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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 español disponible en línea en CTGrown.gov.

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October 28, 2022; Vol. E, No. 43

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Chocolate Milk is the Official Drink of Halloween.

Halloween is also a great time to throw a party, bringing together family and friends to enjoy spooky-themed dishes and see who can come up with the most creative costume.

Whether you're planning a party for little ones to enjoy after trick or treating, a fun occasion for your family, or a gathering among adults, you can find ways to make CT Grown part of the celebration.

Check out [Six Fresh Ideas for CT Grown Halloween Party Treats](#).

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Farm Transition Grants

Application opening soon!

www.CTGrown.gov/grants

Farm Transition Grant Features Four Dynamic Categories to Support Connecticut Agricultural Producers

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is pleased to announce the 2023 Farm Transition Grant (FTG) application period will open on Tuesday, November 1, 2022. The grant features four dynamic categories to address gaps in funding to support farmers in times of growth and change. Applications are due no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 11, 2022.

“The Farm Transition Grant categories offer an array of funding opportunities to meet the needs of a diverse spectrum of Connecticut farmers and agricultural cooperatives,” said Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt. “Whether it is a new farmer whose completed project has advanced their business forward by five years or a seasoned producer looking to make the investments to expand production or diversify for business growth, these grant funds are directly contributing to a positive impact that will provide long-term sustainability of CT Grown products.”

The Farm Transition Grant is a matching reimbursement grant program for Connecticut farmers and agricultural cooperatives to support the diversification of existing farm operations, transitioning to value-added agricultural production and sales. Funding is provided through C.G.S. Section 22-26k.

Subscribe	The grant categories are summarized below. Past Issues	Translate ▼
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Farmer Micro Grants: Up to \$5,000 awarded to support new and beginning individuals or partnerships with one full year to three years of production history, seeking long-term careers that financially support them through farming and agriculture. • Infrastructure Investment Grant: Up to \$20,000 awarded to support farmers in production for a minimum of three years with a need for infrastructure to expand the farm's production and operation. • Research and Development Grant: Up to \$25,000 awarded for farms to conduct research to assess the viability and interest to develop a new product line, service, or market. • Innovation and Diversification Grant: Up to \$49,999 awarded for the implementation of a new product or service for market or business expansion after a research and development phase has been explored. <p>Grant guidelines and forms can be found at www.CTGrown.gov/grants with additional details on match requirements and eligible expenses.</p> <p>Two workshop options will be available to assist interested applicants in learning about the grant categories, submission process, and tips for writing their application. An in-person workshop will occur at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at the Hartford County UConn Extension Office in Farmington. Registration is required to attend this workshop. Click here to register for the in-person workshop.</p> <p>A virtual workshop will occur at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 17, 2022, via Webex. The session will be recorded and posted to the agency website if you are unable to attend the live event. Click here to register for the webinar.</p> <p>Questions regarding the Farm Transition Grant can be directed to Alison Grabarz at Alison.Grabarz@ct.gov. More information on application requirements, submission process, and accompanying forms can be found online at www.CTGrown.gov/grants.</p> <p><i>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 Historice Preservation.</i></p> <hr/>	

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MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR CT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS

In Fall 2021, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture was awarded a \$500,000 grant from U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) as part of their Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN) State Department of Agriculture projects.

Over the past year, the agency has been working with partners to implement a comprehensive plan of valuable resources to help our producers at their most vulnerable moments.

Through a collaboration with Drink Caffeine, the Grow Strong brand and marketing campaign have been developed. In order to inform this campaign a survey of agricultural producers was conducted. In the summary of findings, it was noted:

- Nearly nine-out-of-ten respondents agreed (strongly or somewhat) with the statement "Stress has the biggest impact on my mental health."
- More than three-quarters of respondents reported stress as the biggest impact on their mental health. The second highest frequency answer was "other" with "finances" and "extreme weather" written in.
- Over one-half of respondents indicated awareness (either very or somewhat) of mental health resources, while the majority of respondents indicated a lack of awareness to mental health resources specifically for CT agriculture workers.

We appreciate everyone who took the time to complete the survey as those key findings and others have informed the soon to be released Ag Industry Mental Wellness resources.

Through an agreement with Agri-Safe health care professionals in Connecticut have been able to participate in FarmResponse, an online continuing education module at no cost, to ensure they are equipped to provide appropriate mental health services to agriculture producers and their families.

In working with UConn and Land for Good, the Farm Succession School was brought to Connecticut with Land for Good working with farms to lower the

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in agriculture. This builds on the Cultivating a Healthy Mind for New and Beginning Farmers webinar that was held in October 2022. Additionally, Solid Ground held three farmer mental wellness webinars. If you missed them live, you may watch on YouTube, [What it's Like: What to expect if you want to see a therapist](#).

Next up, will be the Farmer Wellness Circles beginning in December 2022 and concluding in September 2023. This circle will work to bring wellness and joyful community to Black women farmers and Black nonbinary/gender non-conforming farmers. The facilitator will bring together farmers for a series of wellness workshops throughout the state. Four workshops will be held at various farms, and travel stipends will be available to encourage attendance at the entire series. In between in person workshops, virtual webinars will be held for participants to connect farmers to each other and to resources.

For more information about the mental wellness resources and programming, please contact Erin Windham at Erin.Windham@ct.gov.

The purpose of the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN) Program is to establish a network that connects individuals who are engaged in farming, ranching, and other agriculture-related occupations to stress assistance programs. The establishment of a network that assists farmers and ranchers in time of stress can offer a conduit to improving behavioral health awareness, literacy, and outcomes for agricultural producers, workers, and their families.

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURE IN THE NEWS

[USDA Awards KNOX Parks Foundation, Inc. with Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grant, Part of Broader \\$14.2 Million Investment](#), USDA NRCS, 10/26

[Rose's Berry Farm in Glastonbury closes, future of farmstand uncertain](#), The Chronicle, 10/26

[Salem looks to make housing affordable one farm at time](#), The Day, 10/25

[16 places to hang out with llamas and alpacas in Connecticut](#), The Chronicle, 10/25

['Found My Honeybee' Corn Maze Debuts At Newtown's Castle Hill Farm](#), The Newtown Bee, 10/17

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PRESENTING THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPO 2022

Register today for this ag expo showcasing the latest in ag innovation, farm equipment, tractors, farm implements, seed & crop protection products, farm supplies & services.

Friday, November 18, 2022

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Aquaturf, 556 Mulberry Street, Southington, CT

Registration includes:

- Trade Show
- State-wide Networking
- Buffet Lunch
- Connecticut Wine & Beer Tasting
- Taste of Connecticut
- Pesticide CEU Credits

Pesticide CEU Credits

- 10:30AM – 11:30AM - ***Soil-Biodegradable Plastic Mulch for Specialty Crop Production***, Shuresh Ghimire, PhD, UConn Extension
- 1:30PM - 2:30PM - ***Integrated Pest Management for Fruit Growers***, Mary Conklin, Educator, UConn Extension

Ticket Pricing

- CFBA Standard and Limited members - \$55
- Non-members - \$65
- Non-members can receive \$5 off per ticket by purchasing before November 4th or by registering 3 or more attendees

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For More Information or Questions

[Click here](#), call 860-768-1100 or email traceym@cfba.org

Event Partners

- Connecticut Farm Bureau
- Connecticut Department of Agriculture
- Farm Credit East, ACA
- UConn Extension

[Register Here](#)

FIRST NORTHEAST DISABILITY AND AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE

The Northeast Disability and Agriculture Conference is a first-time regional event designed to educate and empower the agricultural community. Through workshops and presentations, farmer attendees will learn how to better advocate for themselves, and service provider attendees will learn how to identify potential distress risks within the community. Together attendees will learn how to build a network sharing skills and resources to improve accessibility and reduce industry incidents of suicide.

The conference team is excited to offer a hybrid experience; in-person and limited virtual participation, on **February 4, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** at **Harkness Memorial State Park** (275 Great Neck Road, Waterford, CT). The daylong event includes a Keynote speaker, breakout sessions, group discussion, resources, and meals.

In recognition of the needs of farmers with disabilities, a post conference stipend will be given to the first 50 farmers who identify as having a disability, have registered in advance, and attend the full conference.

Sign up here to reserve your spot today! [2023 Northeast Disability & Agriculture Conference](#)

The event is coordinated by Healing By Growing Farms, a social impact farm community that fosters a holistic healing approach reconnecting predominantly brain injury and trauma survivors to themselves, nature, and the environment while healing through farming. To learn more about our organization please visit us at www.healingbygrowing.com.

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GREATLY appreciate your feedback to help them design conference content, better identify gaps in disability awareness and needed services for participants by participating in **THEIR SURVEY**.

For questions, please contact: healingbygrowingconferenceteam@gmail.com.



**WORKING
LANDS
ALLIANCE**

A Project of American Farmland Trust

WORKING LANDS ALLIANCE 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

Please join Working Lands Alliance (WLA) for their 2022 annual meeting and luncheon to celebrate farmland preservation in Connecticut! The meeting will be on Wednesday, Nov. 16 from 12 to 2 p.m. at Thomas Hooker Live located at 1 Sequassen St., Hartford, CT, 06106.

This year WLA will host a panel discussion that will be facilitated by Dean Indrajeet Chaubey of the University of Connecticut's College of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources. As we enter this new phase of "normal", a panel discussion will explore how we can continue to advance resilient agricultural strategies. Attendees will hear from individuals who are creating innovative strategies and opportunities for farmers and service providers alike to create a resilient agricultural sector during these uncertain times.

The Annual Meeting will also include the presentation of the 2022 Farmland Preservation Pathfinder Awards. Established in 2003, these prestigious awards recognize individuals and groups in Connecticut that have significantly advanced farmland preservation through leadership, communications, advocacy, planning, and education. Award winners over the last fifteen years have included municipalities, land trusts, journalists, farmers, town boards, and many individuals and groups who have shown an impressive commitment to protecting our vital farmland in Connecticut.

Register Here

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FARMER TAX EXEMPTION PERMIT RENEWAL INFORMATION UPDATE

The Connecticut Department of Revenue Services (DRS) is currently undergoing a multi-year, multi-phase information technology (IT) modernization initiative. As part of the initiative, DRS has begun replacing the Taxpayer Service Center (TSC) with [myconneCT](#), a new, safe, secure, and user-friendly online system. Additionally, DRS is expanding its online taxpayer services to more Connecticut taxpayers.

The following groups may now use myconneCT to submit their application renewals electronically by logging into myconneCT at portal.ct.gov/DRS-myconneCT:

- Farmers
- Fishermen
- Materialmen
- Small Wineries

Use myconneCT to file taxes, make payments, view filing history, and communicate with the agency simply and more efficiently on virtually any mobile device, including laptops, tablets, and smartphones, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If a farmer has not yet filed their renewal application with DRS, an additional mailing was sent the week ending October 21 with a letter explaining the process. If a farmer requires immediate access to their new permit, the letter explains how to apply online to receive a permit electronically.

All permits will be set to a September 30 expiration date. All farmers who have already received a renewed permit from DRS do not need to take any further action. DRS will be issuing an updated permit with an expiration date of September 30, 2024.

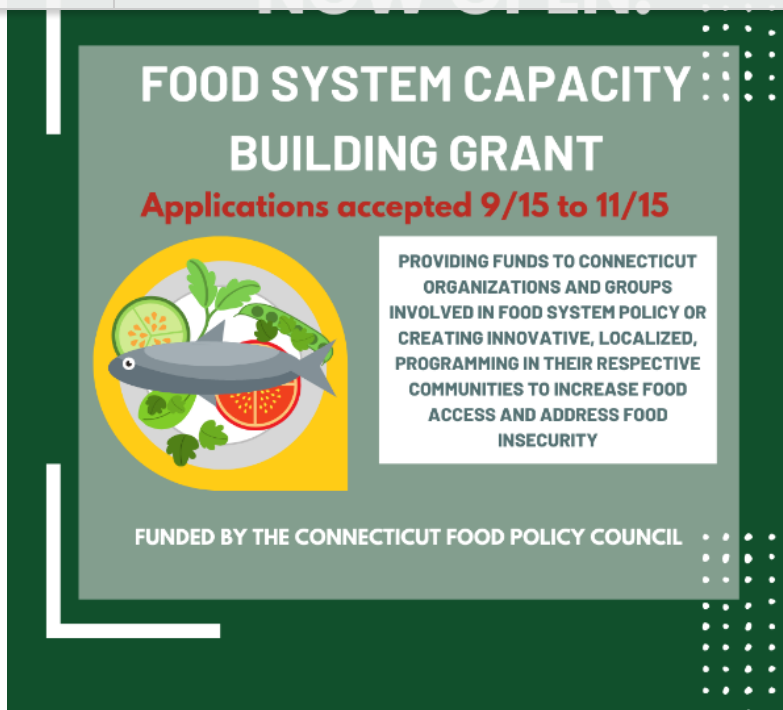
If anyone has questions regarding a permit renewal, they may contact DRS directly at 860-297-4996. General questions may be sent via email to drs@ct.gov. Please do not include any attachments or images as it will be returned undeliverable. An online tutorial providing instruction on how to renew permits through the DRS website may be accessed [here](#).

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FOOD SYSTEM CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT

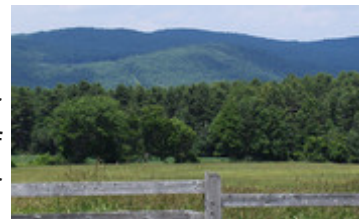
Applications accepted 9/15 to 11/15

PROVIDING FUNDS TO CONNECTICUT ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS INVOLVED IN FOOD SYSTEM POLICY OR CREATING INNOVATIVE, LOCALIZED, PROGRAMMING IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMUNITIES TO INCREASE FOOD ACCESS AND ADDRESS FOOD INSECURITY

FUNDED BY THE CONNECTICUT FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

PROTECT YOUR AGRICULTURAL LAND WITH A CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Are you a farmer with a deep connection to your land or interest in protecting the future of the nation's food supply? Maybe you're an agricultural landowner or eligible entity interested in protecting the integrity of your property? Why not consider safeguarding your land with a conservation easement through the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). **NRCS accepts applications year round; however, applications for FY2023 funding are being accepted from now until January 31, 2023.**



The Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) protects the agricultural viability and related conservation values of eligible land by limiting nonagricultural uses which negatively affect agricultural uses and conservation values, protect grazing uses and related conservation values by restoring or conserving eligible grazing land, and protecting and restoring and enhancing wetlands on eligible land. Under the **Agricultural Land Easements** (ALE) component funds are provided to eligible entities that use ACEP funding to purchase permanent agricultural land easements that not only protect the future of the nation's food supply, but also support environmental quality, wildlife habitat, and historic preservation and protection of open spaces. Landowner applicants who are interested must apply through an eligible entity – such as a land trust, municipality, or the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. NRCS will prioritize applications that protect agricultural uses and

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Land eligible for agricultural easements includes cropland, grassland, and pastureland; non-industrial private forest land may be enrolled when associated with active agricultural land. Native American Tribes, state and local governments, and non-governmental organizations that have farmland or grassland protection programs are eligible to partner with NRCS to purchase conservation easements.

Enrolling agricultural land helps secure the future of the nation's food supply, prevents it from being developed or going to a non-agricultural use, and provides public benefits including environmental quality, historic preservation, wildlife habitat, and protection of open space.

Applications must be submitted by January 31, 2023, to:

Carol Grasis
Assistant State Conservationist for Programs
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
344 Merrow Road, Suite A
Tolland, CT 06084-3917

Not sure how to begin? Visit our [website](#) where you will find information on benefits, how to apply, all the forms you will need, and more.

To speak to someone about filling out eligibility forms with the Farm Service Agency (FSA), or to obtain an application, contact your [local USDA Service Center](#): Danielson – (860) 779-0557; Hamden – (203) 287-8038; Norwich – (860) 887-3604; Torrington – (860) 626-8852; Windsor – (860) 688-7725; Connecticut State Office, Tolland – (860) 871-4028.

FALL DAIRY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY NE-DBIC

New England Dairy Business Innovation Center is preparing to release guidance on grants for this fall. Below is a list of funding opportunities coming this fall.

- **Dairy Food Safety & Certification Grant (October):** We will be offering grants to support food safety projects including specialized equipment purchase, supplies, food safety training, and certifications. Priority will be given to projects that are utilizing food safety improvements to access new markets. This grant will be released in October. Grants of \$10,000 - \$40,000 with a 25% match commitment.
- **Dairy Farm Innovation Grant (October):** This grant will fund a wide range of projects across farm production and business operation models that support the implementation of community- and climate-forward production strategies. Projects funded through this grant program

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in October. Grants will range from \$10,000 to \$75,000 with a 25% match commitment required.

Grants for Dairy Processors

- **Dairy Food Safety & Certification Grant (October):** We will be offering grants to support food safety projects including specialized equipment purchase, supplies, food safety training, and certifications. Priority will be given to projects that are utilizing food safety improvements to access new markets. This grant will be released in October. Grants of \$10,000 - \$40,000 with a 25% match commitment.
- **Existing Dairy Processor Expansion Grant (January):** This grant will be split into multiple funding tiers to accommodate processors of all scales. Projects will focused on acquiring specialized equipment needed to increase the processing capacity of regionally produced milk and other activities to support expansion to meet demand. Grant opportunity released in January.
- **Dairy Processor Innovation Grant (January):** Projects funded through this program will support long term business investments that increase dairy processor business consumer appeal and marketability of value-added dairy products. Project areas can address sourcing, product development, transportation/distribution, marketing/supply chain, operations, employee welfare, consumer experience, utilization of materials or systems that reduce carbon footprint, and beyond. Grant opportunity released in January.

For more information visit their site below.

[Visit NE-DBIC](#)



**FMSA PRODUCE SAFETY RULE / PRODUCE SAFETY ALLIANCE
APPROVED GROWER TRAINING COURSE (IN PERSON)**

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The Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) Grower Training Course has been

designed to provide a foundation of Good Agricultural Practices knowledge that includes emphasis on co-management of food safety and environmental management goals, while outlining the requirements of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule. The PSA Grower Training Course is one way to satisfy the FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirement outlined in § 112.22(c) that requires *'At least one supervisor or responsible party for your farm must have successfully completed food safety training at least equivalent to that received under standardized curriculum recognized as adequate by the Food and Drug Administration.'*

November 30, December 1, 2022; December 2, Snow Date

8:30 am through 3:30 pm

Middlesex County Extension Center

1066 Saybrook Road

Haddam, Connecticut 06438

Registration Deadline Friday, November 18

Space is limited to 30 participants.

REGISTRATION: Course fees are \$200. Registration fees up to \$150 may be reimbursed by CT Department of Agriculture pending review. The preferred method of registration/payment is through the CAHNR Conferences site, paying with a credit card. Please include both a work and cell/home phone number and regularly used email address in case of emergency or cancellation.

[Register Here](#)


PROTECT YOUR POULTRY FROM HPAI

Subscribe	Past Issues	The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (CT DoAg) advises all poultry	Translate ▼
		<p>owners and producers to remain vigilant in protecting their backyard and commercial poultry flocks against highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI).</p> <p>HPAI was confirmed at a backyard non-commercial flock in New London County in March 2022 and more recently on October 4 at a backyard non-commercial flock in New Haven County. Additionally, multiple detections have been confirmed within wild birds throughout Connecticut, primarily waterfowl and raptors.</p> <p>Poultry biosecurity materials and checklists can be found on the USDA's "Defend the Flock" website. Best practices include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discourage unnecessary visitors and use biosecurity signs to warn people not to enter buildings without permission. • Ask all visitors if they have had any contact with any birds in the past five days. • Forbid entry to employees and visitors who own any kind of fowl. • Require all visitors to cover and disinfect all footwear. • Lock all entrances to chicken houses after hours. • Avoid non-essential vehicular traffic on-farm. • After hauling birds to processors, clean and disinfect poultry transport coops and vehicles before they return to the farm. • Report anything unusual, especially sick or dead birds, to CT DoAg at 860-713-2505 or ctstate.vet@ct.gov or the USDA at 866-536-7593. <p>In addition to practicing good biosecurity, poultry owners should keep their birds away from wild ducks and geese and their droppings. Outdoor access for poultry should be limited at this time.</p> <p>Signs of avian influenza include sudden increase in bird deaths, sneezing, coughing, nasal discharge, watery or green diarrhea, lack of energy, poor appetite, drop in egg production, swelling around the eyes, neck, and head, and purple discoloration of wattles, combs, and legs.</p> <p>Avian influenza does not present an immediate public health concern. Only one detection in a human has occurred in the United States, and the individual exhibited minor symptoms. As a reminder, the proper handling and cooking of poultry and eggs to an internal temperature of 165°F kills bacteria and viruses.</p> <hr/> <p>FARMLAND RESTORATION GRANT GUIDANCE AVAILABLE</p> <p>The Connecticut Department of Agriculture announces that the 2023 Farmland Restoration Grant (FLRG) guidance is now available, and the application portal</p>	

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The Farmland Restoration Grant (FLRG) provides matching funds to Connecticut farmers, nonprofits, and municipalities to increase food and fiber production in the state by restoring lands into active agricultural production. The Farmland Restoration Program (FLRP) focuses on restoring and improving land with prime and important farmland soils, in accordance with a Farmland Restoration Program Plan and a Climate Smart Resiliency Plan (FLRP Plan). Applications are due no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 9, 2022.

“The Farmland Restoration Grant is a meaningful way to support efforts which expand agricultural production and ensure that we are best utilizing prime and important farmland soils,” said Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt. “This year, the program eligibility has been broadened to specifically allow farms to develop a climate smart resiliency plan which helps offset the challenges we saw this summer due to the drought and sets Connecticut farms up for success, regardless of the weather patterns. Eligible projects include those addressing climate change impacts, eliminating losses from invasive pests and species, and enabling producers to grow their operations to improve the long-term viability of agriculture in Connecticut.”

For the purposes of this grant, farmland restoration is the act of bringing land into agricultural production for human food, animal feed, or livestock grazing.

The maximum grant awarded is \$20,000.00. Applications of any amount up to the maximum possible award will be considered for funding. There are two opportunities for funding under the Farmland Restoration Program. The opportunities for funding are for projects on either publicly owned land or for projects that are on privately owned land. Applicants will choose the grant that best fits their property to apply.

The following entities are eligible to apply for the Farmland Restoration Grant:

1. Agricultural producers, who are owners or tenants of an existing agribusiness within the State of Connecticut with at least one year of production experience.
2. Not for profits owning or leasing a property in use for agricultural production.
3. Municipalities leasing farmland, currently in use by a farmer. The lease must be no less than five years in duration, with a five-year option to renew in the terms.

Grant guidelines and forms can be found at www.CTGrown.gov/grants with additional details on match requirements and eligible expenses.

On Tuesday, November 8, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. a virtual webinar will be held for interested agricultural producers and cooperatives to learn about the Farmland Restoration Program application process. The webinar will be held utilizing Webex. Please visit www.CTGrown.gov/grants to obtain the webinar link. The session will be recorded and posted to the agency website if you are unable to attend the live event.

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Questions regarding the Farmland Restoration Grant can be directed to Lance Shannon, Lance.Shannon@ct.gov or Simon Levesque, Simon.Levesque@ct.gov. More information on application requirements, submission process, and accompanying forms can be found online at www.CTGrown.gov/grants.

Funding for the Farmland Restoration Grant is made possible by Connecticut General Statutes 22-6c. The Farmland Restoration Grant and any awards are subject to the requirements and provisions of state funding.



YOUR VOICE. YOUR FUTURE. YOUR OPPORTUNITY.



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

#AgCensus




United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

#AgCensus



USDA ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE ANNOUNCES FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

In June 2022, APHIS announced the availability of up to \$17 million in funds for the National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program

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	<p>(NADPRP). While Tribal Nations and Tribal organizations were eligible to apply for that funding opportunity, an additional \$500,000 was specifically designated for a future funding opportunity for Tribes and Tribal organizations for animal disease preparedness and response activities.</p> <p>Today, APHIS is sharing the availability of this first-ever NADPRP Tribal Nations funding opportunity as we seek to continue to advance animal disease preparedness and response through its Farm Bill animal health programs.</p> <p>USDA APHIS will provide up to \$500,000 to further animal disease prevention, preparedness, and response in priority areas. Eligible applicants include Native American Tribes and governments, Tribal organizations, and Tribal colleges and universities. APHIS will prioritize funding to project proposals aimed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering outreach & education on animal disease prevention, preparedness, and response, • Increasing livestock and poultry biosecurity, • Supporting training and exercises for Tribal animal agriculture sector responders, • Developing and exercising Tribal animal disease emergency response plans, and • Enhancing animal disease traceability for an animal disease outbreak. <p>APHIS' Office of National Tribal Liaison (ONTL) in partnership with NADPRP is offering a webinar to assist Tribal applicants with the application process. The webinar: <i>"National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program (NADPRP) Tribal Funding Opportunity: Information for Applicants"</i> will be held on November 1, 2022, at 1:00 pm EDT. To register, please visit https://forms.gle/MkkyzbYAH1tkQpnh9. The webinar will be recorded and posted to the NADPRP website for those unable to attend the live session.</p> <p>More information is available at: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/resources/farmbill.</p> <hr/> <div data-bbox="342 1463 1284 2011">  <p>YOUR VOICE MATTERS!</p> <p>SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT ON A NEW PROVISION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO AG PRODUCERS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION</p> <p>COMMENTS CAN BE SUBMITTED TO THE FEDERAL REGISTER THROUGH NOVEMBER 14, 2022</p> </div>	

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UPDATING PUBLIC COMMENT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO

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AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is seeking public comment on how it should implement Section 22007 of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), a provision that aims to provide assistance to the nation's farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners who experienced discrimination in USDA's farm lending programs.

Section 22007 provides a transformative opportunity for USDA to help farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners impacted by discrimination in USDA farm lending programs. IRA Section 22007 directs USDA to provide financial assistance to producers who have experienced discrimination in USDA's farm lending programs and has appropriated \$2.2 billion for this purpose.

This request for information is an important step in making sure farmers, advocates, academics, legislators, tribal governments, and other experts who have important perspectives that must be incorporated to assist USDA in implementing these provisions to fulfill the intent of Congress.

The 30-day comment period closes on November 14, 2022.

[Click here for more information.](#)



APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN FOR THE 2023 NEW ENGLAND FARMER MICROGRANTS PROGRAM!

Launched in 2020, the New England Farmer Microgrants Program (NEFMP) provides direct financial support to farmers across New England. The program seeks to address some of the key barriers faced by farmers in the region: access to farmland, farm succession/transfer planning, and the adoption of regenerative farming practices.

New for the 2023 grant cycle, NEFMP will consist of two separate funding opportunities. Most funds will be awarded as \$10,000 grants through

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number of awards will be granted through the **Farmland Access, Succession, and Transfer Support** funding opportunity, in amounts of \$5,000 each, for farmers anywhere in New England.

If you need the materials in Spanish, please email [Kristen Irvin](#).

Si necesita los materiales en español, envíe un correo electrónico a [Kristen Irvin](#).

Applications will be accepted until November 4 at 5 p.m.

[Learn more about the program goals here.](#)



BIDEN-HARRIS ADMINISTRATION INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS UNDER THE FERTILIZER PRODUCTION EXPANSION PROGRAM

Grants Will Increase Innovative, American-Made Fertilizer Production, Spur Competition and Help U.S. Farmers Address Rising Costs

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the Biden-Harris Administration is inviting U.S. farmers and agricultural producers to apply for grants under the Fertilizer Production Expansion Program. The Administration recently announced it is making \$500 million in grants available through the program to increase American-made fertilizer production, spur competition and combat price hikes on U.S. farmers caused by the war in Ukraine.

“The Fertilizer Production Expansion Program is one of many ways the Biden-Harris Administration invests in the agricultural supply chain right here at home,” Vilsack said. “This funding will bring production and jobs back to the United States, promote competition and support American goods and services. Under the leadership of President Biden and Vice President Harris, USDA continues to create a resilient, secure and sustainable economy to support opportunities for local businesses and people across this nation. This program is a critical part of that effort.”


USDA begins accepting applications today via www.grants.gov. Applicants have two opportunities to submit their applications:

- Applicants may apply until **Nov. 14, 2022**, to receive priority for projects that increase the availability of fertilizer (nitrogen, phosphate or potash)

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- Applicants may apply until **Dec. 29, 2022**, to receive financial assistance to significantly increase American-made fertilizer production to spur competition and combat price hikes. This application window supports applicants who need more time to make additional capacity available.

[Click here for more information on the program.](#)




CT GROWN FOR CT KIDS GRANT

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED THROUGH NOVEMBER 15, 2022

To Apply: Visit www.CTGrown.gov/grants and click on CT Grown for CT Kids

- CT Grown for CT Kids is a statewide grant program to support farm to school programming
- Funds projects up to \$24,999 for 18 months
- Q & A session on Thursday October 6 11:00 AM, register at CTGrown.gov/grants--> CT Grown for CT Kids
- For questions contact Cyrena.Thibodeau@ct.gov 860-895-3094



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 fsa.usda.gov.

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Ag Market Pricing

[Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT](#)
Prices provided on October 24, 2022

[New Holland Dairy Auction - New Holland, PA](#)

[CT Farmers' Market Prices](#)
Prices provided on October 27, 2022

[Lancaster Farming Hay Market 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

[Advertisement space can now be purchased online. Click here to have your posting added.](#)

For Sale

For Sale, Christmas Greens. Wreaths & Roping, Many sizes and varieties. We Deliver 203-457-1344. (12/2/22)

Lynn Blackmer, local Nationwide Farm Insurance Agent. AFIS Certified. Nationwide Farm Master Certified. Serving CT, RI & MA. Any type or size farm. CT Farm Bureau members may qualify for a discount. Cell: 860-377-8947. lblackmer@caluoriinsurance.com. Evenings & weekends available. (1/27/22)

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.

Bush Hog Subsoiler Model HDSS1L single shank, 3 pt. Hitch, goes 23" deep. Like new condition. No rust. \$425 or best offer. 203-283-1459.

John Bean 200-gallon stainless-steel high-pressure sprayer on skids. 100 ft. hose on reel, premium J. Bean model 785-gun, mechanical agitation, Honda OHV motor. \$2,200 or best offer. 203-283-1459.

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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

Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

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

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.

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; www.griffinfarmtools.com

Wanted

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

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

Employment Opportunities

CT RC&D is hiring through its Job Jump Start Program. Currently, there are two available positions open. Applications are due in by November 4th.

- [**Conservation Nutrient Management Planner I**](#)
- [**Conservation Planner I**](#)

Upcoming Events
(click on image below for info)

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@ctfvc



VIRTUAL EVENT

Farm Transition & Farmland Restoration Grants Workshop



CT FVC
Host



CT DoAG
Guest Speakers



CT RC&D FarmUp
Co-Host

THURSDAY
10 NOVEMBER

STARTS @ 7 PM

GRANTS UP TO \$49,999

Register Online for FREE

GRANT DEADLINE

The USDA Rural Development REAP (Renewable Energy for America Program) deadline is approaching for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects on Connecticut Farms.

10.31.2022



More info at
ctfarmenergy.org
or 860.345.3977 ext 100



"MARKETING YOUR FARM" WEBINAR SERIES

CONTENT CREATION, SOCIAL MEDIA
& WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOUR FARM
TUESDAY NOV. 1
6:00-7:30 PM

ACCEPTING SNAP/EBT
AT YOUR FARM
WEDNESDAY NOV. 9TH
6:00-7:30 PM

NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO SELL TO
WHOLESALE BUYERS
TUESDAY NOV. 15TH
6:30-8:00 PM

REGISTER AT GROWNCONNECTED.ORG/FORFARMERS

SUPPORTED
BY:



Funding for these programs was made possible by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agriculture Marketing Services through grant agreement AM19010000000101. The project's content is the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the USDA.

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GROWING FARMS

SAVE THE DATE

Northeast
Disability and Agriculture
Conference

February 4, 2023*
9am - 3pm
Harkness Park
Waterford, CT

Our first Northeast conference invites farmers, service providers and community supporters to engage in active dialogue around disability, mental health, and suicide. Interactive workshops will build connections and equip participants with skills and resources to promote advocacy, equity, access, and a just agricultural system.

A post conference stipend will be given to the first 50 farmers who identify as having a disability, have registered in advance, and attend the full conference.

*Snow date: February 11, 2023



Scan to register

<https://forms.gle/GdPPhn8fTKYQaB7>

GROWING FARMS

GUARDE LA FECHA

Conferencia Noreste
sobre Discapacidad y
Agricultura

Febrero 4, 2023*
9am - 3pm
Harkness Park
Waterford, CT

Nuestra primera conferencia del noreste invita agricultores, proveedores de servicios y comunidades de apoyo a participar en un diálogo activo sobre la discapacidad, la salud mental y el suicidio. Los talleres interactivos construirán conexiones y equiparán a los participantes con habilidades y recursos para promover abogacía, la equidad, el acceso y un sistema agrícola justo.

Se dará un estipendio después de la conferencia a los primeros (50) agricultores que se identifiquen como discapacitados; se hayan registrado con anticipación y asistan a la conferencia completa.

*Fecha si nieva: Febrero 11, 2023



escanear para registrarse

<https://forms.gle/GdPPhn8fTKYQaB7>

SOLID GROUND
A Program of UConn Extension

AG MECHANICS TRAINING SERIES

OCT 29TH CHAINSAW SKILLS & SAFETY
Directed toward WOMEN
CLOVERLEIGH FARM, COLUMBIA - 8:30AM-4:30AM

Intro to safe chain saw operation. Students will learn about PPE, work area safety, basic saw maintenance, chain sharpening, and how to develop a felling plan. Each student will have a chance to fell their own tree. You may bring your own saw or use one that will be provided by the instructor.

COST PER WORKSHOP \$25 - Lunch included
SPACES ARE LIMITED! REGISTER TODAY at newfarms.uconn.edu/solidground/
If the cost is prohibitive, you may request a stipend by emailing rebecca.toms@uconn.edu

Please contact us in advance with special needs (dietary, translation, accessibility, etc.) We'll do our best to accommodate you

COVID REQUIREMENTS:
PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND IF YOU ARE NOT FEELING WELL- YOU WILL RECEIVE A REFUND.

UConn Extension's 2023 Vegetable & Small Fruit Growers' Conference

Wednesday, January 4, 2023
Sheraton Hartford South Hotel
100 Capital Blvd, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Trade Show: 8:00-8:55, 10:00-10:45, 12:00 -1:00
8:00-8:55 Registration, breakfast, socialize, visit trade show
Morning Moderator - Mary Concklin, Fruit Extension Specialist Emeritus, UConn
8:55 Welcome: Indrajeet Chaubey, Dean of CAHNR, UConn
9:00 **Nutrient management in sweet corn** George Hamilton, Emeritus Professor, UNH
9:30 **Vegetable benefits and disease control of nanotechnology** Wade Elmer, CAES
10:00 Announcements
10:15 Break (trade show/coffee & tea)
10:45 **Plug strawberries VS bare root strawberries - pros and cons of both** Tim Nourse, Nourse Farms
11:15 **Small scale bean threshing project with UConn engineering students** Susan Mitchell, Cloverleigh Farm
11:35 **Trap crop- UConn research update** Ana Legrand, UConn
11:50 **New opportunities to sell to K-12 schools and early care providers.** Jiff Martin, UConn
12:00-1:00 Lunch break/trade show
Afternoon Moderator - Shuresh Ghimire, Vegetable Extension Specialist, UConn
1:00 **Winter growing in low tunnels.** Robert Durgy, CAES
1:30 **Drone imaging to monitor potato leafhopper damage in the field.** Chandni Witharana, UConn
1:45 **Strawberries and irrigation/fertigation** Trevor Hardy and Zoe Stapp, Brookdale Fruit Farm
2:15 **Ozone microbubble for produce safety** Abhinav Upadhyay, UConn
2:30 **No-till and soil health growers' panel** Jamie Jones, Jones Family Farm, Bryan O'Hara, Tobacco Road Farm, others TBD
3:30 Pesticide recertification credits and socialize: 4 CEU to be confirmed

REGISTRATION:

Regular: Early Bird (prior to 12/29) \$50.00 (+\$1.00 processing fee)
After 12/29 \$70.00 same day registration will be available, cash or check only
<https://s.uconn.edu/ctvfc2023registration>

Student: Early Bird (prior to 12/29) \$30.00
After 12/29: \$50.00, same day registration will be available, cash or check only. You MUST present your school or student ID when you check in the day of the event.
<https://s.uconn.edu/ctvfc2023studentregistration>

Contact tolland@uconn.edu 860 875-3331 if you have any questions.



The University of Connecticut and UConn Extension's status are not subject to program problems and employees. Please call five weeks prior to the event if special accommodations are needed.



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