



News From CCE

By Barb Neal, CCE Tioga

What a long winter this has been! And as I write, the animals are seeking shade from the sudden summer-like temperatures. The one constant in gardening and farming is change.

One welcome change is the expansion by Ag and Markets of the products that can be made and sold by home processors. Nineteen products, including dried soup mixes, dried fruits, trail mix, caramel apples, and more have been added. Home processors are now able to sell their products online within NYS and can sell direct from home or at a farmers' market. Home processors are exempt from obtaining an Article 20-C food processing license and Article 28 retail food store license, but are required to register with Ag and Markets. So if you have a favorite product that had previously been prohibited, check the Ag and Markets website for the new details: www.agriculture.ny.gov.

I love to drive around the hills and dales of our counties, and appreciate how much beauty there is in our rural character. If you are like me, you want to help preserve that character and beauty. One of the best ways to do that is to support our local small farmers by making visiting a farmers' market a regular part of your week. Money you spend with the farmers stays right here in the Southern Tier, and helps to keep our local economy afloat—in addition to keeping your family healthy with fresh fruits, vegetables and home-made baked goods. To learn where the nearest farmers' market is near you, contact your CCE office—we have cards you can put up on your bulletin board or refrigerator that has the days and times for the markets.

Last Saturday, Missy Bidwell, a host of Master Gardeners and I put on Seed A Rama—a free seed starting event, held at the Tioga County Youth 4H Building. Over one hundred adults and a few dozen children came to learn about seed starting, seeded out trays of vegetables, did some seedling transplanting, and went home ready to start the gardening season. What a great event! I have visions of squash, tomatoes, beans and more growing throughout the county, increasing food security and health for all.

Barb with one of her new arrivals on her farm



Inside this issue:

- Watering your garden
- Plant sales
- Tioga schools plant an orchard
- New apple disease
- Trimming goat hooves
- Help for new farmers
- Profits from high tunnels
- And more!

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Rain Gardens in the Home Landscape

On Saturday, May 5, Educator Barb Neal will present a workshop on creating rain gardens. The program will be held from 10:00 am to noon at the Unitarian Universalist Church and is sponsored by Project Grow.

A great way to improve the ecology of your home garden is to add a rain garden. Rain gardens capture excess rainfall and help mitigate storm water problems downstream. They are not ponds—rather they are gardens that have a triple purpose: to capture storm water, and to provide habitat and food sources for pollinators, and to be beautiful. But there are some tricks of the trade to make sure the garden works the way it should. Join us to learn about rain gardens—the do's and don'ts – and determine if a rain garden is right for your property.

Barb Neal is the Cornell Cooperative Extension Agriculture and Horticulture Educator for Tioga County. She is a Board Certified Master Arborist and a Registered Consulting Arborist. She teaches soils and tree preservation for George Washington University in Washington, DC, and holds a master's degree from Cornell University in Ornamental Horticulture.

The Mission of Project Grow is “Cultivating opportunity, education, and inspiration in our community to value, access, and grow healthy food.” Project Grow works to empower both experienced and novice gardeners through educational programs and hands on experience.

The program will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Athens and Sheshequin, at 112 North Street in Athens. North Street is the one-way street off Main Street in Athens. For more information about Project Grow visit www.valleyprojectgrow.org, email pennycorkprojectgrow@gmail.com, or visit Project Grow on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/valleyprojectgrow/>. Everyone is welcomed.

Come GROW with us!

Penn-York Valley Project GROW

www.valleyprojectgrow.org

Annual Tioga County Master Gardeners' Plant Sale is June 2nd!

Gardeners in Tioga County and beyond know that the annual plant sale is not to be missed! Wonderful perennials, helpful volunteers and great prices make this sale a must for gardeners!

When: June 2nd from 8 am to noon—arrive when we open for the best selection—our busiest hour is 8 am to 9 am!

Where: 56 Main Street in Owego

Why: supports the Master Gardener Volunteer Program



Held Rain or Shine!



Workshop: Using Bulbs in the Landscape

May 23, 2018; 6:30 – 7:30 PM. Flowering bulbs are an important addition to any landscape or garden. Join Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chemung County to learn how to prepare your soil and effectively plant bulbs for spring color. You will learn different types of bulbs and their planting and maintenance tips.

Speaker: Ken Wida, Chemung County Master Gardener

Place: Steele Memorial Library (IT room), 101 E Church Street, Elmira, NY

Workshop fee: Free, but a \$3 suggested donation helps support our Horticulture Program.

Please register with CCE Chemung at 607-734-4453, or jy578@cornell.edu.

For more specific information about the Chemung County Master Gardener program, please contact Jingjing Yin at 607-734-4453 or jy578@cornell.edu.

For more information about the Tioga County Master Gardener program, please contact Barb Neal at 607-687-4020 or ban1@cornell.edu.



How much should we be watering?

By Pat Curran, Master Gardener, CCE Tompkins Editor's note: Pat was the CCE Tompkins Horticulture Educator for many years and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to every article she writes.

How much and how often to water depends on the plant, the soil type, and the temperature, but in general, when you do water, water deeply, to encourage deeper rooting and more self-sufficient plants. Avoid watering lightly and often, which allows plants to survive with shallower roots. Then vacation comes, and the plants suffer or die without their frequent "sprinkling."

The lawn should be LAST on your list. In 26 years, my lawn has never been watered. In our area, our cool season lawn grasses may go dormant (turn brown) in dry spells, but they seldom die from drought alone. We have several different species of lawn grasses, some more adapted to drought or shade than others. Mowing high is key, 3 inches if possible. Grass with more leaf surface has deeper roots, more drought resistance, and fewer weeds.

As a tree lover, however, I'd like to encourage more attention to tree watering. Newly planted trees and shrubs should receive a drink of 10-15 gallons of water each week, unless there is an inch of rain. Rain gauges are very useful, and it can be fun to keep track of how much rain your garden is getting. If it's very hot, in the high eighties or nineties, the new woodies may need watering twice a week. Sandy soil dries out faster than clay soil, so keep that in mind, too.

What about mulch? Mulch helps slow down evaporation from the soil surface. Mulch also decreases soil compaction from foot traffic or heavy rains. Organic mulches rot down to improve the soil and its water-holding capacity. But in a severe drought, organic mulches such as wood chips or bark can dry out and take up all the water that is being applied, before the water reaches the soil. The solution is to poke the hose end under the mulch and let the water run gently for a while. Avoid using sprinklers, which waste up to half of the water due to evaporation. Soaker hoses can be very useful. Wind them around plants, or down rows. Covered with mulch to protect them from the sun, soaker hoses can be left in place year round.

What about veggies and perennials? Veggie seed beds will need to be kept moist until the seeds germinate. Potted veggie transplants and container perennials will need watering every few days if it stays hot and dry. The goal is to keep the soil

moist around their root balls so the roots grow into the adjacent soil as quickly as possible. Sometimes, covering the new plants for a day or two is a good idea - it protects them from the blast furnace effect of the sun. Possible covers can include commercial row cover, a cardboard box, or an upended white plastic pot.

Want to learn about Heirloom Seeds?

Lisa Bloodnick of Bloodnick Family Farm will be presenting Heirloom Seeds: Preserving Our Past, Protecting Our Future. Seeds are a microcosm of human history and each tells a story of our past. They are a gift to the future. Lisa Bloodnick owns Bloodnick Farm in Apalachin and is a market gardener and seed saver. She will discuss networks of seed heroes and stories, and projects that are focused on preserving our genetic seed heritages and food cultures. She will share some general tips on saving seeds from your own garden and show seed from her collection

May 4, 8 pm to 10 pm

Kopernik Observatory and Science Center

698 Underwood Road, Vestal, NY

TIOGA ARTS + AGRICULTURE TRAIL SPRING 2018
SAVE THE DATE
MAY 12 + 13
f i TIOGAARTSANDAGTRAIL.ORG

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Chemung County



Spring Plant Sale

May 17 and 18, 2018;

9:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Place: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chemung County

Address: 425 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elmira NY; Room 110

A huge variety of vegetable transplanted, annuals, herbs, perennials, flowering shrubs, fruit crops, hanging baskets, etc.

Knowledgeable Chemung County Master Gardeners are on hand to answer questions about soil improvement, plant care, pruning and dividing, lawn maintenance, etc.

Bring baskets, wagons, and other containers for transporting plants.

Contact 607-734-4453 or jy578@cornell.edu for details.



Tioga Central Schools Plants an Apple Orchard!

Through a grant from Cornell Cooperative Extension, Tiger Farm received 15 apple trees. Three varieties, Liberty, Freedom and Enterprise, were selected for disease resistance and good eating. On April 10, Ms. Camin's class braved the cold to measure tree placement. A wonderful volunteer got the holes started with a post hole digger and on April 14, a work bee was held to finish the job. A spot for the nectary was started so that pollinators will be attracted to the orchard. Should we call it the Air Bee and Bee? Thanks to everyone that helped!



New apple disease spoils even pasteurized foods

By Krishna Ramanujan, *Cornell Chronicle*

New Yorkers love apples. The Empire State is the second-largest apple grower in the U.S. and is the No. 1 producer of processed apple products, such as cider, juice and canned apples.

Given this appreciation for apples, consumers might be concerned by reports from food scientists of a fungus, *Paecilomyces niveus*, that spoils apple products even after heat pasteurization. The fungus also produces an FDA-regulated toxin called patulin that is found in these spoiled processed foods.

A new study, published online in March in the journal *Plant Disease*, describes for the first time a new apple disease, *Paecilomyces* rot, caused by the little-studied fungus.

Though food scientists have attributed *P. niveus* in foods to soil contamination, the study's authors, doctoral student Megan Biango-Daniels and Cornell mycologist Kathie Hodge, now think infected apples may be the true source.

"No one knows how [the mold] gets into apple products," said Biango-Daniels, who works in Hodge's lab. "Since it's known to be in orchard soils and it's related to other pathogens that attack apples through wounds, I thought that maybe it could infect apples that way, too."

In the study, the researchers created wounds in Gala and Golden Delicious apples with a toothpick covered with the mold. The apples developed brown rings of rot that resembled other apple diseases, such as black rot, bitter rot and bull's eye rot. When they cut the apples open, they found spores of *P. niveus* being made inside the cores.

"Some cores were filled with fluffy white mold with plenty of spores," Biango-Daniels said.

The researchers found *P. niveus* in 34 percent of soils sampled from apple orchards across New York. "It's a really tough mold," said Hodge, associate professor in the Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology Section in the School of Integrative Plant Science. The fungus produces abundant, durable ascospores that can survive heat as high as 194 degrees. This leads to spoilage on the shelf of even pasteurized processed foods containing bad apples. The disease may be overlooked because it so closely resembles other apple diseases, Biango-Daniels said. "The most effective way we can prevent apple spoilage from this mold is to cull apples with wounds and bruises that makes them likely to get this, and to never use dropped apples, the ones that people pick up off the ground," Biango-Daniels said, adding she doesn't yet know of a way to stop spoilage once the fungus has been introduced in foods.

Researchers will now make processed apple products, pas-

teurize them and see if the fungus survives when bad apples are used.

"It's important to think about food spoilage as a continuum and to think about where problems arise and how the whole food system is connected to the end product," she added.

This work was supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture Hatch grant and by a Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Arthur Boller Apple Research Grant.



Megan Biango-Daniels/Provided

A Gala apple infected with newly described apple disease, *Paecilomyces* rot.

Trimming Your Goats' Hooves

by Dr. tatiana Luisa Stanton, Cornell University

Wild goats travel long distances looking for food and often play on rough rocks and hard ground. All this activity helps keep their hooves somewhat trimmed and cared for. If their hooves do get too long, the tips usually break off naturally. This makes the goat pretty lame for a few days. Too bad for the goat if it encounters a wolf during these lame days (Bye, bye goat!).

Tame or domesticated goats count on you to trim their hooves regularly. Otherwise, their hooves will get too long and they may even become lame from the pain. This may cause them to go off feed and to stop exercising. A wether needs to eat and play a lot to develop a good meat carcass. One of your most important duties as your wether's owner is to regularly trim his hooves. Be warned, the first time you trim his hooves, you will probably get exhausted and it may even seem a little scary. But the more practice you get, the easier it becomes. Plan on trimming your wether's hooves about every 6 weeks.

Remember, the longer you let your goat's hooves get, the harder the job will be.

Most people use foot rot shears or hoof trimmers to trim goat hooves. You can buy them through livestock supply catalogs and at some feed stores. Pruning shears also work. Pocket knives are pretty dangerous to use since your goat may jump around and you can easily cut yourself. Some people like to use hoof nippers to cut off the tip of the hoof or rasps to file it down. It is generally best for the beginner to invest in shears or trimmers. Even these are very sharp and should be handled with care.

Before you trim your goat, look at the picture on this page or better yet check out the hooves of a newborn goat kid. See how each hoof of the goat has two toes. The sole of each toe is surrounded by a little wall. This "hoof wall" is what tends to overgrow. You want to trim this wall down until it is level to the sole and parallel to the foot's hairline. The heels of the hoof and the dewclaws (especially on an older goat) may also develop extra tissue that needs to be trimmed off.

The first time you trim your wether's hooves either put him in a milk stand or position him next to a wall.

If he is not locked in a milk stand, have a friend hold on to him or tie him up by a lead rope attached to his collar.

Start out with the front leg that is farthest from the wall. This way you can brace him against the wall to hold him still if you need to. Facing your goat's tail, lean down and pick up his front leg at the pastern. Bend his knee so the bottom of his hoof is facing up at you. Try not to twist his leg way out to the side. This will push him off balance and he may squirm a lot trying to get comfortable. Instead, let his knee fold into its natural position. If you want, you can squat down and rest his hoof on your knee.

Now, 1) with the point of your shears, clean out any dirt that has gotten stuck between his walls and soles;

2) carefully cut off the wall at the tip of his toe so that it is even with his sole; 3) cut away any bent over or excess wall until it is level to the sole all the way around; 4) trim away any rotted out areas between the sole and hoof wall; 5) trim the tissue on his heels until the floor of his hoof is level to his hairline (this also stimulates the heels to grow and helps prevent contracted heels); Great, only three more hooves to go!

Some people like to straddle their goat when they reach down to do the back legs. If you are doing a goat whose hooves have been allowed to get very overgrown, you may not be able to cut the wall at the tip of the hoof completely down to the sole without causing the goat to bleed. Instead, trim off small amounts of the tip until you see pink. Stop at that point and don't cut the tip any further. Instead, work on the rest of wall going around the sole. Come back in a week and trim the toe some more. Do this weekly until the hoof looks normal.

If the hoof has a lot of rotten tissue, dip it in hydrogen peroxide or bleach (be careful not to get the bleach clothes) when you are done trimming. **Do not use a copper product like Koppertox on a market wether. It is illegal because it can leave residues in the meat.** If the goat appears to have foot rot or foot scald, set his hoof for 5 minutes in a coffee can filled with 1 part zinc sulfate (available as a fertilizer at agricultural stores) to 9 parts water and then isolate him from any other goats or sheep you own.

If the hoof bleeds while you are trimming it, don't panic. Press on the spot where it is bleeding to help the blood clot. You can also sprinkle blood clotting powder on it (corn starch will work in a pinch). If it is really spurting blood you may want to cauterize the spurting blood vessel with your disbudding iron or pinch it off with some sanitized needlepoint pliers (this rarely, if ever, turns out to be necessary). Give your goat a tetanus booster if his last one has expired.



Farmland for a New Generation Program Approved in NYS

Press release from New York Farmland Trust—April 11, 2018

The recently adopted 2018-19 New York State budget offers good news for a new generation of farmers looking for farmland in New York. The budget includes funding to create the “Farmland for a New Generation Program,” which will help aspiring farmers find land to farm anywhere in the state.

Based on a successful model in the Hudson Valley, the Farmland for a New Generation Program will enable American Farmland Trust to develop a statewide Farmland for a New Generation Resource Center for farmland owners and farmers seeking land. The program will also support a statewide network of Regional Navigators within Cornell Cooperative Extension, land trusts and agricultural organizations. These experts will provide one-on-one assistance to farmers looking for land and for farmland owners seeking to make farmland available for farming or transfer their land to the next generation.

“We greatly appreciate the strong leadership of Senator Pamela Helming, chair of the Legislative Commission on Rural Resources, Agriculture Committee Chairs Senator Patty Ritchie and Assembly member Bill Magee, Assembly member Carrie Woerner, and Governor Cuomo for ensuring that critical funding was allocated to help aspiring farmers overcome one of the greatest barriers they face in New York – finding land,” said Samantha Levy, New York policy manager at American Farmland Trust. “There are fewer young farmers in New York than there were a decade ago. This funding is critical to ensure a strong future for farming and growing food in New York.”

Senator Pamela Helming, Chair of the Legislative Commission on Rural Resources said, “As Senate Chair of the Legislative Commission on Rural Resources, I have made protecting our beautiful farmland and ensuring that it remains in agricultural production one of my main priorities. In this year’s New York State budget, we were able to secure new funds for the Farmland for a New Generation program. This program will help connect new farmers to available farmland with the support of American Farmland Trust and Cornell Cooperative Extension. I am excited to see how both the Resource Center and the Regional Navigators will help a new generation of farmers keep our farmland in production as more and more farmers retire. Farming is a vital and fundamental part of our rural communities, and it is crucial that we continue to support the production of fresh New York-grown foods. The Farmland for a New Generation program is important to the future of agriculture, and I will continue my efforts to support New York’s farmers.”

Senator Patty Ritchie, Chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee said, “The future of New York’s agriculture industry depends on its next generation of farmers. In order to foster growth and future success, we must ensure young farmers have access to suitable land to start, and potentially expand their operations. American Farmland Trust’s ‘Farmland for the Next Generation’ program can help young farmers do just that, and I look forward to seeing how it helps strengthen New York’s leading industry.”

Assembly member Bill Magee, Chair of the Assembly Agriculture Committee said, “The lack of affordable farmland can be a major barrier for New Yorkers looking to start a farm business. The Farmland for a New Generation program will improve access to farmland and help farmers without successors transfer their land to hardworking entrepreneurs, which will enable New York farms to continue producing fresh, healthy food.”

Assembly member Carrie Woerner said, “Agriculture is truly the backbone of New York State’s economy, and helping existing and new farmers sell and acquire land is critical to the industry’s continued success. I am proud that this year, the legislature included funding in the state budget for the Farmland for a New Generation Program, which will do just that. I have partnered with the American Farmland Trust to fight for this funding for the past several years, and their strong advocacy helped ensure that all of my colleagues in the state legislature understood the importance of supporting the Farmland for a New Generation Program.”

State Agriculture Commissioner Richard Ball said, “The foundation of a strong agricultural industry is high-quality farmland and here in New York, we have some of the most nutrient-rich land ideal for growing. Governor Cuomo has made it a priority to preserve those properties for farming as more and more of it is lost to competing land uses. Working together with our legislative leaders, the Governor has reinvigorated the farmland protection program, which has permanently safeguarded dozens of properties. This new program will continue to build on that effort by linking farmers to available land and paving the way for the next generation to move our industry forward.”

Julie C. Suarez, Associate Dean, Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences said, “Cornell CALS has seen a remarkable growth in our agricultural sciences-based majors from students with both rural and urban backgrounds, and sees increasing interest in farming from people embarking on second careers such as our returning veterans. It is heartening to see the next generation’s passion for the local food movement as we tackle significant challenges in climate change, profitability, and population trends. As New York’s land grant institution, we know first-hand that careers in farming, food and nutrition are truly life-changing. Land access and availability is a key issue for our graduating students and second career farmers. Cornell CALS and our Cornell Cooperative Extension system is pleased to partner with American Farmland Trust to focus on one of our main goals: ensuring that the next generation of farmers is poised to feed all of our families.”

Chris Wayne, FARMroots Director, GrowNYC said, “All beginning farmers, and especially those from socially disadvantaged backgrounds, face great barriers to accessing farmland that is affordable, appropriate for their enterprise, and within close proximity to markets. The type of one-on-one technical assistance to be offered by the Farmland for a New Generation Program is essential to overcoming these challenges. GrowNYC applauds the leadership of the American Farmland Trust and the New York State legislature in launching this exciting new program.”

NNYADP Vegetable Research: Save Time, Add Profit, with Tomatoes and Peppers

Press Release dated April 16, 2018

Growers who are first to market with peppers, tomatoes, and other fresh market vegetables have a distinct advantage. Earlier spring crops, double yields, and the potential for \$1390 in added net revenue are among the results noted in the 2017 vegetable production research report posted at www.nnyagdev.org by the farmer-driven Northern New York Agricultural Development Program.

A 2017 Northern New York Agricultural Development Program-funded research project led by Cornell Cooperative Extension vegetable specialist Amy Ivy evaluated the time, labor, yield, and income opportunity associated with growing red peppers, cherry tomatoes, and spinach under the growing conditions unique to Northern New York.

Peppers, including new varieties said to be extra-productive, grown inside a high tunnel at the Willsboro Research Farm in Willsboro, NY, averaged 4.98 lbs./plant with first harvest on August 23, extending through November 3. By comparison, field-grown peppers averaged 2.19 lbs./plant with first harvest on September 9 and last harvest before a killing frost on October 17.



NNY 2017 High Tunnel Red Pepper, Cherry Tomato Trials.
Photo: Amy Ivy

In the pepper variety comparison within an unheated high tunnel, one variety yielded earlier in the spring and tapered off, the other yielded later and slightly higher but at a time when market demand was less.

In a comparison of pepper pruning and training systems, one system took less time and yielded a 1.5 lbs.-more-per-plant average.

“The peppers clearly benefited from the protection of a high tunnel, with more than double the production and a significantly earlier first harvest. Harvest timing is an important factor for peak sales and profitability in Northern New York,” Ivy noted.

The NNYADP-funded cherry tomato trial compared three systems for training and pruning cherry tomatoes, known for rampant growth, the managing of which can drain grower efficiency.

“Because labor is the largest expense on most vegetable farms, increasing our understanding of practices that can add production and harvesting efficiency is critical. These trials funded by the Northern New York Agricultural Development Program do that for our regional growers,” Ivy said.

The cherry tomato trial data showed the labor commitment varied by system; for example, for harvesting from 34.8 lbs./hr. to 45.1 lbs./hr. Tomato yield by system ranged from 11.3 lbs. plant to 15.8 lbs./plant. Average net revenue by system ranged from \$39.27 per plant to \$55.31 per plant.

“Our calculations determined the system providing the greatest benefits as measured by labor efficiency, yield, and net revenue was a double leader system. A high tunnel with 200 cherry tomato plants could see a possible gain of \$1390 in net profit using this system compared to the less intensive multi-leader system,” Ivy noted.

The results of an evaluation of the availability of nitrogen from various sources in cold soils to support winter spinach production will be posted later this spring.

This research supports the increasing demand for fresh market vegetables in Northern New York as evidenced by a new Produce Auction in Franklin County, a food hub project in Jefferson County, and the addition of high tunnels on farms region wide.

The Northern New York Agricultural Development Program-funded vegetable research in 2018 includes the high tunnel production of red peppers, green beans, self-fertile zucchini, and winter spinach.

Funding for the Northern New York Agricultural Development Program is supported by the New York State Senate and administered by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.



High tunnels can boost tomato yields, reduce disease and improve fruit quality.

News, Notes and Workshops for Tioga and Chemung County Farmers and Gardeners

Caterpillar Gardening: What Butterflies and Moths Need to Complete Their Life Cycle Tuesday May 29 2018
6:45pm: Presented by Colleen Wolpert

Do you plant lots of showy flowers so you can see colorful wings fluttering about your yard? Gardening for butterflies and moths (i.e., leps) is more than planting nectar sources for adults. Learn how you can assist them in all stages of their lifecycle as well as distinguish them from pests, so that all of us can enjoy these beautiful creatures in the future. Learn specific things you can do to help Monarchs and what a Woolly Bear caterpillar turns into. Learn how more caterpillars in your yard can lead to more fireflies in your yard. There will be an opportunity to ask questions about the beautiful bugs in your yard, along with handouts and children's activity sheets. Wolpert is a naturalist and butterfly and moth enthusiast.

IMPORTANT NOTE: This session will be held at the Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Butterfly Garden, 56 West Main Street, Owego, unless the weather prohibits it. Check the website after 5:30pm that day to see if we have decided to move indoors for a Power Point Presentation at the Library in Owego.

Umbrella Academy meets every two weeks in the upstairs of the Coburn Free Library in Owego to learn something new.
<http://umbrellaacademy.org/index.html>

Interested in best practices for livestock management?

Join Groundswell Center and Shelterbelt Farm for a Workshop this Saturday on:

Multispecies Regenerative Grazing at Shelterbelt Farm with Erica Frenay. Saturday May 5th, 10AM - 2PM Shelterbelt Farm, Brooktondale Sliding Scale \$25-\$40, no one turned away

Organic Pest Management with Carlos Aguilera, Summertime Farms Saturday, May 12th 10AM-12PM

Groundswell Center Incubator Farm, Ithaca Sliding Scale \$15-\$25, no one turned away

Farm Tour and Volunteer Night at the Groundswell Incubator Farm, Ithaca Thursday May 3rd, 5:00-7:30PM Email Liz Coakley, Incubator Farm Manager at liz@groundswellcenter.org to sign up!

Farming for Justice Discussion Group Wednesday May 9th, 9AM - 10:30AM Small-scale Farmer Strategies for Integrating Social Justice: Case Study & Live Interview with a Justice-Minded NY Farm Free! Groundswell Office, 225 S Fulton Street, Ithaca

Register for the classes by visiting the Groundswell Center website.

Pesticide Applicators and Technicians Certified in Category 3A Only or Category 3B Only will Transition to a 3-Year Certification Cycle and a \$450 Certification Fee

Article 33 of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) has recently been amended as part of the 2018 New York State Budget. These amendments have effected a change to those people certified or getting certified in category 3A only or category 3B only. As of April 1, 2018, anyone currently certified in category 3A only or category 3B only will transition to the new cycle and fee. Anyone taking the exam to become a category 3A only or category 3B only will need to pay the new \$450 fee and receive an ID card good for 3 years.

See information regarding the [transition to the new fee and cycle](#) (opens as a PDF).

Questions about these changes can be directed to the Pesticide Reporting & Certification Section at 518-402-8748 or pestmgt@dec.ny.gov.

GENERAL WPS Update: The updated Worker Protection Standard took effect on January 2, 2017. The NYS DEC has the right to conduct inspections to certify that growers are in compliance with regulations for agricultural pesticides including organics. Inspections include WPS, record keeping, and pesticide storage.

The website <http://www.pestcideresources.org/> has WPS information, the *How to Comply Manual*, *Worker and Handler Training Videos* (English and Spanish), the new WPS *Safety Poster* and useful WPS checklists. Alternatively, contact DEC office or your local Cooperative Extension office with questions.

Old MacDonald's Farm

June 2, 2018, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Free, family event where you get to learn all about the Agriculture industry. You will get a chance to meet farm animals and the local farmers from Chemung County! Hosted by the Chemung County Ag Promotion Committee. Free and open to the public! Held at the Chemung County Fairgrounds 171 Fairview Rd Horseheads, NY 14845

Tioga County Soil & Water Conservation District Open House

Topics

AEM Program
Riparian Buffers
Benefits of Hydroseeding
Stream Restoration
No-Till Drill Display
Funding Opportunities

Join Soil & Water Conservation District, United States Department of Agriculture, and other conservation partners to explore programs and services provided by the agencies that improve water quality and promote natural resource preservation.

Lunch & Refreshments will be provided.

Who?

Farmers
Municipalities
Conservation Minded Land Owners

When: June 21, 2018

Where: SWCD Office—183 Corporate Drive Owego, New York 13827

Time: 11:00 am—2:00pm Please RSVP by June 8th—607-687-3553



Grand Central Plaza Community Market

4th Wednesday of each Month 11am-3pm

Tentative Dates: May 23rd, June 27th, July 25th, August 22nd, September 26th

Hosted by Grand Central Plaza and Community Broadcasters

Address: Grand Central Plaza – 1020 Center Street, Horseheads, NY 14845

We welcome you to join us for the first annual Grand Central Plaza Community Market this summer! We will be hosting this event on the fourth Wednesday of each month throughout the 2018 summer season. We are opening up this event to local vendors and invite you to join us! Food and beverages will be available for purchase throughout the Plaza. Vendor spaces are first come first serve (only one rep from each Vendor will be displayed). Set up will begin at 9:00am. The Grand Central Plaza Community Market on Wednesdays will include full marketing coverage for each event with all 5 Community Broadcasters radio stations advertising each event and also will include a Live Broadcast on Wink 106 or 100.9 The Wolf!

Vendor Investment (10% Discount for all dates):

- Annual Application Fee \$25.00
- \$25 for insured vendor per event
- \$40 for uninsured vendor per event

Dates Attending: _____

Vendor Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Product Category: _____

Please provide a copy of your General Liability insurance and Workman's Compensation Insurance naming Grand Central Plaza, Inc. and Community Broadcasters, LLC as additional insured, and tax ID number along with this form to the below address. If your company does not have a tax ID or carry General Liability and Workman's Compensation insurance we request that you forward that to us in writing.



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