soap to form a creamy paste. Add lemon oil and blend well. Scoop a small amount of the mixture onto a sponge, wash the surface, then rinse well.

ALL-PURPOSE CLEANER

- 3 Tbsp white vinegar
- ½ tsp washing soda
- ½ tsp vegetable oil based liquid soap
- 2 cups hot water



Mix ingredients in spray bottle or bucket. Apply and wipe clean.



The Veggie Patch

Teresa Golden, a Master Gardener Volunteer with CCE Columbia & Greene Counties

Vegetable Gardening is a great activity for everyone young or old. Whether using containers, a community garden or a larger garden plot, growing veggies enables you to supply family and friends with nutritious vegetables for six to nine months of the year. It's terrific exercise providing both an upper and lower body workout, but also helping to reduce household food expenses.

In lieu of a dedicated vegetable garden you can consider creating an edible landscape. This approach integrates edible plants within a home or community landscape. For instance, you can add blueberry plants to a largely ornamental landscape or create a yard full of fruiting bushes, edible flowers, vegetables and ornamental plants. Basil, rosemary, dill, sage, lettuce, peppers, dwarf tomatoes, okra, eggplant, and even Swiss chard can all easily be worked into an ornamental bed or border. The possibilities are endless.

So how do you get started? The first step is to choose a site. Ideally, a full sun garden should have a southern exposure with more than six hours of sun each day. Eight to 10 hours of sunshine is ideal, but most vegetables really need at least six hours. Look around your yard for possible sites and record how much sun the various areas get to select your best option. Note that the best bet might be a container garden on your porch or patio.

However, if you don't typically get that much sun don't despair. Carrots, beets, Swiss chard and kale can do well

in a garden with only six hours of sunlight. And leafy greens such as spinach, arugula and lettuce can thrive with only four or five hours of light, but they can also tolerate more.



In addition to sun, a critical requirement is water. Locate your garden where it's easily accessible to water. Remember that you'll have to water your plants at least an inch a week, especially in the drier months of the summer.

A level well drained site is best, but if you are located on a slope, consider creating a terrace to make a level area. Avoid the root systems from trees and shrubs to minimize competition for water and nutrients as well as to avoid a lot of shade. Make sure to keep your garden at least 75 feet away from black walnut or butternut trees, as their roots exude a chemical that is toxic to tomato, potato, peas and asparagus plants.

Ensure your garden can be accessible to a wheelbarrow or garden cart for moving soil, compost, mulch, and plants, as well as to harvest your veggies.

One of the advantages of the winter months is that you have the time to plan and dream.



Have deer been dibbling at your landscaping this winter?

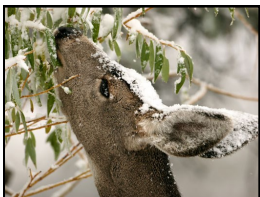


Image: savatree

Have the deer been eating your landscaping this winter? Although fences or burlap can always be used to deter the deer from ruining your bushes, there are beautiful plants deer don't like to eat!

The following is a list of landscape plants rated according to their resistance to deer damage. The list was compiled with input from nursery and landscape professionals, Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) Cooperative Extension personnel, and Rutgers Master Gardeners in northern New Jersey.

Realizing that no plant is deer proof, plants in the *Rarely Damaged*, and *Seldom Severely Damaged* categories would be best for landscapes prone to deer damage. Plants *Occasionally Severely Damaged* and *Frequently Severely Damaged* are often preferred by deer and should only be planted with additional protection such as the use of fencing, repellents, etc. Success of any of these plants in the landscape will depend on local deer populations and weather conditions.

[Landscape Plants Rated by Deer Resistance \(Rutgers NJAES\)](#)



Maple Syrup Production

Maple syrup starts to run when winter weather temperatures climbs to the 40's in the day and eases back to below freezing at night. Warm days and cool nights cause the sap to run through the trees. This is known as the "sugaring off" season.



Image by [Dave Page](#)

A sugar maple tree is usually 30 years old or more and at least ten inches in diameter before it is tapped. Depending on the size of the tree, a tree can have up to four taps, each of which yields an average of ten gallons of sap per season (1 quart of syrup.)

Maple syrup production information, for the producer, consumer and general public. This includes numerous maple syrup production fact sheets, publications and frequently asked questions; along with student/teacher activities, maple recipes, upcoming workshops and much more. [The Cornell Sugar Maple Research and Extension Program](#)

Maple Syrup Production for the Beginner by Stephen Childs and the Cornell Maple Program is now available on YouTube. This video series provides an overview of all aspects of maple syrup production.

[Maple Syrup Production for the Beginner Part 1: Introduction - YouTube](#)

[Maple Syrup Production for the Beginner Part 2: Identifying Maple Trees - YouTube](#)

[Maple Syrup Production for the Beginner Part 3: Sugaring Seasons - YouTube](#)

[Maple Syrup Production for the Beginner Part 4: Tapping - YouTube](#)

[Maple Syrup Production for the Beginner Part 5: Sap Collection - YouTube](#)

Cornell Maple Program

[How to Tap a Maple Tree - YouTube](#)



Ways to start a homestead

- Create a veggie garden space
- Plant a herb garden
- Plant fruit trees or an orchard
- Start a compost area, a worm bin, compost tumbler
- Create a pollinator bed, area, or even a meadow full of flowers
- Learn how to ferment, can, dehydrate and/or pickle your harvests
- Adopt chickens, goats, sheep, rabbits, pigs, cows or other "farm animals"
- Build a barn, stables, or other auxiliary structures
- Create a root cellar or large pantry
- Learn how to make natural medicine like Fire Cider an Elderberry Syrup, or personal care products like calendula oil, soap, lotions
- Start a beehive
- Learn how to sew, knit, crochet, or use natural dyes
- Build or install a greenhouse or hoop house
- Set up a rainwater collection system
- Learn how to make sourdough or apple cider vinegar



Holistic Wellness: Treats for Furry Friends

Saturday, February 19, 2022

10:00 AM

via Zoom

presented by CCE Warren County

If the past two years have taught us anything, it is the importance of caring for ourselves and others so that we can remain healthy and well. In this interactive series, we will learn how easy it is to make treats for our pets. Registrants may email MB at mem467@cornell.edu to receive recipes so that you can make these items at home along with me! **Cost: Free.**

Registration link -

https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0rcO-vrjgvGNa4YPdPkjY_TGX7ZsZhW2xP.

Saratoga County 4-H Dairy Calf Scholarship



The Saratoga County 4-H Dairy Calf Scholarship is open to all 4-H'ers, and youth willing to join 4-H, interested in owning a registered calf, and lives in Saratoga County.

Applicants for the calf must meet the following criteria:

- Member of the Saratoga 4-H Dairy Club or willing to join
- Have suitable housing facilities for the animal
- Welcome periodic farm visits
- Show the animal at the Saratoga County Fair 4-H Dairy Show
- Have parent/guardian permission
- Agree to breed the calf to a registered sire
- Agree to return to the 4-H calf program the first heifer calf born from this award calf or a heifer calf of "like quality"

Annual Scholarship Golf Classic Celebrating 21 Years—SAVE THE DATE



4-H GOLF CLASSIC

The 21st Annual Golf Classic has been set for **June 4, 2022**. This year, the Classic will be held at Fairways of Halfmoon. The shotgun start is scheduled for 9:00 AM with registration at 7:30 AM. The event will conclude with a delicious buffet lunch and an awards ceremony. Last year, we came very close to meeting our goal of 100 golfers. Our goal this year is to have over 100 golfers and raise over \$10,000. Based on last year's success and with your help, we are confident we can reach this goal. All proceeds from the Golf Classic go directly back into the 4-H Program via the 4-H Leaders Association. The Association provides scholarships, funding for educational programs, and hands-on learning opportunities for the 4-H Volunteer Leaders. Are you interested in getting involved? We are always looking for new sponsors, donors, raffle items and things to be placed in our participant's goodie bags. Another way to get involved is to register to play and enjoy a day of golf in support of Saratoga County 4-H. Contact [Greg](#) at the 4-H Office for more information.

This is a great opportunity to own a fine pedigree calf! Many Saratoga County 4-H'ers have been involved and benefited from this great opportunity. To apply, you need to write a one or two page essay. The essay should include:

- Why you are interested in the calf
- What your responsibilities on your family farm or the farm you work on are
- Why you believe you are worthy of the animal
- How you would develop this calf to her fullest potential
- Other activities you enjoy and interests you have

Essays must be received in the 4-H Office by Friday, April 15, 2022. If you have any questions, please contact the CCE Office or email Rylie at RJL287@cornell.edu.

**4-H
Walkathon**
Saturday, May 14th, 2022
at the
Saratoga Spring YMCA

**Pre-Registration Required
Register Here!**

https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/4HWalkathon2022_241

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Saratoga County



Saratoga County 4-H Archives Corner

By Wendy McConkey, Records Management Officer

The first article below focuses on former 4-H member Keith Truesdale from Gansevoort. Kevin Truesdale is mentioned again in the second article about Demonstration Day, currently known as Public Presentation Day.

Gansevoort 4-H Clubber At Convention

Schenectady Gazette, Thursday, December 11, 1969

A Saratoga County 4-H member from Gansevoort is attending the National Junior Horticulture Association convention in Indianapolis as a demonstrator representing New York State.

Keith Truesdale, son of Mr. and Mrs. Erskine Truesdale, was selected by Ernest Schaufler, Cornell Ornamental Horticultural Specialist, to represent New York State in the demonstration presentations. His demonstration will be in the section dealing with the use of horticultural crops. Other sections are production, marketing and artistic arrangement. Keith's demonstration, which he presented at the county, district, regional and state levels in 1969, is on the culture and use of herbs. The demonstration was presented several times in the youth department building at the State Fair.

The 16-year old senior at south Glens Falls High School has been an active member of the Moreau Dairy Club and is presently president of the Aggressive Generation 4-H Club of Fortsville. In his five years of 4-H membership, he has completed projects in poultry, vegetable gardening, annual and perennial flowers and automotive care and safety. He has been active in the 4-H Council, a county-wide teen group meeting monthly to plan and conduct its own program.

The week-long event, which began Sunday consists of educational experiences and tour in the Indianapolis area. The trip is partially sponsored by funds from the State Fair Youth Department. He is attending the convention with George Allen, 4-H agent in Oneida County, and four horti-

cultural judging and identification contestants from various counties in the state.

47 Older 4-H Club Members Set Demonstration Day

The Saratogian, Wednesday, April 9, 1969

Forty-seven older 4-H members from Saratoga County will be participating in district demonstration day, Saturday, April 12 at the Queensbury High School from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Theses 4-H'ers were selected in give their presentations at the district level along with members from Washington and Warren Counties, because of their outstanding demonstrations at county demonstration day. To be eligible, members must also be 13 years old or over by Jan. 1, 1969.

Those selected include Karen Armstrong, Christine Bush, Vanessa Carter and Barbara Green of the Lively Lassies; Laraine Bodnar, Vicki Cook, JoAnn Carden and Deborah Gilmore of the Clover Girls; Katherine Condon of Sugar Cookies; Mary Jo Peck of Sharp and Spicy; Bonnie Fredrick, Elaine Standish, Sally Martin and Karen Turnbull of the Merry Makers.

Also, Susan Bird, Deborah Bostic, and Lee Ann Lounsbury of the Saratoga Cloverettes; Vianna Burke, Barry Barber, David Floud, Gerald McDermid, Dan Reilly and Pat Reilly of the Coons Crossing Bright Stars; David Leggett, Sandra Leggett, Sylvia Leggett of the Guys and Gals; Gail Lohrey, Ted Lohrey, Elliott Morgan, Cindy Owen and donna Dodd of the Silver Hoofs; Sue McCann of the Milton Maids; Nadine Schilling of the Waterford Stars.

Also, Robin Swears of the Aggressive Generation; Ruth Thomas of the Bacon Hill's Best; John Bolesh and Keith Truesdale of Moreau Dairy Club; Deborah Wrisley of The Pixies; Gail Young of the Rusty Spurs; Debra Carrigan of the Clifton Parkettes; Theresa DeLong of the Saddle Pals; Karen Dreher of the Helping Hands; Michael Fitzgerald of the Stars and Stripes; Sharon Hatlee of the Green Clovers; Jean Kittell of the Lively Ones; Judy Kosarick of the Cook-A-Stitch; and Paula Arnold , individual member.



Website and Social Media

Click the photos to be navigated to each of our Facebook accounts:



CCE Saratoga



4-H



CCE Equine



Agriculture
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