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About Us

CCEDC, a subordinate governmental agency associated with Cornell University and its land-grant mission since 1869, provides research-based resources, tools and education for the residents and officials of Dutchess County. Our four program areas "Help People Help Themselves" through education on:

Agriculture & Horticulture

Environment & Energy

Family & Consumer Education

4-H Youth Development



Hello Friends,

Even though summer is winding down, we are as busy as ever! Read on to find out more about our programs this month - and stop by our tent at the 2017 Dutchess County Fair!

The programs below are just a sample of offerings for this month. Learn more about these and other CCEDC programs by contacting us at (845) 677-8223, visiting our website at www.ccedutchess.org, or checking out our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages!

Environment & Energy

On Wednesday August 9th, CCEDC's Environment & Energy Program participated in a kick-off meeting for a new project in partnership with the City of Beacon Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC) and the NYSDEC Hudson River Estuary Program. The project, funded by the Estuary Program, is aimed at providing technical assistance to one Dutchess County municipality which has expressed interest in working together to develop a Natural Resource Inventory, or NRI, for their community.

Several municipalities submitted applications to receive this technical assistance earlier in the year, and the City of Beacon was selected. The kick-off meeting was a great success as members of the CAC, City of Beacon staff, and Estuary Program and CCEDC staff convened to begin the planning phases of assembling a natural resource inventory for the City. The group was very engaged and enthusiastic, and work on assigning tasks, developing a timeline, gathering data, and making further connections has already begun. CCEDC staff is glad to be a part of the project and looks forward to helping contribute by providing technical assistance, data gathering, and map-making throughout the process.

2017 RAPP Picnic!

Family & Consumer Education Program

This summer FCE, with support from the Office for the Aging and the Parents A Second Time Around (PASTA) program were able to help send ten of our RAPP youth to the camp of their choice. Youth chose several camps in the region including Southern Dutchess Equestrian Center, Vassar College Basketball Camp, Catherine Street Center and Real Skills Network Camp.

DECC

Many of our four program areas have their own

specialized newsletters, which are sent out regularly, as well. If you're interested in reading the latest issue of each newsletter, click on the links below:

- [Dutchess Dirt](#)
- [Dutchess County Agriculture...It's a Growing Thing](#)
- [Environment and Energy Newsletter](#)
- [4-H Newsletter](#)

CCEDC is on Social Media!

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Hitting a Homerun in the Kitchen: The Food, Family, Fitness and Finance [Cookbook](#)

On July 14th we held our Annual Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) Picnic. More than 30 people participated and had a great time despite the gloomy weather. Special guests included State Senator Sue Serino, the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health, Eat Smart New York and No Child Left Inside (NCLI). Youth and caregivers got to enjoy a cook out, games, group dances and crafts!



Come visit us at the Dutchess County Fair!

Master Gardener volunteers will be staffing informational booths every day at the Fair from 10am until 7pm. The traditional "Ask the Master Gardener" booth will be in its usual place in the lower level of the Horticulture Building. Compost information will be available in a new location, the CCEDC tent on Livestock Hill. Stop by with your questions, samples, to learn more or just to say Hi.



4-H'ers Get Ready for the 2017 Dutchess County Fair! 4-H Youth Development Program



4-H never sleeps

There really isn't an 'off-season' for 4-H but summer is extra busy. With the Dutchess County Fair only a few days away, excitement is building. 4-H Educator Cassie Messina leads a large team in ensuring everything will be ready for this event. The fair is the highlight of the year for the many 4-H'ers who showcase their achievements on Livestock Hill and in the 4-H Exhibition Center. Angela Sullivan (Senior Administrator for 4-H), Richard Callamari (a 4-H'er and Cassie's summer assistant) and a host of volunteers, parents, and supporters work together to support our youth. Clean-up Day is Saturday August 12th, ribbons are sorted, rubrics are posted and evaluators booked to judge Exhibit

Hall items, entries are in and then there is printing, printing, printing. As they say ... "It takes a village!"

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The Taste NY Market on the Taconic Parkway opened its fourth annual Farmers' Market at Todd Hill on Friday, May 26, 2017. The outdoor market is open from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm and features vendors, like: Chatham Brewery, Farmers and Chefs Food Truck, Liberty Orchard, Mad Rose Ranch, RAD Soap Company, and White Pine Community Farm.

The Taste NY Market at Todd Hill is a vibrant marketplace featuring a curated selection of food and artisanal goods grown or processed in New York State. Known by locals and explorers alike, it is an historic destination and an experience that continues to attract new and returning customers. Located in the

median of the Taconic State Parkway in Dutchess County, the Taste NY Market at Todd Hill is a project of Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County (CCEDC). Todd Hill is a vehicle to deliver high impact programming to the region's food and agricultural communities.

Website: ccedutchess.org/taste-ny-at-todd-hill

Twitter: twitter.com/TasteNYTaconic



4-H Alumni and Friends - Giving forward and giving back!

The newly-launched [4-H Alumni and Friends Society](#) is growing. 'Old' 4-H'ers, parents of 4-H'ers, volunteers, and supporters have expressed enthusiasm for this group, whose mission is "To preserve, support, and strengthen 4-H in Dutchess County, for our current youth and for future generations". We have two outstanding young people working on building our database. Richard Callamari is using his 4-H communication skills to reach out to past club leaders and alumni while Samantha Vacchio is handling the technology and inputting data. The power of 4-H comes from the people involved. Contact us so we can keep you up-to-date on what is happening in 4-H today - Jane Rodd at 845-677-8223, ext.105 or by email at jr825@cornell.edu.

This program is funded through a grant with Dutchess County.

Reflections on a Green Teen Summer

4-H Youth Development Program

Reflecting back on the Green Teen summer is like playing a slideshow in my mind. I can picture the farms we've worked at, the meals we've cooked and shared with each other, and the food we've harvested and sold through the mobile market. There are images of laughter, vegetables, and hard work. I especially remember two days where our teens took on the role of teacher. At the very beginning of the summer we put together a scavenger hunt for a group of middle school youth from Beacon working with the Beacon Institute of River and Estuaries. We led them around one of our gardens and encouraged them to solve the plant and vegetable riddles we came up with. Later on in the summer we spoke to the Common Ground Farm camp kids about what Green Teen is and why we do what we do. One of the Green Teens said he joined Green Teen because when he was a kid like them, the Green Teens came and spoke to him about the program and he remembered it clearly. Now he was passing on the torch to them. Quotes from two Green Teen Summer 2017 Crew Members say it all!



"To me, Green Teen means equal opportunity for everyone. For teenagers, it's a job. For children, it's a goal. And for everyone else, it's a chance to be healthy!" -K.G., age 17

"At first, Green Teen was an opportunity for me to experience a real job. But besides work, Green Teen gave me qualities of teamwork, determination, and dedication. Green Teen not only gives teens a job, but gives healthy organic food to low-

income families for affordable prices. So now, in the end, Green Teen to me resembles, HOPE!!" -M.G., age 15

This program is funded through a grant with Dutchess County.

Our Mission:

Through quality educational programs, Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess County builds strong, healthy youth, adults, families and communities while enhancing the economic, social,

Sincerely,

*Cornell Cooperative Extension Dutchess
County*

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities. The programs provided by this agency are partially funded by monies received from the County of Dutchess. Please contact the CCEDC office if you have any special needs.