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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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### Local Food Purchase Assistance Grant Now Open



**Details and application:**  
[www.CTGrown.gov](#)

The Local Food Purchase Assistance Grant is now open. This is a program to connect CT producers and underserved communities. A webinar is scheduled for interested applicants on May 4 at 4:00 p.m. To register or learn more visit [our website](#).

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*Left: Attendees gather at Connecticut Foodshare; Right: Connecticut Foodshare Chief Operating Officer Scott Kemp, Under Secretary Moffitt and Commissioner Hurlburt. Photos courtesy Connecticut Foodshare.*

## Connecticut Hosts USDA Under Secretary Jenny Lester Moffitt

*Becomes Second State to Sign Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement*

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (CT DoAg) today hosted the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) at Connecticut Foodshare in Wallingford to sign a cooperative agreement under the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program (LFPA). Through the agreement, CT DoAg will receive funding to promote economic opportunities for Connecticut food producers. Connecticut is the second state to enter into a cooperative agreement under the program.

“This Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement will connect new and historically underserved communities to healthy, local food while also expanding new market opportunities for farmers and producers,” said USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Jenny Lester Moffitt. “USDA is excited to partner with the state of Connecticut in addressing food insecurity and thankful for the state’s early leadership and commitment to the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement. USDA looks forward to working with more states and tribal governments to strengthen local partnerships and ensure that underserved communities have access to locally sourced, healthy food.”

“Funds received through the LFPA cooperative agreement will enable us to continue prior efforts to bring locally grown food from Connecticut farmers to the tables of underserved neighbors,” said Connecticut Department of Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt. “Throughout the COVID-19

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expand upon those efforts.”

“Connecticut’s farmers are an integral part of what we do here daily at Connecticut Foodshare. We have had small successes in the past with our relationships with Connecticut’s farmers, but we are very excited to expand those relationships thanks to the Local Food Purchase Assistance Award,” said Connecticut Foodshare CEO and President Jason Jakubowski. “The premise of this partnership is that people who are food insecure deserve the same fresh quality products as everyone else and that is what Connecticut’s farmers will help us achieve.”

The LFPA program is authorized by the American Rescue Plan and will fund \$4.4 million to Connecticut with 40% going to the state’s tribal governments. The remaining \$2.64 million includes \$850,000 earmarked for Connecticut Foodshare and \$1.5 million to be awarded through competitive grants to eligible entities including pantry collaboratives, food hubs and aggregators, community health centers, and social service centers to purchase Connecticut Grown products with a focus on small and underserved producers to be distributed to underserved communities. Interested grant applicants are encouraged to attend a webinar on May 4, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. More details available [here](#).

Earlier in the day, Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz joined USDA Under Secretary Jenny Lester Moffitt, Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt, Hartford Public High School educators, and members of the [Connecticut Grown for Connecticut Kids Grant](#) advisory team for a roundtable discussion at Hartford Public High School.

“I want to thank everyone who worked to bring forth the CT Grown for CT Kids Grant program, especially our Department of Agriculture Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt, as well to our state’s school food service workers and educators who work tirelessly every day to feed our youth,” said Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz. “Farm to School programming allows students to gain access to healthy, local foods, and provides so many new opportunities for producers, our state’s children and educators, and our greater Connecticut community.”

While there they also heard from grant awardees in round one how the funds will help establish and further farm to school initiatives in the state.

“This grant is a pact between us that we will deliver on our commitment to disrupt inequitable food supply practices, enact social change, and give our students the very best in the cafeteria and classroom,” said Dr. Joanna Ali, Director of STEM at Hartford Public Schools.

“This partnership between the USDA and CT DoAg, using American Rescue Plan funds will help connect our residents with healthy, nutritious, and locally-sourced food,” said City of Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin. “Hartford is proud to

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expand and enhance those services."



*Left: Roundtable discussion participants included advisory members and grant recipients of the CT Grown 4 CT Kids Program along with Lt. Governor Bysiewicz, Commissioner Hurlburt, and Under Secretary Moffitt. Right: Lt. Governor Bysiewicz, Under Secretary Moffitt and Commissioner Hurlburt participate in the roundtable discussion at Hartford Public High School.*



**400TH CONNECTICUT FARM PERMANENTLY PROTECTED**

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environmental sustainability by visiting Fort Hill Farms in Thompson, CT, to announce the milestone achievement of the state's 400th permanently protected farm.

"Marking this historic milestone on Earth Day highlights the important contributions of agriculture, and our agricultural producers, to ensure that our most valuable resources are protected," said Commissioner Hurlburt. "We are pleased to add Fort Hill Farms to the growing list of farms in the Farmland Preservation Program and thank our federal, state, and local partners who are committed to providing support throughout the process to make it happen."

Permanently protecting prime and important farmland soils ensures a food and fiber producing land resource base for long-term availability of local, fresh farm products. In addition, farmland provides food and cover for wildlife, helps control flooding, protects wetlands and watersheds, and maintains air quality – all contributing to environmental sustainability and biodiversity.

"Preserving farmland for future generations to come is of utmost importance," said Kies Orr-LaVack, owner of Fort Hill Farms. "Knowing that we will have the land resources to grow top quality feed needed for our herd in both the near-and long-term offers peace of mind and aligns with our sustainability initiatives."

Fort Hill Farms, a third-generation dairy farm milking over 200 cows, is the 400<sup>th</sup> farm to be permanently protected in Connecticut through the Farmland Preservation Program administered by CT DoAg. Farmland preservation is one tool used by the farm to ensure they are sustainable and mitigate climate change. In addition, their anaerobic digester recently went online, creating energy out of manure and food waste. They are members of both The Farmer's Cow and Agri-Mark Creamery Cooperative and host a corn maze and other agritourism activities on the farm to bridge the gap between agriculture and the community.

"Fort Hill Farms is a Northeast Connecticut institution combining strong family work ethic, decades of farming tradition, and forward-facing technology," said U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal. "I'm proud to have fought for federal funding allowing the farm to operate an innovative aerobic digester used to produce renewable energy, providing an additional revenue source and an eco-friendly means of disposing waste. With the help of the Farmland Preservation Program, Fort Hill will continue to serve the community for years to come."

"Fort Hill Farms placing 62 acres under a conservation easement through our Agricultural Conservation Easement Program is another important step in our mission to protect the state's valuable working lands," said Thomas L. Morgart, Connecticut State Conservationist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. "About 75 percent of this protected property is prime, statewide, and local important farmland soils. Permanently protecting it and its

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Partnerships and collaboration are at the forefront of farmland preservation. CT DoAg partnered with Connecticut Farmland Trust and utilized U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) funds for the Fort Hill Farm property which brings the tally for the current fiscal year to 14 farms totaling 1,331 acres. Since the inception of the program in 1979 the state has protected 47,510 acres.

"Connecticut Farmland Trust is proud to have collaborated with the Department of Agriculture on the preservation of its 400th farm," said Elisabeth Moore, Connecticut Farmland Trust Executive Director. "Fort Hill Farms is an excellent example of the prime, productive farmland that our collaboration is focused on preserving. I'm thankful to the Orr family for protecting another portion of their farm for future generations of Connecticut farmers."

"I can't think of a better way to celebrate Earth Day than to join in celebrating the 400<sup>th</sup> farm in Connecticut to receive permanent land protection under the Connecticut Farmland Preservation Program," said U.S. Representative Joe Courtney. "Fort Hill Farm is the perfect recipient for this sort of preservation—Kies and her husband Jared were recognized as the 2022 Outstanding Young Farmers of the Year, they milk over 200 cows and grow all sorts of fresh organic vegetables, and they've already been ahead of the curve when it comes to utilizing their farmland to the fullest. Back in 2019, my office helped them secure \$400,000 in USDA funding to help purchase their anaerobic digester, a first-of-its-kind technology in Connecticut. Today it's up and running, reducing methane emissions, and converting manure and food waste into energy that's adding power to Connecticut's grid. It's great to see them thrive, and to celebrate this protection for their farmland today."

For more information on Connecticut's Farmland Preservation Program, visit [our website](#) for program overview, frequently asked questions, and contact information.

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## CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS

[USDA Announces \\$2.6 Million Agreement With Connecticut To Support Local Farmers](#), CT News Junkie, April 22

[Community Supported Agriculture shares help support local farms](#), WFSB, April 21

[USDA signs local food purchase agreement with Connecticut](#), Produce Blue Book, April 21

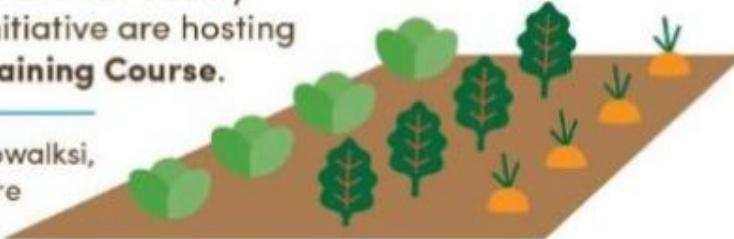
[Bridgeport hydroponic farm to receive \\$1 million federal grant](#), CT Post, April 20  
["They bring dairy to your door," Ellington's Modern Milkman grows local milk delivery service](#), Journal Inquirer, April 20

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# DO YOU WANT TO BE AN URBAN FARMER?

UConn Extension of Fairfield County and Green Village Initiative are hosting an **Urban Farmer Training Course**.

Taught by Jacqueline Kowalksi, UConn Urban Agriculture Extension Educator.



**May–October 2022 @ 122 Arctic St, Bridgeport, CT**

## Course Schedule

- Tuesdays, 6–8pm: Class Instruction (beginning 5/3)
- May 14 & May 15: Garden cleanup and planting weekend (Rain dates: 5/21, 5/22)
- Fridays, 4–6pm: Rotating participation in garden maintenance and harvest
- Saturdays, 9am–2pm: Rotating participation in farmers market vending (beginning 6/18)

## About the Course

- Meets once a week in person.
- Includes classroom topics and hands-on learning in the outdoor garden classroom.
- Opportunities to harvest, prep and sell vegetables produced in the class at a Bridgeport Farmers Market on Saturdays.

## Cost: \$200/person

To register contact GVI at:  
[communitygardens@gogvi.org](mailto:communitygardens@gogvi.org)  
 or (203) 612-4107.  
 Scholarships available.



United States Department of Agriculture  
 National Institute of Food and Agriculture



Protecting the People Who Feed the World

**TOTAL FARMER HEALTH COACH OPPORTUNITY**

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of their Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN) project.

The 12-month grant award includes providing a train-the-trainer program to supply mental well-being awareness and coping strategies to ag educators, new farmers, and youth via the *Cultivating a Healthy Mind* curriculum offered by AgriSafe.

As part of that program, AgriSafe is seeking health care professionals to join their team as a certified Health Coach to educate Connecticut farmers on Total Farmer Health. The initial training is 100% online allowing interested individuals the ability to complete the Total Farmer Health Coach Certification wherever they feel most comfortable and when it fits best in their schedule.

Learn more about the program and process to become a coach [here](#).

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## CONNECTICUT MILK PROMOTION BOARD ANNOUNCES FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Connecticut Milk Promotion Board (CTMPB), administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, is pleased to announce up to \$500,000 available in funding opportunities for programming in fiscal year 2022-23. These opportunities align with their core focus which includes the vision of increasing purchases and expanding the access of milk and dairy products to consumers, retailers, institutions, and other applicable outlets. The funding is intended to support the CTMPB's mission to develop, coordinate, and implement promotional, research, and other programs designed to promote Connecticut dairy farms and the consumption of milk and dairy products.

"These funding opportunities will enable us to continue building upon the work done over the past year which aligns with the strategic vision plan created with input from the state's dairy farmers and formally adopted by the board in 2020," said Paul Miller, Chairman of the CTMPB. "The board has honed our focus on funding to include consumer nutrition education, multi-media marketing, and farmer engagement programs to meet our five-year target of realizing an increase in dairy purchases and consumption throughout the supply chain in Connecticut."

The CTMPB has up to \$500,000 available for programming and expects to award contracts up to \$200,000 each in the first two bulleted program areas and no more than \$100,000 in the third bulleted program area:

- Partnerships with various types of retail, educational, and professional organizations that will lead to the increase in dairy consumption.

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- Farmer engagement programs to educate and engage dairy farmers on the utilization of their checkoff dollars.

Proposed applicants can apply for any combination of the above program areas and are not limited to applying for only one. Eligible entities include businesses, extension agencies, agricultural and non-profit organizations, universities, community colleges, educational institutions, agricultural science schools, research organizations, and contract media vendors. Interested applicants should review each funding guidance document to confirm their eligibility.

Funding is provided through dairy checkoff dollars, established through the national dairy checkoff order. CGS Sec. 22-authorizes the CTMPB to award grant funds from Connecticut's portion of checkoff dollars. All projects should be conducted in accordance with the national dairy checkoff order, which can be found at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/research-promotion/dairy>.

Additional details on the dairy grant funding opportunities can be found on [www.CTGrown.gov/grants](http://www.CTGrown.gov/grants). For more information on Connecticut Milk Promotion Board and Connecticut Dairy, visit [CTDairy.org](http://CTDairy.org)

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## 2022 CONNECTICUT COMPOST TOUR SERIES

### Tour #2: On-Farm Composting

Join farm owner Jessica Stone for a tour of the farm and compost operation. The farm is currently working with Northern Tilth who works with farms throughout New England providing technical guidance for on-farm composting operations. Northern Tilth is currently working with an NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant in Connecticut to study existing compost piles and then advise low-cost changes to reduce environmental losses and increase the finished compost quality and value. This tour will provide an overview of the on-farm composting, observations and discussions with the farm, and how they utilize compost.

**April 29: REGISTER**

### Tours #3 and #4: Home Composting/Beginner

(This is a hands-on field trip; please dress in clothing you don't mind getting dirty.)

The Keney Park Sustainability Project (KPSP) began in 2016 to provide hands-on training, on-site demonstrations, education outreach, and community collaboration that help families become more self-sustainable and

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Tour the many types of composting systems KPSP supports from worm bins to tumblers all while learning about KPSP's other efforts from planting native plants to producing maple syrup.

[May 7: REGISTER](#)

[June 25: REGISTER](#)



### **FREE CONSULTATIONS FOR CT COMMERCIAL FARMERS**

These are free one-on-one consultations for Connecticut Farmers, with specialists in certain fields of knowledge. These consultations are intended for those who have been farming for 10 years or less, but folks can apply if they have been farming for a longer period of time.

Sign up for a consultation with an expert on the topics of:  
Vegetable Production  
Livestock  
Conservation and Land use  
Urban Farming

[For more information and to sign up follow the link!](#)

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## Maple Syrup Production Tools and Techniques

### Workshop: Yale-Myers Forest

**Date:** Saturday, April 23 (rain or shine)

**Time:** 9am-Noon\*

**Cost:** Free

**Location:** Yale-Myers Forest – 150 Centre Pike, Eastford, CT 06242

\*For those who might want to attend, following the maple workshop will be an afternoon program on forest farming:  
<https://www.northeastforestfarmers.org/events>

**RSVP:** Not required, but please contact [schoolforests@yale.edu](mailto:schoolforests@yale.edu) if you would like to RSVP.



**Description:** This workshop will cover three aspects of maple syrup production: reverse osmosis, wood evaporator use, and filtering of finished syrup. Joseph Orefice of Yale Forests will lead the workshop with Tom Patterson of CDL-USA, who will provide expertise in use and care of reverse osmosis, evaporators, and filtering options. Adam Maikshilo, Soil Conservationist with NRCS, will discuss federal cost sharing programs to help maple producers purchase reverse osmosis and evaporation equipment.

This workshop is intended to provide new and experienced sugarmakers with opportunities to ask questions and learn about modern high-efficiency, and climate friendly, maple syrup equipment in a hands-on setting.

### **Agenda:**

- 9:00am - Welcome & introductions to the Yale Forest maple program
- 9:15am - **Reverse Osmosis:** options, effective use, and end of season care led by Tom Patterson of CDL-USA and Joseph Orefice of Yale Forests
- 10:00am - **High efficiency wood evaporator** operation led by Joseph Orefice of Yale Forests and Tom Patterson of CDL-USA
- 10:45am - **Syrup filtering** options, including use of a filter press
- 11:15am - Adam Maikshilo to go over NRCS **cost-share programs for maple equipment**
- 11:45am - Wrap up and evaluations

**COVID Protocol:** All participants will be required to register for this event onsite, and be required to provide proof of a COVID vaccination if requested. Attendees who are unvaccinated will be required to wear a mask during the workshop. All attendees must be 18 years or older per Yale University requirements.

**Note:** This workshop will take place at Yale-Myers Forest, which is part of Yale University but is located in Eastford, Connecticut. More Information about Yale Forests can be found at: <https://forests.yale.edu/>

Special thanks to the USDA Acer Access and Development Program for supporting this workshop

## USDA FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL FOOD PROMOTION

The USDA has opened the Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP) funds projects that develop, coordinate, and expand local and regional food business enterprises that engage as intermediaries in indirect producer to consumer marketing to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products. Grants can be used for the planning stages of establishing or expanding a local and regional food business enterprise or to

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improve or expand a food business that supports locally and regionally produced agricultural products and food system infrastructure by performing feasibility studies, market research, training and technical assistance for the business enterprise and/or for producers working with the business enterprise. They also have a new Farm to Institution category! **Applications are due by May 16, 2022.**

[To learn more about the LFPP program follow the link here.](#)



**Now Available:  
CT Grown Tents**

10' x 10' King Canopy Tents

Order online at:  
[www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com](http://www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com)

Pickup only

The advertisement features a white canopy tent with the "CONNECTICUT GROWN" logo and "CTGrown.org" text on its front. The background is green.

CT Grown tents are in stock and available for pick up at Connecticut Regional Market, 101 Reserve Road, Hartford, CT. Orders must be placed online in advance at [www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com](http://www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com). Following order confirmation arrangements will be made to coordinate a pick up day and time.

### **EPA SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR THE FARM, RANCH, AND RURAL COMMUNITIES FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

This week, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced a [solicitation for nominations](#) to serve on its Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee (FRRCC). Established in 2008, the FRRCC provides independent policy advice, information, and recommendations to EPA's Administrator on a range of environmental issues and policies that are of importance to agriculture and rural communities.

To be considered for an appointment to the FRRCC, nominations should be submitted to [FRRCC@epa.gov](mailto:FRRCC@epa.gov) by May 16, 2022, with the subject line "FRRCC Membership 2022." Nominations should include a résumé or curriculum vitae and a statement of interest. Letters of support and recommendation will be accepted but are not mandatory.

In addition, Administrator Regan [has issued a formal response](#) today to the most recent set of [FRRCC recommendations](#) regarding food loss and waste,

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water policy, and pesticide policy, which were published in December 2021. This communication includes clear examples of how EPA is taking action to

respond to priorities identified by the committee.

[Learn more about the FRRCC nomination.](#)

[Find more information about the FRRCC.](#)

## USDA VALUE-ADDED PRODUCER GRANTS PROGRAM

The Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) program helps agricultural producers enter into value-added activities related to the processing and marketing of new products. The goals of this program are to generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities and increase producer income. You may receive priority if you are a beginning farmer or rancher, a socially-disadvantaged farmer or rancher, a small or medium-sized farm or ranch structured as a family farm, a farmer or rancher cooperative, or are proposing a mid-tier value chain. Grants are awarded through a national competition. Each fiscal year, applications are requested through a notice published in the Federal Register and through an announcement posted on Grants.gov. The program period varies for paper applications which must be postmarked by May 2, 2022. Applications are permitted via Grants.gov and must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on **April 25, 2022**.

[Click here for more information.](#)

**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:

- **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.

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holistic approach to implementing community- and climate-forward dairy production and business strategies.

[For more information follow this link.](#)

## USDA FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARMER'S MARKET PROMOTION PROGRAM

The [Farmer's Market Promotion Program \(FMPP\)](#) funds projects that develop, coordinate, and expand direct producer-to-consumer markets to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products by developing, coordinating, expanding, and providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agritourism activities, online sales or other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities.

[To learn more follow this link.](#)

### Avian Influenza (AI)

#### What is it?



- AI is a virus carried by migratory waterfowl (ducks and geese).
- Domestic poultry (chickens, turkeys, fowl) are susceptible and will become very sick.
- The virus is believed to originate in Eurasia and spread into Canada and the Atlantic Flyway through wild geese and ducks.
- Migratory bird flyways cross the United States. Connecticut is in the Atlantic Flyway.



If you have sick or dying birds, please contact [ctstate.vet@ct.gov](mailto:ctstate.vet@ct.gov) or 860-713-2505

### Biosecurity Basics

Protect Your Flock From Avian Influenza



Cover chicken coops and runs to prevent contact with wild waterfowl and their droppings.



Wash hands before and after working with birds.



Change food and water daily.



Provide disposable boot covers and/or disinfectant footbaths for anyone having contact with your flock.



Clean and disinfect tools or equipment before moving them to a new poultry facility.



DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE  
CTGrown.gov

If you have sick or dying birds, please contact [ctstate.vet@ct.gov](mailto:ctstate.vet@ct.gov) or 860-713-2505

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## LOOKING FOR AFFORDABLE CREDIT TO START OR GROW YOUR FARM? THE NATIONAL YOUNG FARMERS COALITION IS HERE TO HELP!



**LEARN ABOUT THE USDA'S LOAN PROGRAMS THROUGH  
THE FARM SERVICE AGENCY (FSA). OUR COALITION WON  
A MICROLOAN PROGRAM IN THE 2014 FARM BILL TO MAKE  
THESE LOANS MORE ACCESSIBLE FOR YOU!**

We know that it may not be easy to work with government programs due to historical and ongoing discrimination against BIPOC farmers. Young Farmers has a farmer on staff who can answer questions for BIPOC farmers about the loans and walk you through the application.

**CALL OUR FARMER TECHNICAL ASSISTANT  
SHAKERA RAYCOZA TO LEARN MORE AT  
SHAKERA@YOUNGFARMERS.ORG OR 518 643 3564 EXT. 1**

USDA FSA Loans feature low interest rates (rates 2-3% as of February 2022), and do not use credit scores to determine eligibility.

### LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF LOANS:

#### MICROLOANS

- + Up to \$50,000 in Operating Loan funds and \$50,000 in Ownership Loan funds, for a total of \$100,000
- + Repayment terms are 1-7 years
- + Same uses as Operating and Ownership loans
- + A streamlined application process with less paperwork

#### OPERATING LOANS

- + Up to \$400,000
- + Up to 7 years to repay
- + Use funds for infrastructure, livestock, feed, seeds, equipment, labor, fertilizers, rent, family living expenses, etc.

#### OWNERSHIP LOANS

- + Up to \$600,000
- + Repayment terms are up to 25 years
- + Use funds to purchase or enlarge a farm, make a down payment, promote soil and water conservation and protection, or pay closing costs
- + Funds can also be used to purchase, improve, or build structures related to the farming business

*Farm operating expenses, including, but not limited to, feed, seed, fertilizer, pesticides, farm supplies, repairs and improvements which are to be expensed, cash rent and family living expenses. Other programs include farm storage loans, living expenses under the loans above, down payment loan, guaranteed loan program, and youth loans.*

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**PARA EMPEZAR O HACER CRECER TU GRANJA?  
NATIONAL YOUNG FARMERS COALITION  
(LA COALICIÓN NACIONAL DE AGRICULTORES  
JOVENES) ESTÁ AQUÍ PARA AYUDARTE.**



**CONOCE LOS PROGRAMAS DE PRÉSTAMOS DEL USDA A TRAVÉS  
DE LA AGENCIA DE SERVICIOS AGRÍCOLAS (FSA).  
¡NYFC CONSIGUIÓ UN PROGRAMA DE MICROCRÉDITOS EN LA LEY  
AGRÍCOLA DE 2014 PARA QUE ESTOS PRÉSTAMOS SEAN MÁS  
ACCESIBLES PARA TI!**

Sabemos que puede resultar difícil trabajar con los programas del gobierno debido a la discriminación histórica y actual contra los agricultores BIPOC. Young Farmers tiene un agricultor en el equipo que puede responder a las preguntas de los agricultores BIPOC sobre los préstamos y ayudarles con la solicitud.



**LLAMA A NUESTRA ASISTENTE TÉCNICA DE  
AGRICULTORES SHAKERA RAYGOZA PARA  
HABLAR MÁS A FONDO EN**

**SHAKERA@YOUNGFARMERS.ORG O AL 518 643 3564 EXT. 1**

Los Préstamos FSA del USDA presentan tipos de interés bajos (tipos del 2-3% a partir de febrero de 2022), y no utilizan puntuaciones de crédito para determinar la elegibilidad.

**MÁS INFORMACIÓN SOBRE LOS DIFERENTES TIPOS DE PRÉSTAMOS:**

**MICROCRÉDITOS**

- + Hasta 50.000 dólares en fondos de Préstamos de Explotación y 50.000 dólares en fondos de Préstamos de Propiedad, por un total de 100.000 dólares
- + Los plazos de reembolso son de 1 a 7 años.
- + Los mismos usos que los de Explotación y Propiedad
- + Un proceso de solicitud utilizada con menos papeleo

**PRÉSTAMOS DE  
OPERACIÓN**

- + Hasta 400.000 dólares
- + Hasta 7 años de reembolso
- + Uso de los fondos para infraestructuras, ganado, alimentos, semillas, equipos, mano de obra, fertilizantes, alquiler, gastos de manutención de la familia, etc.

**PRÉSTAMOS EN  
PROPIEDAD**

- + Hasta 600.000 dólares
- + Los plazos de reembolso son de hasta 25 años
- + Los fondos se utilizan para comprar o ampliar una granja, hacer un pago inicial, promover la conservación y protección del suelo y el agua, o pagar los gastos de cierre
- + Los fondos también pueden utilizarse para comprar, mejorar o construir estructuras relacionadas con el negocio agrícola

Los gastos de funcionamiento de la granja, incluyendo, pero no limitándose a, alimentos, semillas, fertilizantes, pesticidas, suministros de la granja, reparaciones y mejoras que deben ser contabilizadas, alquileres en efectivo y gastos de manutención de la familia. Otros programas incluyen préstamos para el almacenamiento de productos agrícolas, gastos de manutención en el marco de los préstamos anteriores, préstamos para el pago inicial, programa de préstamos garantizados y préstamos para jóvenes.

## FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR FY2022 INNOVATIVE CONSERVATION PROJECTS IN CONNECTICUT

Thomas L. Morgart, Connecticut State Conservationist for the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced the availability of funding for FY2022 Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG). CIG seeks to spark the development and adoption of cutting-edge conservation technologies and approaches for farmers and other landowners.

Applicants must submit their applications via [Grants.gov](#) (search for Funding Opportunity Number USDA-NRCS-CT-CIG-22-NOFO0001157) by **11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 29, 2022**. For technical issues with Grants.gov, contact Applicant Support at 1-800-518-4726 or [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov). Awarding agency staff cannot support applicants regarding Grants.gov accounts. Please limit questions to those regarding specific information contained in this Notice of

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proposal will not be addressed.

Applicants are encouraged to visit the [CT State CIG website](#) to learn more about the CIG program.

## CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The 2022 scholarship application from Connecticut Agricultural Education Foundation is now live. **The application deadline is June 1, 2022.** This annual scholarship is for Connecticut students who are pursuing a career in agricultural education and/or have goals to further agriculture across the state.

[Learn more here.](#)

### Ag Market Pricing

#### Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT

*Prices provided on April 11, 2022*

#### 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)

[Subscribe](#)[3-R. Past Issues](#) electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, [Translate](#) ▾  
beehives. [Sonpal's Power Fence](#) 860-491-2290.

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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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22-1. Honeybees: 5-frame Deep nucs only, available first week May. Jones Apiaries, LLC, 860-677-9391.

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22-3. SnowBlower – 48" PTO. Like new only used twice \$3,095 new. Asking \$2,500 best offer. 860-604-3452

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22-5. Lynn Blackmer, your local Nationwide Farm Insurance agency. AFIS Certified. Nationwide Farm Master Certified. Serving CT, RI & MA. Any type/size farm. CT Farm Bureau members may qualify for discount. Cell: 860-377-8947 [lblackmer@caluoriinsurance.com](mailto:lblackmer@caluoriinsurance.com) Appointments available any time.

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22-6. Trailer-1965 Miller, tip up 22ft. Air brakes solid steel, brakes works fine but old. Need 2 tires and light update. Retiring \$1,500. 860-875-8056.

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22-7. Farm sold, many pieces of equipment for sale. 860-488-0324.

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22-8. Eight-year-old Hereford cow ready to breed, reasonable offers accepted. Call 860-487-7739 after 6 pm.

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22-9. New England Hereford Breeders interested in consigning Quality Registered Herefords into our Annual Sept. Sale should contact Wayne Budney, Four Winds Farm, 860-573-2829.

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22-10. Growing mix-3.8 cu. ft. Greenhouse soil Dzen Farms 860-648-1355

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22-11. New Holland 259 hydraulic hay rake, \$2,500; International 435 baler, housed, \$3,500; Both good condition, ready to make good hay. Tim, 203-627-2398, [nbffarm@gmail.com](mailto:nbffarm@gmail.com)

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22-13. First cutting hay for sale. \$5.00 per bale. 860-990-8060 text or call.

### **Wanted**

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

### **Job Opportunities**

The USDA Farm Service Agency is currently accepting applications from individuals interested in providing contracted crop adjusting services throughout Connecticut for the 2022 crop year. Loss adjuster applications are due Friday, April 29, 2022 and can be submitted in person or by mail to your local county FSA office, or electronically to [nathan.wilson@usda.gov](mailto:nathan.wilson@usda.gov). Applications and a complete position description may be found at any FSA county office in Connecticut or online [here](#).

FoodCorps AmeriCorps service member position for 2022-23 is still open! Are you passionate about helping kids in your community experience the joy and power of food? We hope you'll apply! Does this sound like someone you know? The final deadline is **May 27, 2022**, but send in your application as soon as possible. Interviews are already underway and positions are filled on a rolling basis. [Apply Here!](#)

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

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

### **SALES & AUCTION**

Middlesex Livestock Auction announces the following sales and auction:  
Saturday, April 30, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.: Farm & Landscape Equipment Auction  
Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 11 a.m.: Spring Feeder Cattle Sale

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)Work smarter and  
avoid injury![Translate ▾](#)**AN URBAN FARMER?**

UConn Extension of Fairfield County and Green Village Initiative are hosting an Urban Farmer Training Course.

Taught by Jacqueline Kowalski, UConn Urban Agriculture Extension Educator,

**May–October 2022 @ 122 Arctic St, Bridgeport, CT**

**Course Schedule**

- Tuesdays, 6–8pm: Class Instruction (beginning 5/3)
- May 14 & May 15: Garden cleanup and planting weekend (Rain dates: 5/21, 5/22)
- Fridays, 4–6pm: Rotating participation in garden maintenance and harvest
- Saturdays, 8am–2pm: Rotating participation in farmers market vending (beginning 5/15)

**About the Course**

- Meets once a week, in person.
- Includes classroom tools and hands-on learning in the outdoor garden classroom.
- Opportunities to harvest, prep and eat vegetables produced in the class at a Bridgeport Farmers Market on Saturdays.

**Cost: \$200/person**

To register contact CVI at: [communitygardens@gvii.org](mailto:communitygardens@gvii.org) or (203) 612-4707. Scholarships available.



(United States Department of Agriculture  
National Institute of Food and Agriculture)



## SAFE LABOR MOVEMENT WORKSHOP

w/ Cynthia Flores

**Sub Edge Farm**

Farmington, CT

April 28

10am-12pm OR

1pm-3pm



Facebook



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Pinterest



Website

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