

Agricultural Navigator

Dutchess County Planning & Development

Amanda Bergin



My Background

SUNY Cobleskill

- Associates in Dairy Production & Management
- B.T. in Agricultural Business Management

Currently pursuing a Masters in Food & Agribusiness

Dairy Herd Manager in Millbrook previous 8 years



What is the Agricultural Navigator

- A neutral resource connecting farmers, municipalities, and agencies.
- Provides clear information on proposed regulations and actions affecting agriculture.
- Helps ensure decisions are informed and aligned with agricultural needs.

Key Responsibilities

- Connect farmers with programs, grants, and business development opportunities.
- Support municipalities on zoning, land-use, ag assessment, and farmland protection.
- Build partnerships with CCE Dutchess, Soil & Water, NYS Ag & Markets, other agricultural organizations
- Promote agriculture's role in the economy, landscape, and community.
- Strengthen collaboration among educational institutions and nonprofits.

Resources Offered

- **Agricultural Directory:** Centralized access to local, regional, and state agricultural support.
- Resources covering farmland protection, business management, markets, new farmers, advocacy, and environmental issues.
- Agricultural Data & Maps: District boundaries, planning references, and farmland protection data.
- Data to support municipalities in farm-friendly policy development.

Cultivating Dutchess



For Farmers

For Educators & Students

For Municipal Officials

Public Engagement

Agriculture has been and continues to be one of Dutchess County's primary industries. Our economy, rural landscape, environment, health, and community character are all positively affected by farms operating here. Our farms provide many benefits to the local community, including:

- Fresh food and food security;
- Jobs on the farm, through value-added processing and sales, and other agricultural infrastructures;
- Support to other local businesses through the sale and purchase of goods and services; and
- Agri-tourism.

Although agriculture has changed through time, it continues to evolve and diversify, and plays a significant role in both the economy and quality of life for Dutchess County residents.

! Please continue to check as our Cultivating Dutchess web resources continue to grow and expand.

Amanda Bergin
Agricultural Navigator

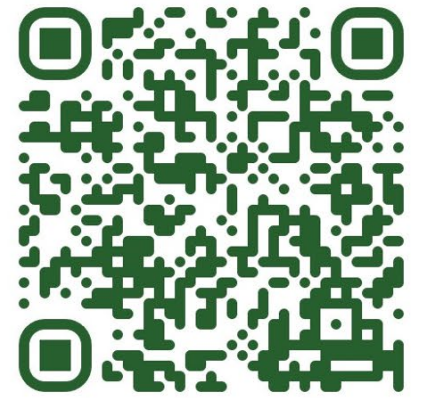
Contact

 agnavigator@dutchessny.gov

 845-486-3638

 Dutchess County Department of
Planning & Development
85 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 107
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Check out the New Agricultural Directory!



Featured Tools



Agricultural Directory



Agricultural Plan



Community Profiles

Coming in 2026



Data & Maps

Agricultural Navigator

The Agricultural Navigator is here to help connect people, resources, and ideas that support Dutchess County agriculture. Acting as a bridge between farmers, municipal officials, educators, and organizations, the Agricultural Navigator makes it easier to find clear, reliable information and build the partnerships that keep agriculture strong.

What the Agricultural Navigator does:

- **Supports farmers** by connecting them with programs, services, and opportunities to grow their businesses.
- **Works with municipalities** to provide guidance on farmland protection, zoning, assessment, and policies that impact local agriculture.
- **Builds partnerships** across county agencies, nonprofits, and schools to align efforts and share resources.
- **Expands awareness** of agriculture's role in our economy, environment, and quality of life.

By fostering communication and collaboration, the Agricultural Navigator helps ensure that agriculture continues to thrive as a vital part of Dutchess County today and for generations to come.

Boards and Committees

Agricultural Farmland Protection Board
(AFPB)

Right-To-Farm Dispute Resolution
Committee

Contact Information

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