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Upcoming Events



Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt and Governor Ned Lamont were joined by Rep. Goupil and Senator Needleman (not pictured) last Friday at Chamard Vineyards in Clinton where they toured the farm winery to learn more about their production and highlighted the mobile app for the Passport to CT Farm Wineries program that launched earlier this summer.

Learn more about CT Wine Country and download the app at www.ctwinecountry.com.



Hyde's Dairy Farm Named 2022 CT Outstanding Dairy Farm for New England Green Pastures

Hyde's Dairy Farm LLC in North Franklin is the 2022 Connecticut Outstanding Dairy Farm. Owner Dave Hyde and his team will be recognized at the New England Green Pastures award ceremony at the Eastern States Exposition in September. Dave's father, Harry, helps wherever needed, Samantha Hoffman is herdsman, and there are also three part-time employees.

Dave and Harry purchased the farm in 2006 and converted an old barn into a step-in parlor with six units and automatic takeoffs. They are currently milking 55 cows and are producing 4,000 pounds of milk per day with an average 4.0% fat and 3.2% protein. Their somatic cell count is under 100,000, an indication of the high-quality milk.

Hyde's Dairy Farm is a member of Dairy Farmers of America and keeps about 10% of their milk for Hyde's Dairy bottling efforts. They started bottling milk because of consumer interest in locally grown in 2021. Milk is bottled at Terra Firma Farm Creamery in North Stonington, an on-farm state certified milk processing plant.

A variety of flavors are offered, including chocolate, coffee, strawberry, orange cream and caramel. Hyde's Dairy also produces yogurts (plain, vanilla and five flavors fruit on the bottom) and seasonal eggnog. Products are sold at 13 local farmers' markets and stores. Hyde's Dairy offers online ordering with Barn2Door to deliver milk, meat and more direct to consumers at home. Their tagline is #milkoneverydoorstep.

milk for the Terra Firma Farm Give Gallons program, which purchases milk from local farms, pasteurizes and bottles, and then donates to the local soup kitchen. As a FFA alumni I truly believe in the future of farming and have given calves and cows to 4-Hers whenever possible."

Cow comfort is very important at Hyde's Dairy Farm. They use a bedded pack barn with open side feed alley, three giant fans, and cow brushes for scratching. The farm is feeding a ration with alfalfa, silage, beet pulp and straw.

The herd started with Holsteins and Dave started adding other breeds since they started bottling their milk. These include Brown Swiss, Jerseys, Linebacks, and Guernseys. The farm keeps their registered, higher genetic calves to raise and sells the other heifers to local farms.

Hyde's Dairy Farm LLC has 130 acres. Of these, 70 are tillable and he rents an additional 30 acres for corn. The farm uses no-till seeding and custom silage harvesting.

Dave has also owned and operated a livestock transportation company for the last 20 years. It currently has four trucks that move cattle to market in the northeast. They work with many other farms in Connecticut to pick up, haul and broker livestock.

Congratulations to Hyde's Dairy Farm LLC on their selection as the 2022 Connecticut Outstanding Dairy Farm for the New England Green Pastures award ceremony at the Eastern States Exposition in September.

Learn more about Hyde's Dairy Farm at hydesdairyfarm.com/ and the New England Green Pastures program at thebige.com/p/agriculture/ne-green-pastures.

Article by UConn Extension; photos courtesy of Hyde's Dairy Farm



WEST NILE VIRUS EXPANDS THROUGHOUT CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) has identified West Nile virus (WNV) infected mosquitoes in 17 Connecticut towns this season: Branford, Bridgeport, Darien, Fairfield, Greenwich, Hartford, Ledyard, Milford, New Canaan, New Haven, Norwalk, Stamford, Stratford, Wallingford, West Haven, Westport, and Woodstock. No human or horse cases have been reported with WNV-associated illnesses acquired in Connecticut this season. One hundred seventy-three human cases of West Nile virus, including four fatalities, have been reported in Connecticut residents since 2000.

To reduce the risk of being bitten by mosquitoes, residents should:

- Minimize time spent outdoors between dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.
- Consider the use of mosquito repellents containing an EPA-registered active ingredient, including DEET, Picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, para-methane-diol (PMD), or 2-undecanone when it is necessary to be outdoors.
- Wear shoes, socks, long pants, and a long-sleeved shirt when outdoors for long periods of time, or when mosquitoes are more active. Clothing should be light-colored and loose-fitting and made of tightly woven materials that keep mosquitoes away from the skin.

- · Administering the initial two-dose vaccine series, four to six weeks apart
- Administer regular boosters at least annually
- Consult with your veterinarian if boosters are needed every six months
- Give vaccinations at least one month prior to mosquito season to develop protective immunity
- Remove sources of standing water to eliminate mosquito breeding grounds
- Clean and refill water troughs regularly
- Apply fly sprays containing pyrethrin regularly

Connecticut Mosquito Management Program

The response to mosquito transmitted diseases in Connecticut is a collaborative inter-agency effort involving the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES), the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Pathobiology at the University of Connecticut (UCONN). These agencies are responsible for monitoring mosquito populations and the potential public health threat of mosquito-borne diseases.

The CAES maintains a network of 108 mosquito-trapping stations in 88 municipalities throughout the state. CAES begins mosquito trapping and testing in June and continues into October. Positive findings are reported to local health departments and on the CAES website at https://portal.ct.gov/caes.

For information on WNV and other mosquito-borne diseases, what can be done to prevent getting bitten by mosquitoes, the latest mosquito test results, and human infections, visit the Connecticut Mosquito Management Program web site at https://portal.ct.gov/mosquito.

CT Grown Marketing Tools



Want your event featured on the <u>CTGrown.org</u> calendar? You can make it happen!

In response to your feedback, we have invested a lot of effort toward refreshing our brand and developing a state-of-the-art website; all to support our outreach to consumers about the high-quality products and amazing experiences that are available at Connecticut farms — from the ground to the sound.

As part of these efforts, we have created a comprehensive events calendar — showcasing the many great agriculture events happening statewide to better connect urban and rural communities. We are excited now to open up that event calendar to you!

Simply follow this link, enter a few details, and request a user account for the CT Grown website's events calendar:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PYHInB14jc3hglqDcg_JNL1cYcpqiv2Fby SbL1l1tKg/edit?usp=sharing

Once you register, you will receive a quick tutorial on how to submit your:

- Farmers' Market
- Fair
- Festival
- Concert
- Educational Workshop
- Farm Tour or Camp
- And More!

It's quick and easy to sign up. Give yourself the platform to bring your events to the forefront!



GROWN

ADD YOUR FARM OR VENUE TO CTGROWNMAP.COM

Connecticut Department of Agriculture, in collaboration with CT NOFA, is working to update <u>CTGrownMap.com</u> to support our CT Grown farms, farm stands, and farmers' markets, and would like to ensure that it is as complete and current as possible.

Last year, CT Grown marketing efforts generated **112 million** impressions driving visitors to <u>ctgrown.org</u>, and a timely listing helps these visitors discover your business. CT Grown also drives the majority of referrals from other websites to the farm map. If you are a CT Grown producer or venue, we encourage you to add your listing to the map.

Get on the Map

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS

<u>USDA to Mail Additional Pre-Filled Applications to Producers Impacted by 2020, 2021 Disasters</u>, USDA, 8/18

<u>Spotted Lanternfly: What to know about the bug threatening Connecticut's agriculture,</u> SF Gate, 8/17

CT drought is hitting farmers' pocketbooks, agriculture chief says, CT Mirror, 8/16

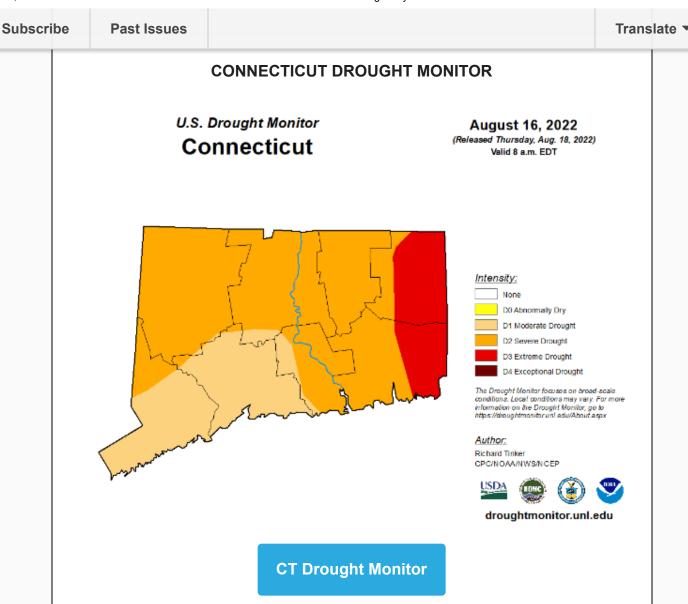
<u>Severe drought impacts eastern Connecticut farms</u>, Fox 61, 8/16 <u>Equipment Sharing Program Aims to Ease Adoption of No-Till Farming</u>, CT

CT's best pick-your-own farms, according to Connecticut Magazine, Stamford Advocate, 8/14

<u>Bradley Mountain Farm in Southington Hosts Goat Yoga Classes</u>, NBC CT, 8/13

State expands access to farmers markets with food assistance programs, FOX 61, 8/12

Examiner, 8/15



GOVERNOR LAMONT DECLARES STAGE 3 DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN NEW LONDON AND WINDHAM COUNTIES

Governor Ned Lamont today announced that at the recommendation of the Connecticut Interagency Drought Workgroup, he is declaring a Stage 3 drought level for New London and Windham counties due to more serious conditions that are emerging in those areas. All other counties in Connecticut (Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, and Tolland) will remain in Stage 2, as <u>declared</u> on July 14.

There are five levels of declarations under the Connecticut Drought Preparedness and Response Plan, with Stage 1 representing below normal conditions and Stage 5 being the most extreme.

Stage 3 identifies a moderate drought event, potentially impacting water supplies, agriculture, or natural ecosystems. Stage 2 is a notification of an emerging drought and is intended as an awareness stage regarding the possibility of a developing drought.

surface waters, groundwater, reservoirs, soil moisture, vegetation, and fire danger conditions. The most recent occasion when a Stage 3 drought condition was declared in Connecticut was in October 2020.

Read the full release here.

TOLLAND AND WINDHAM COUNTIES ELIGIBLE FOR EMERGENCY LOAN PROGRAMS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced on August 15, 2022, that Secretary Vilsack has designated nine (9) Massachusetts Counties as primary natural disaster areas due to the 2022 drought.

Tolland Windham Counties are named as contiguous counties in Connecticut. A USDA Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in primary counties and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA loans.

More information on assistance is available at <u>Disaster Assistance Programs</u> (usda.gov).

CENTURY FARM NOMINATIONS ACCEPTED

Do you know a Connecticut farm that has been in operation for 100 years or more? The Connecticut Agricultural Information Council (CAIC) is now accepting applications to recognize a farm that has been in family operation for more than 100 years, and has outstanding potential to be a successful business for another 100 years.

The award is presented at the CAES Plant Science Day annually in August and recognized at Ag Day at the Capitol the following March. If you know of, or operate a farm that qualifies for this recognition, please submit a nomination by clicking the link below.

Nominate a Century Farm



UPCOMING WORKSHOP: NAVIGATING USDA FSA

Join The Carrot Project on **Wednesday, Aug 24 at 7pm** to learn about the USDA Farm Service Agency resources available to support farmers and food producers and how to access them! This is an in-person workshop at Auerfarm in Bloomfield, CT. Space is limited. Please reserve your spot by pre-registering through the link below.

This workshop is intended as an inclusive space for growers – particularly BIPOC, Women, and Beginning growers – to learn and ask questions. Backyard and urban growers are welcome! Our goal is to demystify these USDA programs and to help break down barriers to accessing these resources.

We'll go over: 1) Getting started and registering for a farm number; 2) Loans and tips for applying; 3) Disaster Assistance programs and how to receive help after a crop or livestock loss; 4) Micro Farm Whole Farm Revenue Protection (whole farm insurance for small, diversified operations); and 5) Special provisions available to BIPOC, Women, and Beginning Growers.

Can't make the in-person workshop? Stay tuned for an upcoming, virtual workshop to be announced shortly!

This workshop is offered in partnership with the <u>Connecticut Department of Agriculture</u> and <u>New CT Farmer Alliance</u>. Special thanks to <u>4-H Education Center at Auerfarm</u> for hosting us.

This workshop is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, under agreement number FSA21CPT0011950. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



USDA TO INVEST \$15 MILLION IN INNOVATIVE PROJECTS FOR CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE, URBAN AGRICULTURE, AND ADDRESSING INVASIVE SPECIES

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced it will invest \$15 million this year for the Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) Classic program. Through CIG, grantees work to address our nation's water quality, water quantity, air quality, soil health and wildlife habitat challenges, all while supporting agricultural production. This year's funding priorities are climate-smart agriculture, addressing invasive species and conservation in urban agricultural systems.

For the fiscal 2022 award process, at least 10% of the total funds available are set aside for proposals that entirely benefit historically underserved (HU) producers. This HU set-aside will ensure that equity is incorporated in the planning and delivery of CIG projects to align with NRCS's Justice 40 goals. HU applicants can also waive the non-federal match requirements.

Applications are being accepted now through October 11, 2022. Private entities whose primary business is related to agriculture, nongovernmental organizations with experience working with agricultural producers, and nonfederal government agencies are eligible to apply. For more information and to apply, visit grants.gov.

Click here for more information.



2022 ORGANIC CERTIFICATION COST SHARE GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Certification Cost Share Program (NOCCSP) Grant from the USDA Farm Service Agency.

Through this grant program, Connecticut certified organic growers and processors can be reimbursed for 50%, up to \$500, for the costs of receiving and maintaining USDA organic certification. A list of certified organic growers and processors is available through USDA's Organic INTEGRITY Database at https://organic.ams.usda.gov/integrity.

The program is administered on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted. Applications will be accepted through October 3, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

The amount reimbursed will be 50%, up to \$500, of certification costs paid between October 1, 2021 and September 30, 2022.

To apply, please visit the link below for required materials and detailed instructions. Completed applications are to be submitted electronically by October 3, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov.

Click Here for More Information



NRCS' CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PLAN CONTINUES TO MAKE CONSERVATION PART OF THE CLIMATE SOLUTION

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service has a new Climate Change Adaptation Plan that works to ensure its programs and services meet the demands of the changing agricultural landscape. It evaluates seven current vulnerabilities to NRCS's mission, operation, and infrastructure that may be affected by climate change, and prioritizes key actions to address these vulnerabilities, such as:

Subscribe Subscribe Increase climate literacy and staffing capacity to deliver assistance that is Translate ▼

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- Enhance science, research, and data for understanding, organizing, measuring, and tracking climate related impacts and outcomes
- Integrate climate information into current business procedures, assessments, and opportunities
- Ensure current and future applied conservation investments are reflective of climate change needs
- Assess and address disproportionate climate change impacts on vulnerable communities through intentional engagement, planning, and assistance
- Strengthen partnerships and collaboration to address climate change
- · Address risks to agency infrastructure.

Learn more here.



2023 FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR FOOD & AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS

<u>Food Export USA–Northeast</u> (Food Export–Northeast) is now accepting applications for the 2023 Branded Program year. The Branded Program enables U.S. suppliers of food and agriculture products to increase their overseas marketing budgets to maintain and expand their share of export markets, as well as encourage new market exploration.

Made possible through <u>Market Access Program (MAP)</u> and <u>Agricultural Trade Promotion Program (ATP)</u> funds from the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service, this cost-share funding program assists small and medium-sized U.S. suppliers to promote their U.S. origin food and agricultural products in foreign markets.

Once approved, participants receive 50% cost reimbursement on eligible marketing and promotional activities such as exhibiting at international and select U.S. tradeshows, advertising, public relations, in-store promotions and merchandising, marketing and point-ofsale materials, freight costs for samples, foreign market-compliant packaging and labeling, international web site development, online marketing and more. Projects may range in size from a few thousand dollars to several hundred thousand in their scope.

These marketing opportunities help U.S. companies remain competitive in the

new markets that supported over 3,600 jobs and 100 new sales opportunities across food and agricultural businesses.

"This is a great way for small and mid-size food and agricultural businesses to explore market expansion and grow their business. We've helped snack food companies, seafood businesses, maple syrup, cheese and more find new market opportunities thanks to our cost-share funding, educational resources and market access tools," said Tim Hamilton, Executive Director/CEO of Food Export–Northeast.

Applications can be submitted starting August 1 and will be taken until all dollars are distributed. Questions about the Branded Program and the application process can be directed to Food Export—Northeast at 215.829.9111. Additional information is available at www.foodexport.org/branded-program. The 2023 Branded Program runs from January 1 through December 31, 2023.

<u>Food Export–Northeast</u> accepts applications from suppliers in their 10-state Northeast region: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Learn more at Food Export - Northeast



URBAN FARMER TRAININGS COMING TO BRIDGEPORT

Two training sessions will be held on August 20 and 27 at the Reservoir Community Farm.

The I Got Next Farmers are teaming up with Green Village Initiative and UConn Extension's Solid Ground program to provide two full days of training (with lunch included!) from 8:30am-4:00pm.

Can't make it to Bridgeport but still want to go? Trainings in New Haven will take place on November 12 and 19.

Register Here!

CT NRCS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FY2023 FUNDING FOR CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Are you an agricultural producer in Connecticut who wants to continue to farm, or a forest landowner wanting to manage your forestland, but you want to use less resources and have less of an effect on the land?

Why not consider applying for the <u>Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)?</u> Some benefits include increased crop yields, decreased inputs, wildlife population improvements, and better resilience to weather extremes.

Through CSP, the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) helps private landowners build their business while implementing conservation practices that help ensure the sustainability of their entire operation. Agricultural producers and forest landowners earn payments for actively managing, maintaining, and expanding conservation activities such as cover crops, ecologically-based pest management, buffer strips, and pollinator and beneficial insect habitat – all while maintaining active agricultural production on their land. CSP also encourages the adoption of cutting-edge technologies and new management techniques such as precision agriculture applications, on-site carbon storage and planting for high carbon sequestration rates, and new soil amendments to improve water quality.

The program helps producers better evaluate conservation options and benefits to their operations, as well as to our natural resources. Methods and software for evaluating applications help producers see why they are – or are not – meeting stewardship thresholds and allow them to pick practices that work for their objectives. These tools also enable them to see potential payment scenarios for conservation early in the process.

While applications for CSP are accepted year-round, to be considered for FY2023 funds they must be received by October 30, 2022.

Interested? Find out if you're qualified for CSP by contacting your <u>local USDA</u> <u>service center</u> or visiting the <u>Get Started</u> portion of our website.



ERP EXTENDED, NAP PRODUCERS RECEIVING APPS

applications for Phase One of the Emergency Relief Program (ERP). A new deadline will be announced after the last Phase One applications are mailed and provide at least 30 days following the mailing.

Continuing to build on the initial mailing of pre-filled applications in May, the Department will continue using existing information in USDA and crop insurance files to send additional pre-filled applications starting this week for potentially eligible Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) participants. Once applications from eligible NAP producers are returned, these producers are expected to receive about \$105 million in ERP payments for eligible losses from 2020 and 2021 disasters.

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is now mailing pre-filled applications to NAP producers through ERP to offset crop yield and value losses. To receive a relief payment, producers should complete and return the applications by announced deadlines.

Producers are expected to receive assistance direct deposited into their bank account within three business days after they sign and return the prefilled application to the FSA county office and the county office enters the application into the system.

While most crop insurance customers that may be eligible for ERP Phase One received the pre-filed applications in May, there are some who should expect to receive a form in August including:

- Producers who had an eligible loss in 2020 that had been recorded in the crop insurance records as a 2019 loss (e.g., prevented planting claims);
 and
- Producers with policies that required additional information before being able to calculate an indemnity for 2021 losses (producers with 2020 losses would have already received that application). Policies that required additional information include Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO), Enhanced Coverage Option (ECO), Stacked Income Protection Plan (STAX), Margin Protection Plan (MP) or Area Risk Protection Insurance (ARPI).

Producers without risk management coverage through crop insurance or NAP and those with shallow losses may be covered by the forthcoming Phase Two of ERP.

ERP and the previously announced Emergency Livestock Relief Program (ELRP) are funded by the *Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act*, which President Biden signed into law in 2021. The law provided \$10 billion to help agricultural producers impacted by wildfires, droughts, hurricanes, winter storms and other eligible disasters experienced during calendar years 2020 and 2021. Overall, USDA has already quickly disbursed over \$6 billion dollars under ERP and ELRP with reduced paperwork for the producer and field offices.

Asked Questions, NAP applicants can visit FSA's <u>Emergency Relief</u> webpage and program <u>fact sheet</u>.

Additional USDA disaster assistance information can be found on <u>farmers.gov</u>, including the <u>Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool</u>, <u>Disaster-at-a-Glance fact sheet</u> and <u>Farm Loan Discovery Tool</u>. For FSA and Natural Resources Conservation Service programs, producers should contact their local <u>USDA Service Center</u>. For assistance with a crop insurance claim, producers and landowners should contact their <u>crop insurance agent</u>.

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rannincoponoc Online Learning

FarmResponseSM is a 3.5-hour continuing education module developed by national experts from the AgriStress Response Network.

AgriSafe's FarmResponse course provides the full range of competencies necessary to provide appropriate mental healthcare for agricultural producers and their families. This knowledge is critical for a wide range of healthcare professionals to effectively care for a farmer's total health.

The topics covered in FarmResponse include: • The Total Farmer Health Model

- AgriBusiness Factors Impacting Mental Well Being
- Agriculture Work Factors
- Family Dynamics
- Agrarian Culture and Values

- Special Populations
 US Agricultural Producer Demographics
 Agricultural Community Healthcare Challenges
 Opioids and Alcohol Issues in Agriculture
- Suicide and Agriculture
- Resources and Referrals



Learners can earn a digital badge to acknowledge their accomplishment and dedication to serving the unique healthcare needs of the agricultural community!

Free Training Opportunity for Connecticut Professionals:

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has generously sponsored 205 free seats on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information scan the QR code!

These free seats are supported by the 2021 Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network Grant (award # 2021-70035-35552) administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture Grant funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture.



DEPARTMENT

OF AGRICULTURE

Continuing Education for Multiple Disciplines:

The Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety offers 0.35 CEU or 3.5 contact hours of participation. This course is eligible for 3.5 CPH Recertification Credits and is sponsored by the University of Minnesota School of Public Health, an approved provider of CPH Recertification Credits by the National Board of Public Health Examiners.

The following groups of professionals have been able to use these CEUs in the past; Industrial Hygiene (CIH), Certified Public Health Professional(CPH), Certified Safety Professional (CSP), Nursing (RN, LPN), Social Work (LSW), Occupational Therapy (OT), Physical Therapy (PT), Audiology (ABA), and others. Please contact your accrediting agency regarding any questions about receiving credits.



The Minnesota Medical Association designates this enduring series for a maximum of 3.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the accreditation requirements and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the joint providership of the Minnesota Medical Association and AgriSafe Network. The Minnesota Medical Association (MMA) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.



agrisafe.org

Learn More



CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OPENS THEIR URBAN GREEN AND COMMUNITY GARDEN GRANT

The Department's Urban Green and Community Gardens Grant Program provides funding assistance to develop or enhance urban open spaces for public enjoyment and/or environmental education. Promotion of open space in an urban setting may include, but may not be limited to, the development of a community garden or reclaiming and enhancing existing open space for the public's use. Grants are awarded to projects that demonstrate the highest ability to benefit urban communities in close proximity to population centers. **The deadline to apply is September 30, 2022.**

To learn more about the grant, eligibility requirements, and how to apply follow the link below.

Learn More and Apply



CT FARMER SOLAR SURVEY

The American Farmland Trust (AFT) invites you and other Connecticut farmers to participate in this important, anonymous survey on solar siting in Connecticut. Your input will inform AFT's Smart Solar strategy and influence policies to expand solar capacity in Connecticut while benefitting farmers and minimizing displacement of agriculture on the state's best farmland.

Connecticut recently committed to a goal of 100% Renewable Energy by 2040, and the state is projected to double the capacity of its utility solar generation over the next 5 years. Agency leaders and policy makers need to hear your interests, priorities, and concerns. If you are a farmer, farm landowner, or otherwise involved in Connecticut's agricultural community, <u>your participation</u> is essential.

For background information on Connecticut's energy goals and AFT's Smart Solar work, learn more here:

- Governor Lamont Signs Key Climate Change and Energy Legislation
- Connecticut Comprehensive Energy Strategy (CT DEEP)
- Sustainable, Transparent, and Efficient Practices (STEPs) for Solar Development initiative (CT DEEP)
- New England Farmland and Solar Brief (Vermont Law School & AFT)

As an incentive for the survey, AFT will award \$100 Visa gift cards to random participants, one for every 25 surveys completed. To ensure inclusive and

Thank you in advance for completing this important survey. Your feedback will provide valuable information to guide smart solar policy and best practices in the state of Connecticut!

Take the Survey!

BEGINNING FARMER LOAN OPPORTUNITY

Accessing capital to begin, extend, or support an agriculture operation can be challenging--especially to new producers. Farm Service Agency's "Beginning Farmer" direct and guaranteed loan programs provide an opportunity for qualified applicants to secure loans from funding set aside for producers who meet the following conditions:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training, and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's average size farm

For more information, contact the New London County USDA Service Center at (860) 887-9941 or visit <u>fsa.usda.gov</u>.



APPLY NOW FOR CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANTS ON-FARM TRIALS

USDA will invest \$25 million this year for the Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) On-Farm Conservation Innovation Trials program.

Through CIG, partners work to address our nation's water quality, water quantity, air quality, soil health and wildlife habitat challenges, all while

approaches in partnership with agricultural producers. This year's funding priorities are climate-smart agricultural solutions, irrigation water management, nutrient management and soil health.

"Through science and innovation, we can develop solutions to tackle the climate crisis, conserve and protect our water, enhance soil health, and create economic opportunities for producers," said Terry Cosby, Chief of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). "Through On-Farm Trials, partners can work directly with farmers and ranchers to test and adopt new strategies on agricultural lands, accelerating the development and application of conservation that works for producers and the land."

Applications for On-Farm Trials are being accepted **now through September 22, 2022**. Private entities whose primary business is related to agriculture, nongovernmental organizations with experience working with agricultural producers, and non-federal government agencies are eligible to apply. For more information and to apply, <u>click here.</u>



GET READY FOR FARMERS' MARKET SEASON

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. Following order confirmation arrangements will be made to coordinate a pick up day and time.

Ag Market Pricing

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Prices provided on August 6, 2022		
CT Farmers' Market Prices Prices provided on August 9, 2022	Lancaster Farming Hay Market Report	
Northeast Regional Eggs	<u>USDA Mexico Canada Weekly</u> <u>Update</u>	
New England Shell Eggs		
Pennsylvania Weekly Cattle Auction Summary	Wholesale Fruits & Vegetables - Boston	
	Wholesale Ornamental Flowers -	
<u>Pennsylvania Livestock Auction -</u> <u>Eighty Four, PA</u>	<u>Boston</u>	

Advertisements

For Sale

Past Issues

2009 2 Horse Adam aluminum trailer, ramp. Asking \$6,700. 4' Brush Hog, make offer. 860-614-5954 or 860-872-6637. (8/19/22)

Antique hand working cider mill 1 tub 4'H 2'W. Second mill 2 tubs 3'H 2.5W very heavy. \$300.00 each. 860-376-4167. (8/19/22)

No-Till Equipment: Farmers in Middlesex County, Lyme and Old Lyme are eligible to use new shared no-till equipment. www.knowyourfarmers.org/no-till-equipment (8/19/22)

CT Grown wine grapes for sale. Six varieties: St. Croix, Frontenanc, Noiret, Landot Noir, Traminette and Riesling. Expected harvest of 3.5 tons. You pick - \$1.50 per pound. Killingly, CT. Anticipated harvest from Labor Day into early October depending on variety. Reserve some or the whole crop. 860-933-0027. (8/26/22)

Logging services, forest management plans. Servicing all of CT. Fully licensed and insured. NRCS TSP. 860-398-1776, Josh Miller. (9/2/22)

Lynn Blackmer, your local Nationwide Farm Insurance agent. AFIS Certified. Nationwide Farm Master Certified. Serving CT, RI & MA. Any type/size farm. CT Farm Bureau members may quality for discount. Cell: 860-377-8947 lblackmer@caluoriinsureance.com Appointments available any time. (11/4/22)

Rain Flo irrigation pump. Four inch discharge. New condition. Please call 860-841-3082.

Dried Sawdust / Different Grades, \$20 per yard. You pick up or delivered with additional charge. 860-642-7084. Blue Slope Sawdust.

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