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# CONNECTICUT WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL REPORT

The latest news and updates in Connecticut agriculture

Brought to you by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
Version en espanol disponible en linea en [CTGrown.gov](#).

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January 11 was National Milk Day and to celebrate [Smyth's Trinity Dairy Farm](#) in Enfield, hosted WFSB reporter Susan Raff. Local milk delivery services are gaining popularity. Visit [CTDairy.org](#) to find a dairy near you.



in Bethlehem, CT, utilized grant funds to construct a poultry processing facility.

## Connecticut Department of Agriculture Releases 2022 Farm Transition Grant Guidance

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture announces the informational guidance regarding the 2022 Farm Transition Grant (FTG) is now available at [www.CTGrown.gov/grants](http://www.CTGrown.gov/grants).

**Applications will be accepted from January 18, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.  
until March 8, 2022, at 4:00 p.m.**

The 2022 program will again provide matching funds to Connecticut farmers and agricultural cooperatives for the diversification of existing farm operations, transitioning to value-added agricultural production and sales, and other venues in which a majority of products sold are grown in the state.

Four grant categories, for which eligible applicants can apply, are available.

- **New Farmer Micro Grant:** Supports new individuals/partnerships who have one full year to three years of production history and are seeking long-term careers that financially support them through farming and agriculture.
- **Infrastructure Investment Grant:** Supports farmers in production for a minimum of three years with infrastructure to expand the farm's production and operation.
- **Research and Development Grant:** A grant program for farms to conduct research to assess the viability of and develop a new product line, service, or market.
- **Innovation and Diversification Grant:** A grant program for the implementation of a new product or service for market or business expansion after a research and development phase has been explored.

Applicants will choose one of the four categories of the Farm Transition Grant and submit an application to demonstrate how their project proposal will advance farming and agriculture.

Grant guidelines and forms can be found at [www.CTGrown.gov/grants](http://www.CTGrown.gov/grants). Additional detail on match requirements and eligible expenses can be found in the guidance. All applications will be submitted electronically via the new [DoAg Grants Portal](#).

A virtual workshop to assist interested applicants in learning about the structure of the grant and application process will occur on **Wednesday, February 9,**

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you are unable to attend the live event.

Questions regarding the Farm Transition Grant can be directed to Alison Grabarz at [Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov](mailto:Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov). More information on the grant categories, application requirements, and submission process can be found online at [www.CTGrown.gov/grants](http://www.CTGrown.gov/grants).

*The FTG is a competitive matching reimbursement grant for Connecticut agricultural producers and agricultural cooperatives. The Farm Transition Grant is provided through the State of Connecticut Farm Transition Grant Program, established in 2005 through Public Act 05-228, An Act Concerning Farmland Preservation, Land Protection, Affordable Housing, and Historic Preservation.*

**NORTHEAST**

**DAIRY BUSINESS  
INNOVATION CENTER**

## **NORTHEAST DAIRY BUSINESS INNOVATION CENTER INVESTS IN PROJECTS**

The Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center (NE-DBIC) invests in projects that advance the regional dairy industry. A range of NE-DBIC funding opportunities totaling approximately \$3 million will be available for farmers, processors, and industry partners in 2022:

- **January** – [Dairy Product Packaging Innovation Grant](#): Funding for modernized packaging initiatives that prioritize sustainability, scalability, and marketability.
- **February** – [Multi-Business Dairy Agritourism Grant](#): Funding for projects that elevate multiple dairy businesses through activities that engage consumers and promote regionally produced dairy products.
- **February** – [Grazing, Forage, & Alternative Management Cohort Technical Assistance Contract](#): Contracts for service providers to offer technical assistance to cohorts of farmers in grazing, forage production, or alternative farm management strategies.
- **April** – [Dairy Marketing & Branding Services Grant](#): Funding for value-added dairy processors to access professional services to implement marketing tactics, brand improvements, and overall strategy.
- **June** – [Dairy Processor Innovation Grant](#): Funding for dairy processors to make key developments in operations, products, marketing, and other strategies to position their businesses for long-term success.
- **October** – [Dairy Farm Innovation Grant](#): Funding for dairy farms to take a holistic approach to implementing community- and climate-forward dairy production and business strategies.

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## COVID-19 RESOURCES

- [CT COVID-19 Knowledge-Base](#): COVID-19 resource to answer your questions on self-tests, testing sites, and more.
- [Self-Test Page](#): Information about self-tests.
- [CT COVID-19 Response](#): Current information including data tracker, testing and vaccine sites, reopening guidance and more.

**Agriculture businesses, non-profits, and other organizations should follow the sector rules that apply to them. Private business owners can implement or continue to require social distancing and other measures as deemed necessary.**

Find the most current sector rules guidance at [www.ct.gov/coronavirus](http://www.ct.gov/coronavirus).

The Department of Agriculture has archived information from various sources related to COVID-19, which can be found here:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG/Commissioner/Commissioner/COVID-19-Resources-for-Farmers>.

## REGISTER FOR ON-FARM MOBILE VACCINATION SITE

Farms interested in hosting a mobile vaccination clinic for farm employees are encouraged to fill out the [DPH vans intake form](#).

## CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS

[Farmers markets: Local vendors bring farm-fresh produce and crafts to indoor markets](#), Journal Inquirer, 1/12

[One of Connecticut's most picturesque farms preserved](#), The Day, 1/12

[Video: National Milk Day](#), WFSB, 1/11

[Prides Corner Farms Is Building on a Strong Legacy](#), Greenhouse Grower, 1/9

[Trends in U.S. irrigated agriculture: Increasing resilience under water supply scarcity](#), The Fence Post, 1/7

[2022 marks 100 years for family-owned Gilbertie's Herb Gardens in Westport](#), News 12 CT, 1/6

[Check Out Some of the Best Cheese in Connecticut!](#), WFSB, 1/6

## NEW & EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES FOR CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE

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Service (NRCS) is announcing several new and expanded opportunities for climate-smart agriculture in 2022. Updates include nationwide availability of the [Environmental Quality Incentives Program](#) (EQIP) Conservation Incentive Contracts option, a new and streamlined EQIP Cover Crop Initiative, and added flexibilities for producers to easily re-enroll in the [Conservation Stewardship Program](#) (CSP). These improvements to NRCS' working lands conservation programs, combined with continued [program opportunities in all states](#), are part of the Biden-Harris Administration's broader effort to support climate-smart agriculture.

For more information follow the link below.

[Visit USDA.gov](#)

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## Webinar Series

This series of four webinars will provide an update on USDA RMA and USDA FSA crop insurance programs.

**Livestock and Dairy Insurance Programs webinar:**

1/26/22, 10:00 – 11:00 AM

There are a number of livestock and dairy related programs that are offered by USDA RMA. This webinar will provide an update on these policies and will be conducted by a USDA RMA Program Specialist.

**FSA NAP Program Update webinar:**

1/27/22, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers the Non-Insured Crop Insurance (NAP) program as well as other crop insurance programs. This webinar will provide an update on the programs and will be conducted by a USDA FSA Program Specialist.

Register at: [s.uconn.edu/CropInsuranceWebinars](https://s.uconn.edu/CropInsuranceWebinars)

**Multi-Peril Crop Insurance & the NEW Direct Market Tomato Insurance Program webinar:**

2/1/22 12:00 - 1:00 PM

Multi-Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) policies have received changes, including the new Direct Market Tomato policy. This webinar will provide an update on these policies and will be conducted by a USDA RMA Program Specialist.

**New WFRP Micro Provisions Crop Insurance webinar:**

2/3/22 12:00 - 1:00 PM.

Conducted by USDA RMA Program Specialist. Introducing the NEW Micro Provisions of Whole Farm Revenue Protection (WFRP) for the 2022 crop year. Farmers with gross sales of under \$100,000 will qualify for this program. Please note this webinar will also include important information on the traditional WRFP.

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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE,

HEALTH AND NATURAL

RESOURCES

EXTENSION & PLANT SCIENCE

AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

**USDA**

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Risk Management Agency

This material is funded in  
partnership by USDA,  
Risk Management Agency,  
award #RMA21CPT0011598

Register Here

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### CAES ANNOUNCES RENEWAL OF THE SPOTTED LANTERNFLY QUARANTINE FOR CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) in cooperation with USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) continued to detect expanding populations of the spotted lanternfly (SLF) in Connecticut through 2021. The Director of CAES hereby announces the renewal of the Order of Quarantine for SLF that was established on July 1, 2021, **effective January 1, 2022**. More information about SLF, the quarantine order, and state quarantine requirements can be found below.

[Click Here For More Information](#)



### THE BIDEN-HARRIS ACTION PLAN FOR A FAIRER, MORE COMPETITIVE, AND MORE RESILIENT MEAT AND POULTRY SUPPLY CHAIN

The Biden-Harris Administration will dedicate \$1 billion in American Rescue Plan funds for the expansion of independent processing capacity. USDA reviewed nearly 450 comments received over the summer in response to its request for input on how best to increase independent processing capacity. Through their analysis of stakeholder input, USDA identified an urgent need to:

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- Provide producers an opportunity to have ownership in processing facilities;
- Create stable, well-paying jobs in rural regions;
- Raise the bar on worker health, safety, training, and wages for meatpacking jobs;
- Spur collaboration among producers and workers;
- Prompt state, tribal, and private co-investment; and
- Provide consumers with more choices.

To these ends, USDA has increased available funding and is releasing new program details to support the meat and poultry supply chain. To read the full statement from the White House follow the link below.

[Read More](#)

## **DEADLINES APPROACHING FOR NRCS FY2022 CONSERVATION FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is announcing the fiscal year 2022 assistance opportunities for agricultural producers and private landowners for key programs, such as the [Environmental Quality Incentives Program](#) (EQIP); [Conservation Stewardship Program](#) (CSP); [Agricultural Conservation Easement Program](#) (ACEP) - Agricultural Land Easement (ACEP-ALE), Wetlands Reserve Easement (ACEP-WRE); [Regional Conservation Partnership Program](#) (RCPP); and [Agricultural Management Assistance](#) (AMA) program. While USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) accepts applications for these programs year-round, producers and landowners should apply by state-specific ranking dates to be considered for this year's funding. In Connecticut, these dates include:

- January 14, 2022 - Round 2 for both EQIP and AMA
- January 14, 2022 - [RCPP Southern New England Heritage Forest](#)
- January 28, 2022 -ACEP-ALE and ACEP-WRE
- February 18, 2022 -CSP

To learn more visit the link below.

[Visit USDA.GOV](#)

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The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (CT DoAg) will host a hemp producer webinar on January 25 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. to review the changes contained within the newly approved state plan for hemp production. The approved plan supports the Connecticut hemp law and governs registration, production, and compliance for hemp cultivation beginning in 2022.

For more information on the webinar or hemp regulation in Connecticut, please visit the [Connecticut Hemp Program webpage](#).

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## SIX COUNTIES APPROVED FOR FEDERAL AGRICULTURE DISASTER DECLARATION DUE TO HURRICANE IDA

On Dec. 21, Governor Ned Lamont announced that he has received notice from U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack that an agriculture disaster declaration has been approved for portions of Connecticut due to the impact of the remnants of Hurricane Ida on the state in early September.

The declaration will make farmers in six of the state's counties – including Hartford, Middlesex, New Haven, New London, Tolland, and Windham – eligible to be considered for certain disaster assistance from the Farm Service Agency to cover production losses from the storm, such as emergency loans, provided that eligibility requirements are met. While Middlesex and New London are named as primary counties in the declaration, the other four are named as contiguous disaster counties, making farmers in all six of those named counties eligible for assistance.

Farmers will have eight months from the date of the secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. The Farm Service Agency considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm and the security and repayment ability of the operator. Farmers interested in applying for the assistance must contact [their local Farm Service Agency office](#).

In August, a similar federal agriculture disaster declaration [was approved](#) for Connecticut as a result of the damages caused by Tropical Storm Elsa, which impacted the state in early July. That particular declaration applies to all eight of the state's counties, and farmers statewide are still eligible to apply for assistance under it.



## FEMA

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### EDA GOOD JOBS CHALLENGE DEADLINE EXTENDED

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will make awards to either the System Lead Entity of a regional workforce system or the Backbone Organization of a sectoral partnership as the lead applicant. These organizations may make sub-awards to other eligible recipients as necessary to the proposed project and as approved by EDA. **The deadline to apply has been extended to February 10, 2022.**

Eligible applicants for EDA's Good Jobs Challenge include a(n):

- District Organization;
- Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes;
- State, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions;
- Institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; or
- Public or private non-profit organization or association, including labor unions, acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State

Individuals or for-profit entities, including for-profit institutions of higher education, are not eligible.

For more information follow the link below.

[Learn more at EDA's website](#)



## 2022 SEEDING FOR SUCCESS STIPEND FOR BEGINNING FARMERS OF COLOR

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(SNEFCC) wants to position farmers of color to be ready for new opportunities that will arise, and to provide them with the necessary skills and capabilities to build and sustain successful farm enterprises now and in the future.

SNEFCC will distribute a total of \$30,000 in stipend funds (\$10,000 per state) to eligible farmers of color in CT, MA, and RI. Stipend requests can range between a minimum of \$500 to \$1000 per farm business.

**Applications are due by January 26, 2022, 11:59 p.m. EST**

[Apply Here](#)



## **SOLID GROUND STIPENDS FOR NEW AND BEGINNING FARMERS** *En Español Debajo*

The following opportunity is intended for new and beginning farmers with less than 10 years of experience operating their own business. These funds are intended to help new and beginning farmers purchase better tools and make upgrades to their operation instead of relying on low cost/low quality inputs. UConn Extension and its partners are eager to see these funds have a meaningful impact on farm businesses and farmer well-being.

### **Who is eligible:**

- Connecticut farm operators that have been operating their own business for less than 10 years
- Aspiring Connecticut farm business owners that plan to launch their business in 2022 and have more than one season of farming experience on someone else's farm
- Market gardeners in Connecticut with at least one season of experience selling their products

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new and beginning farmers for the following purposes:

- Purchase of inputs such as seeds, compost, soil amendments, mulch, equipment rental, small equipment purchases, materials for integrated pest management.
- To offset producer costs associated with conservation practices, land preparation, land leasing, and Wi-Fi connectivity.
- Assistance beyond the types mentioned above that are relevant to pivoting the business due to COVID-19.

**Stipend Level:**

Stipend requests can be \$500 minimum up to \$2000 maximum per farm business.

**Timeline:**

***Applications must be received by 5:00 p.m. on January 21, 2022.***

For more information on the program, and to apply, follow the link below.

[Learn More Here](#)



**Women's Business**  
Development Council

**EQUITY MATCH GRANT**

The Women's Business Development Council has a special announcement:

**Round 4 of the Equity Match Grant will open between January 17, and February 13, 2022.**

The Equity Match Grant Program is designed to help women-owned businesses grow! Grants between \$2,500 and \$10,000 will be awarded for clearly defined projects that will have a measurable impact on the business, its growth, and profitability. The grant funds cannot be used towards operating expenses, payroll, or real estate improvements.

Upcoming information sessions will be held on the following dates:

Tuesday, January 18, from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Monday, January 24, from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▾](#)Monday, February 7, from 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

To learn more about the program and register follow the link below.

[Learn More Here](#)

## USDA LAUNCHES LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack announced USDA is deploying \$100 million under the new Food Supply Chain Guaranteed Loan Program to make available nearly \$1 billion in loan guarantees; these loan guarantees will back private investment in processing and food supply infrastructure that will strengthen the food supply chain for the American people.

USDA is making the funding available through the American Rescue Plan Act. The program is part of the Biden-Harris Administration's efforts to address food system challenges dating back decades and further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. These investments will help essential processing and supply chain infrastructure that will ultimately deliver more opportunities and fairer prices for farmers, they will give people greater access to healthier foods, and they will help eliminate bottlenecks in the food supply chain.

### Food Supply Chain Guaranteed Loan Program

Through the Food Supply Chain Guaranteed Loan Program, USDA will partner with lenders to guarantee loans of up to \$40 million to help eligible entities expand meat and poultry processing capacity and finance other food supply chain infrastructure. Lenders may provide the loans to eligible cooperatives, corporations, for profits, nonprofits, Tribal communities, public bodies and people in rural and urban areas.

USDA Rural Development (RD) will administer the loans. Funding may be used to:

- start-up or expand food supply chain activities such as aggregating, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling or distributing food.
- address supply chain bottlenecks.
- increase capacity and help create a more resilient, diverse and secure U.S. food supply chain.

USDA is accepting electronic applications from lenders through the Food Supply Chain Online Application System until funds are expended. Paper applications will not be accepted. To access the online application system,

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published in the Dec. 9 [Federal Register](#).

[Apply Now](#)

## ACQUIRING YOUR FARM ONLINE TRAINING SERIES

A virtual training series for aspiring, new and beginning farmers preparing to access farmland in New England. Learn how to identify your goals and set financial parameters, review pros and cons of owning versus leasing, conduct a land search, assess farm properties, discover keys to successful communication, and more.

The six-session training series will provide a thorough introduction to the complex issues of farmland access and tenure - and put you in a position to make a plan and take next steps toward getting on farmland and gaining more secure tenure.

### Topics include:

- Farmland tenure
- Identifying your goals
- Affording farmland & financial preparedness
- Owning vs. leasing
- Finding farmland
- Communication & negotiation

**Join us this winter!** Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. each day:

January 19, 2022

January 26, 2022

February 2, 2022

February 9, 2022

February 16, 2022

February 23, 2022

Sliding-scale registration fee allows more access to events by paying an amount that fits one's budget. Those who pay the suggested rate will help support the participation for others. The suggested registration fee is \$50. Registration gives you access to the full series, as well as class worksheets, resource handouts, and session recordings to watch at your convenience.

For more information, call 603-357-1600 or email [info@landforgood.org](mailto:info@landforgood.org). To register now click the button below.

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## ADD YOUR BUSINESS TO CT GROWN MAP

The Department of Agriculture, in coordination with CT NOFA, offers a variety of online listings on the [CT Grown Map](#) page. All agricultural businesses, farm stands, and farmers' markets are welcome to apply. There is no fee to participate and applications are accepted year round. To apply to be listed, visit the [CT Grown Map Google Form](#).

### Ag Market Pricing

[Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT](#)

*Prices provided on November 29, 2021*

[New Holland Dairy Auction - New](#)

[Holland, PA](#)

[CT Farmers' Market Prices](#)

*Prices provided on October 22, 2021*

[New Holland, PA Hay Report](#)

[Northeast Regional Eggs](#)

[USDA Mexico Canada Weekly](#)

[Update](#)

[New England Shell Eggs](#)

[Wholesale Fruits & Vegetables -](#)

[Boston](#)

[Pennsylvania Weekly Cattle Auction](#)

[Summary](#)

[Wholesale Ornamental Flowers -](#)

[Boston](#)

[Pennsylvania Livestock Auction -](#)

[Eighty Four, PA](#)

### Advertisements

#### **For Sale**

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com)

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com)

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. [Sonpal's Power Fence](#) 860-491-2290.

46-R. Lynn Blackmer, local Nationwide Farm Insurance Agent. AFIS certified. Nationwide Farm Master Certified. Serving CT & RI. Any type/size farm. CT

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50-R. The SIG Insurance Agencies offer a wide range of carriers, can save you up to 23% on your farm insurance and provide better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call us for all your insurance needs with locations in CT, RI, NY and NH. Contact our AG department at 866-346-3744, option 4.

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54-R. Transplanters, vacuum seeders, fertilizer applicators, garlic and potato planters and harvesters. High quality Italian-made precision equipment for the vegetable, tobacco, hemp, fruit, and floral markets. Call or email us today for details. Griffin Farm Equipment, LLC. 860-508-2426, [Griffinfarm@aol.com](mailto:Griffinfarm@aol.com); [www.griffinfarmtools.com](http://www.griffinfarmtools.com)

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55-R. 250 Bales clean golden yellow rye straw, cut 6/1, large bales. 203-506-6318.

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### **Wanted**

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42-R. EZTRAIL kicker bale wagons, any condition. Cash paid. Call or text George, 860-918-5442.

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### **Job Opportunities**

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UConn Extension at the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources is looking to hire a Project Co-Coordinator to assist with its training program and activities for new farmers (Solid Ground Farmer Training Program). The position begins in March and is year-round. Deadline to apply is February 11, 2022. [Click here for more information on the position](#).

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CitySeed is expanding and seeking a part-time Development Associate to join the team. [Learn more](#).

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Brass City Harvest in Waterbury, CT is seeking a culinary kitchen leader. To learn more about the position, [click here](#).

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UConn Extension, in partnership with the [Connecticut Farm to School Collaborative \(CTFTSC\)](#), is actively seeking to fill a temporary Project Assistant position for 6 months in 2022 starting asap. This is a part-time, partially remote position. Deadline to apply is January 17. [Click here for more information on the position](#).

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UConn Extension is looking to hire a Communications Specialist to assist with its farm-to-school programming ([Put Local on Your Tray](#)) and activities. This is a temporary, project-based position without benefits. 20 hours/week, up to 50% in-person at Tolland County Extension Center in Vernon. Deadline January 31 at 5 p.m. [Click here for more information on the position](#).

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Closing date: January 31.  
 Details: <https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/18891>.

Interested in Advertising? Click [here](#) for details on rates and submission.

## Upcoming Events (click on image below for info)

 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**2022 Farm Viability Grant**  
Connecticut Department of Agriculture

**Application Period:**  
Monday, November 29, 2021 - Monday, February 14, 2022

<b>Eligible Applicants:</b> Municipalities Groups of Municipalities Regional Councils of Governments Agricultural Non-Profits	<b>Maximum Award:</b> \$49,999
	<b>Match Requirement:</b> 40% of the total project cost

**Projects must respond to one of the following areas of need in CT Agriculture:**  
 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in Agriculture  
 Urban Agriculture  
 Food Supply Chain  
 Farmland Accessibility

**Apply Here!**

Contact Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov with any questions.

Register at: [newfarms.uconn.edu/solidground](http://newfarms.uconn.edu/solidground)

**SOLID GROUND**  
A Program Of UConn Extension

**AG MECHANICS TRAINING SERIES: 2021-2022**

 NOV 13TH	<b>CHAINSAW SKILLS &amp; SAFETY FOR WOMEN</b> ROCKVILLE AGRIC SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, VERNON CT - 8AM-3PM Learn to safe chain saw operation. Students will learn about PPE, work area safety, basic saw maintenance, chain sharpening, & how to develop a felling plan. Students will have a chance to fell a tree! Bring your own saw, or use ours. <b>For women only.</b>
 NOV 20TH	<b>TRACTOR IMPLEMENT OPERATIONS, SAFETY &amp; ADJUSTMENT</b> HOMMEWAUG AGRIC SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, WOODBURY CT - 8AM-3PM Safe & precise hookup of tractor attachments is critical on farms! Whether it's 3 point hitch or PTO, if the process is intimidating or difficult for you, join us! Learn the tips for attaching, calibrating, using common tractor attachments smoothly & efficiently.
 DEC 4TH	<b>SMALL ENGINE BREAKDOWN &amp; REASSEMBLE</b> HOMMEWAUG AGRIC SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, WOODBURY CT - 8AM-3PM Ever wonder what a carburetor looks like? Or where it even is in a weed wacker? Get an in-depth understanding of small engine maintenance & repair by pulling apart and reassembling a standard small engine. We provide the engine! Bring your questions and any small engine that's giving you trouble on your farm.
 DEC 11TH	<b>ADVANCED WELDING USING METAL INERT GAS METHODS</b> ROCKVILLE AGRIC SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, VERNON CT - 8AM-3PM Did you attend our welding workshop last year? Are you a novice welder? This workshop is perfect for you as we go deeper into welding using MIG (Metal Inert Gas) and take on bigger welding tasks that you might encounter on your farm.
 FEB 5TH	<b>POWER TOOLS &amp; CARPENTRY BASICS FOR BIPOC FARMERS</b> HOMMEWAUG AGRIC SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, WOODBURY CT - 8AM-3PM Get familiar with the power tools & carpentry skills that you'll need on your farm. Learn to use an impact driver, drill, skill saw, table saw, & more. You'll work with your new skills to complete a project to take home. <b>For those identifying as BIPOC only.</b>
 FEB 12TH	<b>FIELD IRRIGATION</b> ROCKVILLE AGRIC SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL, VERNON CT - 8AM-3PM Irrigation is a critical part of growing food. Reliable water infrastructure is key! Learn about drip lines, sprinklers, overhead guns, tile drainage, and reliable sources for your irrigation components.

**COST PER WORKSHOP \$25 - Lunch included | SPACES ARE LIMITED! REGISTER TODAY!**  
 If the cost is prohibitive, you may request a stipend for lost wages and/or travel, by emailing [rebecca.lens@uconn.edu](mailto:rebecca.lens@uconn.edu).  
 Please contact 2 months in advance with travel needs (driving, transportation, etc.) to help us do our best to accommodate you.

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**SOLID GROUND**  
A Program Of UConn Extension

**ACROECOLOGY SERIES**

**ON-FARM COMPOSTING**

**TUESDAY JANUARY 25TH, 2022**  
6:30-8PM | ON ZOOM | [REGISTER HERE](#)

**PRESENTERS: YOKO TAKEMURA - ALEX CARPENTER ASSAMAGA FARM**

Building biological active compost on small farms. Yoko and Alex will share their composting system, which uses very basic tools with a focus on the biology of the process. High quality compost that is used in small amounts for ongoing inoculation of the soil rather than to boost OM% or add significant amounts of nutrients. It is a great, efficient method to make compost extracts, teas and/or feeding worm bins.

**NO-TILL FIELD DAY**

**SATURDAY MARCH 26TH, 2022**  
10:00-4:30PM | [REGISTER HERE](#)

**TOBACCO ROAD - MERIDEN, CT**  
PRESENTER: BRYAN OTIABA

Author: NO-TILL INTENSIVE VEGETABLE CULTURE

Bryan will provide mountains of details on agricultural techniques and will also demonstrate specific equipment adapted for no-till operations. These specialized tools will be absolutely game changing for saving on labor and increasing efficiencies on your farm.

**ECOLOGICAL GROWING**

**SATURDAY APRIL 2ND, 2022**  
10:00-4:30PM | [REGISTER HERE](#)

**HIGH HILL ORCHARD - MERIDEN, CT**  
PRESENTER: WAYNE YOUNG

Explore how ecological growing can be implemented to support reduced or no pesticides use operations. Learn how building soil health leverages other natural systems in order to manage pests and environmental challenges.

 

 United States Department of Agriculture  DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  UCONN 

**Webinar: Connecticut Urban Agriculture Opportunities Roundtable**

**For: Stakeholders in agriculture, urban agriculture, food-related community-based organizations and NGO's, food producers, new farmers**

Please join us for a comprehensive introduction to funding opportunities in Urban Agriculture in Connecticut for producers; new, beginning or interested farmers; nonprofits and more.

We will discuss opportunities to grow, develop and begin farming in urban and suburban areas in Connecticut; so if you are a farmer, have a dream of someday farming, or if you are a nonprofit that supports food production in Connecticut, we invite you to join us for these interesting and informative webinars.

This is an introduction to funding opportunities with subsequent webinars being planned around topics such as grant writing, technical support and market access, training and best practices and vertical farming opportunities adjacent to public housing sites. Webinars will be recorded and available following the session. Each webinar will have time for questions and answers.

Wednesday, January 19, 2022 | 7:00 pm to 8:45 pm EDT  
[Register HERE](#)

**Session Includes:**

**7:00pm:** **Welcome and Introductions:**  
 Bryan Hurlbut, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
 Dr. Jason White, Director, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station  
 Indrajit Chauhan, Ph.D., Dean and Director, UConn College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources

**7:15pm:** **Overview of USDA Urban Agriculture Programs**  
 Joe Heller, Natural Resources Specialist, Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production, USDA  
 Jacqueline A. Kowalski, MA, Extension Educator, Urban Agriculture, UConn Extension

**7:30pm:** **Perspectives from Experts in Urban Agriculture**  
 Jeff Martin, Extension Educator, Food Systems & Locally Grown Specialist, UConn Extension  
 Dr. Leigh Whitinghill, Department of Forestry and Horticulture, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station  
 Cyrena Thibodeau, Agricultural Marketing & Inspection Representative, Connecticut Department of Agriculture

**8:00pm:** **Questions and Answers**



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