

# Inventory of Agricultural Resources

## County Agencies and Organizations

### [Dutchess County Agricultural Navigator](#)

Phone: (845) 867-3075

Email: [AgNavigator@dutchessny.gov](mailto:AgNavigator@dutchessny.gov)

The Ag Navigator acts as a conduit for farmers, municipal officials and economic development specialists to provide impartial information and advice when implementation of local regulations are proposed that may have an impact on agriculture, farmland and agricultural businesses.

The Ag Navigator also assists in the implementation of the [Dutchess County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan](#) under the guidance of the Dutchess County Agricultural Advisory Committee.

### [Dutchess County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board](#)

Phone: (845) 677-8011 ext. 3 or (845) 486-3600

Email: [DutchessAFPB@gmail.com](mailto:DutchessAFPB@gmail.com)

The Dutchess County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board primary function is to report to the Dutchess County Legislature concerning matters affecting agriculture and farmland of Dutchess County, New York, including:

- Approving County Agricultural District Applications and Review
- Oversee mapping of Agricultural District parcels
- [County's Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan](#)

### [Dutchess County Planning and Development](#)

Phone: (845) 486-3600

Email: [plandev@dutchessny.gov](mailto:plandev@dutchessny.gov)

The Department of Planning and Development helps to maintain and enhance the County's quality of life. The Department is responsible for countywide planning, coordination of economic development activities, planning assistance to local governments, and comprehensive mapping and geographic information systems (GIS) data.

- [Dutchess County Agricultural Advisory Committee](#)
- [Hudson River Valley Greenway Compact/Greenway Guides](#)
- [NYS GML 239 L&M reviews](#)
- [Partnership for Manageable Growth](#)
- [Greenway Guide to Saving Farmland with Development](#): The primary goal is the conservation of productive farmland for the long-range continuation of farm operations. Maintenance of open land is not an issue when conserved farm acreage continues to be part of the working landscape.

### [Dutchess Tourism, Inc.](#)

Phone: (800) 445-3131

Email: [info@dutchesstourism.com](mailto:info@dutchesstourism.com)

Take any road through Dutchess County, head in any direction, and eventually, you'll pass a farm, more than likely, several farms. Agriculture is a driving economic force in the Hudson Valley, and a way of life. To get the complete Hudson Valley Farm Fresh experience, avail yourself of the many opportunities to enjoy its bounty.

- [Farm Fresh Information](#)

### **[Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County](#)**

Phone: (845) 677-8223

Email: [dutchess@cornell.edu](mailto:dutchess@cornell.edu)

Cornell Cooperative Extension puts knowledge to work in pursuit of economic vitality, ecological sustainability and social well-being. We bring local experience and research based solutions together, helping New York State families and communities thrive in our rapidly changing world.

We offer agricultural education, resource-based information, and farm business management assistance to farmers and strategic initiatives in agricultural sustainability and economic development.

- [Agriculture](#)
- [Agricultural Navigator](#)
- [Commercial Horticulture](#)
- [Community Gardening](#)
- [Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program \(ENYCHP\)](#)
- [Youth and 4-H](#)
- [Cornell Small Farms Program](#)
- [Cornell Farm to School Outreach](#)

### **[Dutchess County Soil and Water Conservation District](#)**

Phone: (845) 677-8011 Ext: 3

Email: [dutch@dutchessswcd.org](mailto:dutch@dutchessswcd.org)

DCSWCD works to meet the needs of local and county governments, farmers, landowners, and other land users. The District identifies and assesses problems dealing with the conservation of our county's resources and then develops, and carries out, programs to solve them. The outstanding technical expertise of the District in the areas of soil erosion, water management, forestry, organic waste management, water quality preservation, and recreational development, enable it to provide specialized assistance for a variety of issues facing Dutchess County today.

They provide technical and financial assistance for the design and installation of soil and water conservation practices, including barnyard runoff control, stream protection, cropland erosion control, and nutrient management.

- [Agricultural Environmental Management \(AEM\)](#)
- [Agricultural District Annual Inclusion Applications](#)
- [Agricultural Value Assessment Soil Worksheets](#)
- [Tree & Shrub Seedling Sale](#)

### **[Dutchess County Real Property Tax Service Agency](#)**

Phone: (845) 486-2140

Email: [realproperty@dutchessny.gov](mailto:realproperty@dutchessny.gov)

The majority of functions of the Real Property Tax Service Agency (RPTSA) are mandated by Article 15A of the Real Property Tax Law. The Agency's primary function is the production and maintenance of tax maps. These maps were originally designed for local assessors to assist them in fulfilling their legal obligations by displaying the size and location of parcels within the towns, cities, villages, schools and special districts.

The Real Property Tax Service Agency provides services to local assessors related to appraisals, sales, and revaluation projects.

- [Tax Rolls](#)

- [Assessment Rolls](#)
- [Parcel Access](#)
- [Forms](#)

### [Th!nk Dutchess Alliance for Business](#)

Phone: (845) 463-5400

Email: [info@thinkdutchess.com](mailto:info@thinkdutchess.com)

Th!nk Dutchess Alliance for business is a partnership of local government, education institutions, economic development organizations, and business associations working under one county-wide economic development strategy to retain, expand and attract businesses and jobs in Dutchess County.

- Starting a Business in Dutchess County
- Expanding Your Business in Dutchess County
- Locating Your Business in Dutchess County

### [Dutchess Land Conservancy](#)

Phone: (845) 677-3002

Email: [kristenb@dutchessland.org](mailto:kristenb@dutchessland.org)

Dutchess Land Conservancy is a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to preserving the rural character, important resources and open lands of Dutchess County, New York. We encourage sound, well planned growth balanced with the conservation of our important natural resources and working landscapes to ensure healthy and vibrant communities for the benefit of all generations.

Working with the County Farmland Protection Board, since 2001, DLC has leveraged numerous Federal, State, County, Town, and private funding sources to secure millions of dollars for farmland protection in Dutchess County. DLC offers:

- [Land Conservation](#)
- [Farmland Protection](#)
- [Stewardship](#)
- [Public Education](#)
- [Farmer/Landowner Match Program](#)

### [Dutchess Putnam Westchester Farm Bureau](#)

Phone: (845) 471-8655

Email: [rciardi@nyfb.org](mailto:rciardi@nyfb.org)

The Dutchess Putnam Westchester Farm Bureau is a member-supported organization which works on public policy to give farmers and non-farmers alike the opportunity to be part of an organization dedicated to supporting and enriching agriculture. It provides an opportunity for individuals interested in the food system, land issues and rural living to join together and make their voices heard. We are active within the political system on a broad range of issues that concern every New Yorker, from taxation, conservation to local food availability. We believe that a strong, viable agricultural industry is beneficial not only to our economy, but also to our local communities and our consumers.

### [Dutchess County Sheep and Wool Growers Association](#)

Email: [dcswgmembership@gmail.com](mailto:dcswgmembership@gmail.com)

The Dutchess County Sheep and Wool Growers Association promotes and develops the sheep industry in the Hudson Valley. Whether you are a breeder of wool or meat breed sheep, spinner, weaver, 4-H member, youth or a lover of wool and fiber, this organization is for you.

- To promote “Lamb & Wool”
- To promote Local Sheep Breeders
- To provide current educational information in our field
- To provide links to resources in related web sites
- To feature local Products and Livestock

## Regional Agencies and Organizations

### [Cornell Institute for Climate Smart Solutions](#)

Phone: (607) 254-8808

Email: [cicss@cornell.edu](mailto:cicss@cornell.edu)

The Cornell Institute for Climate Smart Solutions (CICSS) builds stakeholder capacity and works toward a future where agricultural, environmental, and social systems are resilient in the face of a rapidly changing climate and have reduced their impacts on the climate system.

(CICSS) is focused on supporting farmers of New York and beyond with decision tools for strategic adaptation to climate change, so that they are better able to cope with potential negative effects of climate change, and are better able to take advantage of any opportunities that it might bring.

### [Cornell Small Farms Program](#)

Phone: (607) 255-9227

Email: [smallfarmsprogram@cornell.edu](mailto:smallfarmsprogram@cornell.edu)

We help farmers get expert assistance to facilitate all phases of small farm business development, from initial growth to optimization to maturity.

Learn about our projects, funding sources and other activities by downloading our high resolution [Brochure](#).

### [Climate Smart Farming](#)

Phone: (607) 254-4942

The Climate Smart Farming program is a voluntary initiative that helps farmers in New York and the Northeastern US to:

- Increase agricultural productivity and farming incomes sustainably
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural production through adoption of best management practices, and increased energy efficiency and use of renewable energy
- Increase farm resiliency to extreme weather and climate variability through adoption of best management practices for climate change adaptation
- [Climate](#)
- [Tools](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Forum](#)
- [Videos](#)
- [Team](#)

### [Northeast Regional Climate Center](#)

Phone: (607) 255-1751

The mission of the Northeast Regional Climate Center is to facilitate and enhance the collection, dissemination and use of climate data and information, as well as to monitor and assess climatic conditions and impacts in the twelve-state, northeastern region of the United States. Its activities are intended to further the economic efficiency and general welfare of public and private institutions and individuals in the region.

### **[Hudson Valley Agribusiness Development Corporation](#)**

Phone: (518) 432-5360

Email: [info@hvadc.org](mailto:info@hvadc.org)

From analysis and start-up assistance for new ventures and enterprises, to market expansion and improved distribution networks for existing agricultural businesses, HVADC has to expertise and resources to help.

- Agricultural Development Support for Communities
- Technical and Professional Assistance
- Project Planning and Development Services
- Funding and Capital Access
- Feasibility Analysis

Initiatives:

- [Farm & Food Business Accelerator](#)
- [Hudson Valley Bounty](#)
- [Incubator Without Walls](#)

### **[Farm Credit East](#)**

Phone: (518) 851-3313

Email: [farmcrediteast\\_claverack\\_admin\\_WCMS@farmcrediteast.com](mailto:farmcrediteast_claverack_admin_WCMS@farmcrediteast.com)

Farm Credit East is part of the Farm Credit System, a nationwide agricultural network providing credit and affiliated services to those in agriculture and related industries across the United States.

Farm Credit East is dedicated to serving the agricultural credit and financial needs of those in the business of agriculture, including farmers, nursery and greenhouse operators, forest products producers, fishermen, lobstermen, part-time growers, agribusiness owners and country home owners.

Farm Credit East offers:

- [Loans](#)
- [Leases](#)
- [New Farmer Program Services](#)
- [Financial Benchmarking](#)
- [Payroll](#)
- [Tax Planning and Preparation](#)
- [Business Consulting](#)
- [Grant Writing](#)
- [Crop Insurance](#)

### **[USDA Farm Service Agency - Dutchess, Putnam and Westchester Counties](#)**

Phone: (845) 677-3952

Email: [Cindy.parrotte@ny.usda.gov](mailto:Cindy.parrotte@ny.usda.gov)

The New York FSA staff of more than 170 employees, works hard every day to ensure that New York farmers have the information they need to participate in federally funded agricultural programs. FSA-administered programs benefit all Americans by providing stability for our agricultural producers, thus helping ensure a safe, abundant and affordable supply of food and fiber. We invite you to explore our website and learn more about FSA programs and services.

- [Farm Bill](#): The Agricultural Act of 2014 is important legislation that provides authorization for services and programs that impact every American and millions of people around the world. The new Farm Bill builds on

historic economic gains in rural America over the past five years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for the taxpayer.

- [Farm Safety Net](#): Including, but not limited to:
  - [Dairy Programs](#)
  - [Marketing Assistance Loans](#)
  - [Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program](#)
  - [Conservation Programs](#)
  - [Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program \(CREP\)](#)
  - [Farm Loan Programs](#)

#### [USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service \(NRCS\) – Dutchess County](#)

Phone: (845) 677-3952

Email: [nrcsdistributioncenter@ia.usda.gov](mailto:nrcsdistributioncenter@ia.usda.gov)

NRCS offers technical and financial assistance to help farmers, ranchers and forest managers. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) draws on a long history of helping people help the land. For 80 years, NRCS and its predecessor agencies have worked in close partnerships with farmers and ranchers, local and state governments, and other federal agencies to maintain healthy and productive working landscapes.

- [NRCS Programs](#)

#### [American Farmland Trust, New York Office](#)

Phone: (518) 581-0078

Email: [tbiello@farmland.org](mailto:tbiello@farmland.org)

Our mission is to protect farmland, promote sound farming practices, and keep farmers on the land.

- [Hudson Valley Farmlink](#)
- [Farm to Institution New York State](#)
- [Cultivating Clean Water in New York](#)
- [Protecting Farms in New York](#)
- [Planning for Agriculture in New York: A Toolkit for Towns and Counties \(2011\)](#): This publication is a toolkit for those New York communities that recognize the importance of local farms and want to take action to support them. The Guide analyzes ways that towns have supported agriculture using tools such as right-to-farm laws, zoning codes, comprehensive plans, subdivision ordinances, property tax reduction programs, and purchase and transfer of development rights.
- [New York Agricultural Landowner Guide: A Guide to Public Farmland Conservation Programs \(2010\)](#): The Guide aims to help farmers and other farmland owners navigate the sometimes confusing array of public programs available to reduce taxes as well as steward and protect their land. This updated version identifies energy and environmental opportunities in a green economy and programs focused on enhancing farm viability.
- [At a Crossroads: Agricultural Economic Development in the Hudson Valley \(2004\)](#): This resource examines how local governments, organizations, farmers and citizens can best act to strengthen the region's agricultural industry. The Report makes 13 recommendations related to strengthening the economic vitality of Valley farms.

### [Scenic Hudson](#)

Phone: (845) 473-4440

Email: [info@scenichudson.org](mailto:info@scenichudson.org)

Scenic Hudson is dedicated to protecting and restoring the Hudson River, its riverfront and the majestic vistas and working landscapes beyond as an irreplaceable national treasure for America and a vital resource for residents and visitors.

- [Building Community](#)
- [Environmental Education](#)
- [Conserving Your Land](#)

### [Glynwood Center](#)

Phone: (845) 265-3338

The Glynwood Center ensures the Hudson Valley is a region defined by food, where farming thrives. We work to advance regenerative agriculture that benefits the natural environment, energizes local economies, enhances human health and strengthens rural communities.

Provides the tools and resources aspiring agricultural entrepreneurs need to develop and manage viable farm enterprises; offers access to land, housing, shared equipment and infrastructure, farm and business mentoring, technical classes, peer learning opportunities, and working capital.

- [Farming at Glynwood](#)
- [Training Farmers](#)
  - Apprentice Program
  - Hudson Valley Farm Business Incubator
- [Creating Coalitions](#)

### [Hudson River Valley Greenway](#)

Phone: (518) 473-3835

Email: [hrvg@hudsongreenway.ny.gov](mailto:hrvg@hudsongreenway.ny.gov)

To continue and advance the state's commitment to the preservation, enhancement and development of the world-renowned scenic, natural, historic, cultural and recreational resources of the Hudson River Valley while continuing to emphasize economic development activities and remaining consistent with the tradition of municipal home rule.

- [Community Planning](#)
- [Trails](#)
- [National Heritage Area](#)
- [Grants and Funding](#)

### [The Benjamin Center](#) – formerly CRREO – Center for Research, Regional Education and Outreach

Phone: (845) 257-7869

Email: [CRREO@newpaltz.edu](mailto:CRREO@newpaltz.edu)

The Benjamin Center connects our region with the expertise of SUNY New Paltz faculty. We assist in all aspects of applied research, evaluation, and policy analysis. We provide agencies and businesses with the opportunity to obtain



competitive grants, achieve efficiencies, and identify implementable areas for success.

- Conducts studies on topics of regional and statewide importance;
- Brings visibility and focus to these matters;
- Fosters communities working together to better serve our citizenry;
- Advances the public interest in our region.
- [Agriculture Supporting Community in the Mid-Hudson Region](#)

#### [Heroic Food Farm](#)

Phone: (917) 806-5055

Email: [Jasmin@heroicfood.org](mailto:Jasmin@heroicfood.org)

A non-profit organization, which prepares and trains military veterans for careers in sustainable farming, agricultural trades, and food entrepreneurship in a veteran-supportive environment.

#### [Hudson Valley Harvest](#)

Phone: (800) 811-3975

Email: [info@hv-harvest.com](mailto:info@hv-harvest.com)

Hudson Valley Harvest is a local food distributor based in the Hudson Valley, working with small and medium farms to source vegetables, herbs, fruit, meat, eggs, dairy, grains, flours, beans, honey, maple syrup, and more. Hudson Valley Harvest also sells to wholesale customers in New York City, the Hudson Valley, and throughout NJ and CT, including restaurants, catering companies, cafés, grocery stores, coops, schools and other institutions.

#### [Hudson Valley Fresh](#)

Phone: (845) 264-2372

Email: [info@hudsonvalleyfresh.com](mailto:info@hudsonvalleyfresh.com)

Hudson Valley Fresh is a Dairy Farmer Partnership dedicated to preserving the agricultural heritage of the Hudson River Valley and promoting it as one of the premier food regions of the United States. We produce premium quality dairy products— whole, skim, low-fat and chocolate milk along with half & half, heavy cream, yogurt, ice cream mix and sour cream.

Their mission is to secure living wages for our farmers and their families. By ensuring a fair price for our farmers' goods, we keep those farmers in business, which means preventing the loss of their land to development. Our Hudson Valley Fresh farms are currently preserving 8,000 acres of open land.

#### [Open Space Institute \(OSI\)](#)

Phone: (212) 290-8200

Email: [egoonan@osiny.org](mailto:egoonan@osiny.org)

All of OSI's work is directed by a consistent strategy emphasizing permanent protection on a landscape-level scale. OSI protects diverse landscapes including parks, preserves, working farms and forests, and utilizes climate science to identify critical landscapes for protection.

- [NYS Land Conservation](#)
- [Conservation Capital](#)
- [Conservation Research](#)
- [Land Acquisition](#)

### [Local Economies Project \(LEP\)](#)

Phone: (845) 331-5500

Email: [LEPinfo@newwf.org](mailto:LEPinfo@newwf.org)

The mission at Local Economies Project is to build an equitable and ecologically resilient food system in Hudson Valley. Through program development, grant funding, and convening partners across the region, we are fostering the food and farming economy and its capacity to nurture the natural environment and serve our communities.

- [Hudson Valley Farm Hub](#)
- [Ecological Farming](#)
- [Food Justice](#)
- [Local Stewardship and Community](#)
- [Food Economy](#)

### [New England Small Farm Institute](#)

Phone: (413) 323-4531

Email: [info@smallfarm.org](mailto:info@smallfarm.org)

The New England Small Farm Institute (NESFI) is a land-based, non-profit organization. It was founded to encourage more sustainable regional agriculture. Their mission is to promote small farm development by providing information and training for aspiring, beginning and transitioning farmers.

### [Northeast Beginning Farmers Project](#)

Phone: (607) 255-9227

Email: [smallfarmsprogram@cornell.edu](mailto:smallfarmsprogram@cornell.edu)

The Small Farms Program and Beginning Farmer Project aren't able to provide one-on-one consultations about crop selection, markets, or other aspects of farm start-up. We rely on our county and regional Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) partners for this, and we have a Small Farm/Beginning Farmer liaison in every CCE office. If you are located in NY, please [visit the list of county contacts](#) to find yours.

- [Plan Your Farm](#) - This portal guides you through tutorials, videos, and links to people who can help you develop your farm plans.
- [Online Courses](#) - Interactive 5-7-week courses connect you to the information and people you need to start a successful farm business or diversify your farm
- [Farm Ops](#) - To enhance the resources and training available to military veterans interested in farming, we will team with established Veterans groups to:
  - Create a statewide service provider network for organizations to support agriculture training for veterans
  - Implement multiple education strategies to engage and train military/ veterans who want to farm
- [Trainers Toolbox](#) – The Trainers Toolbox is a compilation of tools for educators from the Northeast Beginning Farmer Learning Network (BFLN) meetings.
- [Profit Teams](#) - The Beginning Farmer Profit Team Program seeks to improve the long-term success of these farms by providing customized, one-on-one guidance from farm professionals (financial, production, legal, marketing, etc.) over an 18-mo to 2-year period.

### [Northeast Center for Food Entrepreneurship](#)

Phone: (315) 787-2273

Email: [snp47@cornell.edu](mailto:snp47@cornell.edu)

The Northeast Center for Food Entrepreneurship (NECFE) started as a joint effort to expand the activities of the NYS Food Venture Center at Cornell University and the Center for Food Science at the University of Vermont, and was funded in part by Fund for Rural America/CSREES/USDA from January 2000 to January 2005.

They strive to provide comprehensive assistance to beginning and established food entrepreneurs, thus promoting sustainable economic development of rural communities.

#### **[Oblong Land Conservancy](#)**

Phone: (845) 855-5993

Email: [info@oblongland.org](mailto:info@oblongland.org)

In 1990 The Oblong Land Conservancy was formed by a group of Pawling area residents concerned about the negative effects of encroaching development. The future was clear: open space was rapidly disappearing along with 300 years of rural heritage and natural spaces.

Their mission is through engagement with the community, maintain the natural resources of the Harlem Valley, to include wildlife habitats, water quality, agricultural lands and scenic vistas.

#### **[The Nature Conservancy NY](#)**

Phone: (518) 690-7850

Email: [natureny@tnc.org](mailto:natureny@tnc.org)

The mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

#### **[Winnakee Land Trust](#)**

Phone: (845) 876-4213

Email: [contact@winnakee.org](mailto:contact@winnakee.org)

Winnakee Land Trust is a not for profit organization and was incorporated in 1989 to preserve and protect the natural, scenic and recreational resources of the Towns and Villages of Rhinebeck and Red Hook, the Towns of Clinton and Milan and the Village of Tivoli. In these municipalities in northwest Dutchess County, land conservation, open space, trails and farmland preservation is pursued by Winnakee.

## New York State Agencies and Programs

### [Empire State Development](#)

Phone: (845) 567-4882

Email: [nys-midhudson@esd.ny.gov](mailto:nys-midhudson@esd.ny.gov)

The mission of Empire State Development is to promote a vigorous and growing state economy, encourage business investment and job creation, and support diverse, prosperous local economies across New York State through the efficient use of loans, grants, tax credits, real estate development, marketing and other forms of assistance.

- [Agribusiness](#): With an abundance of farmland, New York State has a lot to offer the agribusiness industry thanks to programs and incentives supporting its wide range of growers and producers.
- [Craft Beverage](#): To benefit the growing number of independent brewers, vintners and distillers, we've worked collaboratively with the industry to transform our laws and add business-friendly legislation, including two new farm-based manufacturing licenses and tax incentives. The result is a renaissance in craft production throughout the state. Wineries, breweries, distilleries and cideries abound, their numbers keep climbing, and the trend is expected to continue thanks to the state's focus on this industry.
- [Distribution](#): Speed, flexibility and access to markets are key ingredients New York offers to product distributors. With a large, skilled labor pool, a vast network of railways, highways and ports — and the most ambitious infrastructure and development program in state history — the distribution industry finds an efficient and cost-effective home here. New York State also offers a host of other business resources and tax incentives.

### [NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets](#)

Phone: (800) 554-4501

Division of Agricultural Development aims to strengthen the viability and consumer awareness of New York's food and agricultural industry; includes activities and services in market development, business development and support.

- [NY Specialty Crop Block Grant Program](#): Funding to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops, defined as "fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture)."
- [NYS Grown and Certified Program](#): New York State Grown & Certified is the first statewide, multi-faceted food certification program designed to strengthen consumer confidence in New York products, address food product labeling, and assist New York farmers so they can take advantage of the growing market demand for foods locally grown and produced to a higher standard.
- [Organic Farming Development/Assistance](#): Guidance in locating resources on organic agriculture and organically produced foods.

### [New York Agriculture in the Classroom](#)

Phone: (518) 480-1978

Email: [NYAITC@cornell.edu](mailto:NYAITC@cornell.edu)

Their mission is to foster awareness, understanding, and appreciation of how we produce food and fiber, what we eat, and how we live, by helping educators, students, and their communities learn about and engage with agriculture and food systems.

Established in 1985, New York Agriculture in the Classroom (NYAITC) is a partnership of Cornell University, the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, the NYS Education Department, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and the New York Farm Bureau.

We work with pre-K through middle school teachers, Cornell Cooperative Extension and other community educators, farmers and producers, volunteers, parents, and community partners to increase agricultural literacy in New York State.

- [Rack Card](#)
- [Display Posters](#)

### [New York State Energy Research and Development Authority \(NYSERDA\)](#)

Phone: (518) 862-1090

Email: [info@nyserda.ny.gov](mailto:info@nyserda.ny.gov)

Offers objective information and analysis, innovative programs, technical expertise, and funding to help New Yorkers increase energy efficiency, save money, use renewable energy, and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

- [Programs and funding opportunities for the agricultural sector](#)

### [Farmers Market Federation of New York](#)

Phone: (315) 400 -1447

Email: [deggert@nyfarmersmarket.com](mailto:deggert@nyfarmersmarket.com)

The mission of the Federation is to support and promote the viability of farmers markets through innovative services, programs and partnerships that maximize the benefits of markets to sellers, buyers and communities.

- To provide educational support for farmers market managers, organizers and vendors.
- To facilitate information sharing among market managers, organizers and vendors.
- To provide services for member markets, vendors and direct marketing farmers.
- To provide promotional assistance to build awareness of local food, agriculture and farmers markets, strengthening the customer base, building profits for farmers and providing a vital venue for communities. To provide a unified voice for farmers markets in order to communicate the importance of markets to farmers, consumers, civic leaders and communities at large.
- [Guide to Becoming a Farmers Market Vendor](#)

### [New York Ag Connection](#)

Phone: (715) 384-7767

*New York Ag Connection* is a subsidiary of [USAgNet.com](http://USAgNet.com), a network of Web sites that serve the needs of the agricultural industry with local, state and national information on a daily basis. Users of *New York Ag Connection* can view products, listings, news updates and other information on one site without scouring through the search engines to find what they are looking for.

- [Agribusiness Directory](#)
- [Equipment Locator Service](#)
- [Listing of farm auctions](#)
- Web Site Design & Promotion

### [New York Farm Bureau](#)

Phone: (518) 436-8495

Email: [info@nyfb.org](mailto:info@nyfb.org)

The mission of New York Farm Bureau is "To Serve And Strengthen Agriculture." Farm Bureau is a non-governmental, volunteer organization financed and controlled by member families for the purpose of solving economic and public policy issues challenging the agricultural industry.

- [Listing of County Farm Bureaus](#)

### [NYS Agricultural Society](#)

Phone: (315) 727-5449

The New York State Agricultural Society was organized in 1832 to Foster, Promote and Improve the New York State Food & Agriculture Industry through Education, Leadership Development & Recognition Programs  
The NYS Agricultural Society:

- Sponsors an annual Agricultural Forum in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture and Markets to explore issues critical to the future of New York Agriculture.
- Publishes The Cultivator newsletter
- Supports the Empire State Food & Agricultural Leadership Institute (LEAD NY) and other leadership development efforts.
- Recognizes Ag Businesses, Ag Journalism, Ag Promotion, Bicentennial Farms, Century Farms, Distinguished Service to NY Agriculture, Farm Safety, and FFA Chapters of the Year.
- Holds participating memberships in the Cornell University Board of Trustees, and the Council of Agricultural Organizations

### [New York FarmNet](#)

Phone: (800) 547-FARM (3276)

E-mail: [NYFarmNet@cornell.edu](mailto:NYFarmNet@cornell.edu)

The mission of NY FarmNet is to provide New York farm families with free, confidential consulting services to develop skills to improve financial and production efficiency, and overcome business and family challenges. We accomplish this via personalized education, business and personal planning, and referrals.

Services Offered:

- Business Planning - Retirement and Estate Planning
- Financial Analysis - Stress Management
- Personal Wellbeing - Farming with the Family
- Business Transfers - Conflict Management

### [New York Farm Viability Institute](#)

Phone: (315) 453-3823

Email: [info@nyfvi.org](mailto:info@nyfvi.org)

The New York Farm Viability Institute is a grant making organization, led by volunteer farmers, funded primarily by New York State.

Our mission is to help New York's farmers become more profitable and to improve the long-term economic viability and sustainability of our state's farms, the food system, and the communities which they serve.

### [New York Sustainable Agriculture Working Group](#)

Phone: (716) 316-5839

Email: [nysawg@gmail.com](mailto:nysawg@gmail.com)

NYSAWG incorporated as a nonprofit 501(c)3 in 1998. New York's Sustainable Agriculture Working Group

promotes a healthy agricultural system that is environmentally sound, economically viable, and socially just for farmers and consumers by:

- Educating all stakeholders;
- Conducting research and development activities that foster sustainable rural development;
- Sponsoring public participation efforts that encourage all people to become active stewards of sustainable agricultural systems; and
- Promoting programs that support the development of sustainable communities

**[Small Scale Food Processors Association of New York](#)**

Email: [smallscaleny@gmail.com](mailto:smallscaleny@gmail.com)

The New York Small Scale Food Processors Association (NYSSFPA) supports and informs small-scale food processors through education, mentoring, marketing, and connections to the industry, and provides the resources to manage the challenges faced by processors in establishing and growing their food business.

This is what the NYSSFPA provides:

- Access to new regulatory information
- Mentors for startups
- Member Information
- Technical Information and assistance

## Federal Government Agencies and National Programs

### USDA

#### [Agricultural Marketing Service](#)

Administers programs that facilitate the efficient, fair marketing of U.S. agricultural products, including food, fiber, and specialty crops; provides the agricultural sector with tools and services that help create marketing opportunities.

- **Market News** - For 100 years, AMS has provided free, unbiased price and sales information to assist in the marketing and distribution of farm commodities. Each year, Market News issues thousands of reports, providing the industry with key wholesale, retail and shipping data.
- The reports give farmers, producers and other agricultural businesses the information they need to evaluate market conditions, identify trends, make purchasing decisions, monitor price patterns, evaluate transportation equipment needs and accurately assess movement.
- **Rules and Regulations** - The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) administers programs that facilitate the efficient, fair marketing of U.S. agricultural products, including food, fiber and specialty crops. Many of these programs are regulatory in nature and establish standards and requirements via the Federal rulemaking process.
- **Grades and Standards** - The USDA grade shields, official seals and labels are reputable symbols of the quality and integrity of American agricultural products. Large-volume buyers such as grocery stores, military institutions, restaurants, and even foreign governments use the quality grades as a common “language,” making business transactions easier.
- **Services** - AMS quality standards, grading, certification, auditing, and inspection are voluntary tools and services that industry can use to help promote and communicate quality and wholesomeness to consumers. These services assist businesses in differentiating themselves from their competition.
- **Resources** - AMS offers a wealth of information, data, reports and publications.
- **Specialty Crop Block Program** -The purpose of the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP) is to solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops. Specialty crops are defined as “fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture).”

#### [Farm Service Agency](#)

- Farm Loan Programs: Direct loans and loan guarantees to help family farmers start, purchase, or expand their farming operation; includes Farm Ownership Loans, Farm Operating Loans and Microloans, Emergency Farm Loans, Land Contract Guarantees, Loans for Beginning Farmers, etc.
- Biomass Crop Assistance Program: Financial assistance to owners and operators of agricultural and non-industrial private forest land who wish to establish, produce, and deliver biomass feedstocks.

#### [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)

- Agricultural Management Assistance: helps agricultural producers use conservation to manage risk and solve natural resource issues through natural resources conservation.
- Conservation Stewardship Program: helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems and adopt additional conservation activities to address priority resources concerns.
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQUIP): provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation or improved or created wildlife habitat.
- Agricultural Conservation Easement Program: provides financial and technical assistance to help conserve agricultural lands and wetlands and their related benefits. (Note: This is a new program under the 2014 Farm Bill that consolidates three former programs – the Wetlands Reserve Program, Grassland Reserve Program and Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program.)
  - **CRP** – Conservation Reserve Program



- [CREP](#) – Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- [Small Watershed Program](#)

#### [New Farmers Website](#)

- [New Farmers](#): Access the support and resources you need to begin farming or use our easy [Discovery Tool](#).
- [Women in Agriculture](#): Opportunities for women to grow, learn from one another, and lead within their industries.
- [Youth and Young Farmers](#): Discover new innovation at work in agriculture, support ag in your school, and get connected.
- [Veterans](#): Are you a veteran looking to start farming? Find support and resources that were made just for you.

#### [Rural Development, New York Office](#)

USDA Rural Development promotes economic development by supporting loans to businesses through banks, credit unions and community-managed lending pools. We offer technical assistance and information to help agricultural producers and cooperatives get started and improve the effectiveness of their operations.

- [Value-Added Producer Grants](#): provides agricultural producers with matching funds for value-added ventures that will increase the return on their agricultural commodities; can be used for planning (e.g., feasibility studies, business plans) and/or working capital.
- [Rural Energy for America \(REAP\)](#): grants and guaranteed loans to help agricultural producers purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements.
- [Farm Labor Housing Program](#): Direct loans and grants for new construction or substantial rehabilitation of safe, affordable rental housing for farm workers.

#### [Farm Aid](#)

Farm Aid works year-round to build a system of agriculture that values family farmers, good food, soil and water, and strong communities. Our annual concert celebrates farmers, eaters and music coming together for change.

#### [Agricultural Marketing Resource Center](#)

Addresses marketing and business planning for U.S. agricultural producers.

#### [The Center for Agricultural Development and Entrepreneurship \(CADE\)](#)

CADE connects farm and food producers to resources by providing professional, individualized and confidential business and marketing consulting to agricultural entrepreneurs.

#### [Farmer Veteran Coalition](#)

Cultivates a new generation of farmers and food leaders, and develops viable employment and meaningful careers through the collaboration of the farming and military communities.

#### [National Farm to School Network](#)

The National Farm to School Network (NFSN) is an information, advocacy and networking hub for communities working to bring local food sourcing and food and agriculture education into school systems and early care and education settings.

#### [National Good Agricultural Practices Program](#)

The National Good Agricultural Practices (GAPS) Program was established in 1999, funded by CSREES-USDA and US-FDA, and based at Cornell University. The GAPS Program has collaborators in 34 states throughout the nation and has created many educational materials to help implement good agricultural practices on the farm.

This website creates a user-friendly universal portal bringing GAPs related information together for growers, packers, farm workers, extension educators, scientists, state and federal government personnel, and other interested stakeholders.

### [National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service](#)

ATTRA is a program developed and managed by the National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT). The majority of funding for ATTRA is through a cooperative agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Business-Cooperative Service. We are also partially funded through sales and subscriptions of a portion of ATTRA materials and through contributions from friends and supporters. We are committed to providing high value information and technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, Extension agents, educators, and others involved in sustainable agriculture in the United States.

- [Sustainable Farming Internships](#)

### [National Young Farmers Coalition](#)

Phone: (518) 643-3564

Email: [info@youngfarmers.org](mailto:info@youngfarmers.org)

The National Young Farmers Coalition represents, mobilizes, and engages young farmers to ensure their success. They envision a country where young people who are willing to work, get trained and take a little risk can support themselves and their families in farming. They also support practices and policies that will sustain young, independent and prosperous farmers now and in the future.

### [Northeast Extension Risk Management Education Center](#)

The Northeast Extension Risk Management Education Center was established in 2001, and is located at the University of Delaware. It is funded through the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), and is one of four regional Extension Risk Management Education Centers located throughout the country. The mission of the Northeast Center and the national program is educating America's farmers and ranchers to manage the unique risks of producing food for the world's table.

### [Northeast Organic Farming Association](#)

The Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) is a coalition of seven NOFA state chapters. The purpose is to advocate for and educate on organic and sustainable agriculture, family-scale farming and homesteading in rural, suburban and urban areas, agricultural justice and other related policy issues.

- [Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York](#)

### [Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education](#)

Northeast SARE is a regional program of the nationwide SARE effort; SARE is part of the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, or NIFA. The SARE program serves all states and Island Protectorates and offers grants for funding relevant agricultural research projects.

### [WWOOF \(World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms\)](#)

WWOOF is a worldwide movement linking volunteers with organic farmers and growers to promote cultural and educational experiences based on trust and non-monetary exchange, thereby helping to build a sustainable, global community.

## Virtual Food Hubs

- [FarmersWeb](#): An online marketplace connecting buyers with local farms and producers.
- [Farms2Tables](#): An online platform to increase accessibility to, sales of, and consumption of locally produced goods, connecting buyers and sellers on a regional scale.
- [Local Dirt](#): A national website connecting local sellers (farms, farmers markets, cooperatives) with buyers (individuals, businesses, distributors).
- [New York Marketmaker](#): An interactive platform that seeks to foster business relationships between producers and consumers of food industry products and services.