CCE EDs Join Forces in Albany to Increase State 224 Funding Budget

On January 22, executive directors from the entire CCE System in New York converged on Albany to discuss state funding with their legislators. We specifically asked our local senators and members of the Assembly to increase County Law 224 funding in this year’s State Budget. This funding is used by associations to pay for programming, salaries, supplies, and other expenses. The current amount of $3.92 million is shared by all 57 associations through a formula set by law. For CCE Rockland, that equates to about $60,000 per year. The amount was set over 24 years ago in 1995 and hasn’t budged since, so we suggested that it’s time for an increase. All of our Hudson Valley legislators were extremely enthusiastic about CCE and supportive of our request. I’ll keep you posted!

-Suzanne Barclay
Our Eat Smart New York nutrition educator Sonia McGowan interested the students in the WellCore after school program at Lime Kiln Intermediate School in learning about nutrition. They learned about the different food choices from different cultures. They were introduced to the influences on their choices of processed versus non processed foods and their health implications. In addition, they learned of the importance of daily physical activity and maintaining energy balance.

**Youth Explore Communication Skills, Media Literacy, and Careers through Teen Leadership Rockland**

These past two months, 30 Rockland County students have been actively developing leadership skills through our annual Teen Leadership Rockland Program, sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension and Leadership Rockland.

On December 4, the students traveled to Dominican College where they learned about communication skills for interviewing from Dr. AnnMarie DiSiena and Dorothy Filoramo. During this session, students considered what they notice when they see someone, how others might see them, and how they want to be perceived. Participants each practiced a college interview and were filmed giving a short presentation. After practicing the interviews and watching their videos, students assessed what they did right, and what they could improve upon.

On December 11, Melissa Grau from Dominican College led a session on media literacy. During this thought-provoking lesson, students reflected on their relationship with the media, and assessed the positive and negative aspects of constant communication. They were challenged to identify marketing strategies, biases, and image perceptions. Overall, the session shed light on daily interactions with the media, and encouraged the youth to take a critical view of information and brand messaging.

The session on January 8 focused on emerging careers in Rockland County. Phyllis Tucker of the Rockland Economic Development Corporation (REDC) discussed prominent businesses in the area, such as pharmaceutical companies, and expressed the importance of attracting and retaining new business in Rockland County. Stephanie Compasso and representatives from the BOCES Youth Connections then offered information and resources related to career preparation. The participants learned how to select a career path, develop necessary skills, and seek valuable experiences to pursue their chosen careers.

This month, the Teen Leadership Rockland participants will further their leadership development as they explore the justice system at the Clarkstown Police Department and the Clarkstown Court. A huge thank-you goes to all of our presenters for devoting their time and resources to this exciting youth program!

For more information about Teen Leadership Rockland, contact Kristin Ruggiero at klf37@cornell.edu or (845) 429-7085 x 103.
Upcoming Events
To find more information on these and future events, visit our Event Page (RocklandCCE.org/events).

Managing Weeds & Common Invasive Plants in the Home Garden

Wednesday, February 13, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Clarkstown Continuing Education
at Congers Elementary School

Armed with a little knowledge, there are ways to prevent invasive species from taking over a home garden or yard. This presentation will focus on mechanical ways and least toxic methods of managing and possibly eradicating a list of 12 common yet pesky invasive terrestrial plants.

This program is being presented through Clarkstown Continuing Education. Please call the office at 845-639-5628 for more information and to register. You must register in advance and there is a fee for this program.

Tabletop Gardens: Bonsai, Terrariums, & Kokedama

Thursday, February 28, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Finkelstein Memorial Library

Outdoor gardeners who long to keep their thumbs “green” during the long, icy winter months will enjoy turning their attention to gardening indoors. This program will demystify the ancient and widely practiced art of the Bonsai. Also, it will demonstrate the techniques used to create beautiful terrariums and indoor garden baskets for any room in the house.

This program is being presented through Finkelstein Memorial Library. Please contact the office at (845) 352-5700 for more information and to register for the program.

Upcoming INP Events
RCD presents Public Speaking for Fundraisers and Community Leaders

Wednesday, February 27, 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
CCE Rockland

The ability to speak well in public is a must for any fundraiser, community leader, educator, or business executive! This workshop will give participants the essential tools to prepare, to tailor a presentation for the audience, to speak with power, and to take control of nerves. Everyone will have a chance to participate during this interactive session. Presented by Ellyn Cohen.

This event is FREE for RDC and Institute for Non-Profits (INP) members $10.00 for Non Members. Please bring cash or a check made out to the Rockland Development Council the day of the program. Register with Jennifer Strianese at jas946@cornell.edu or (845) 429-7085 ext. 117.

*This program counts as an Elective Course for the INP’s Certificate in Nonprofit Sustainability.

Save these dates for our upcoming Elective Seminar Series in Nonprofit Leadership for Sustainability:

- **Tuesday, March 5, 8:30 - 10:30 AM** *The (Social) Medium is the Message: Taking Basics to Beyond* presented by Charlie Pane of Cornell Cooperative Extension
- **Wednesday, March 20, 8:30 - 10:30 AM** *Introduction to Finding Grants through the Foundation Center* presented by Susan Shiroma of the Foundation Center
- **Monday, April 8, 5:30 - 7:30 PM** *The Mission is the Message: Getting Creative to Communicate Your Value* presented by Charlie Pane of Cornell Cooperative Extension
- **Wednesday, April 25, 5:30 - 7:30 PM** *FASBY Old and New: What You Need to Know* presented by Donalee Berard of Berard and Associates
- **Thursday, May 2, 5:30 - 7:30 PM** *Talk Less, Smile More: A Guide to an Effective Stewardship Program to Engage and Recognize Donors* presented by Maddy Schering of Scheer Strategy
- **Date TBD** - New York Council on Nonprofits presenting on *Fund Development*

Contact the CCE Rockland office for more info: (845) 429-7085.
This month, 4-H members throughout Rockland County are preparing for the annual 4-H Public Presentations Event, which will take place on Saturday, March 2. This program, which occurs in counties throughout the nation, is one of 4-H’s most beneficial experiences, and it is the one most often credited by 4-H alumni as having given them an edge above peers in both college and professional careers.

For this event, youth will choose a topic and the type of their presentation – Demonstration, Illustrated Talk, Speech, Recitation, Dramatic Interpretation, or Interview Process. After creating and practicing their presentations, they will present to trained evaluators who will view their presentation and help them decide how well they did. Through dialogue, youth will be able to identify their strengths and determine specific things they can work on to improve their next performance. This is a great opportunity to showcase their skills, share their interests, and receive valuable feedback to improve their presentation. After this county-wide event, selected individuals will be able to advance to the District 4-H Public Presentations in April and potentially participate in the State 4-H Public Presentation Event with youth throughout New York.

For more information, check out the public speaking resources on our website at http://rocklandcce.org/youth/public-presentations or contact Kristin Ruggiero at klf37@cornell.edu or (845) 429-7085 x 103.

Our Interactive Map is Growing

The Stormwater and Water Quality Interactive map has been updated to include enhanced access to regulatory information, live Hydrological data with flow direction, and Harmful Algae Blooms in Rockland. The interactive map plays a key role in educating MS4 communities on stormwater matters and regulation within their jurisdictions. All of Rockland’s 24 towns and villages are MS4 communities.

To explore the interactive map, visit www.RocklandCCE.org/WQSE.
The Master Gardener Volunteers of Rockland County present:

Gardener's Day 2019

Wednesday, April 3, 2019
9:00 AM – 2 PM

Keynote Presentation by

Judy Glattstein
Author of Made for the Shade

Early bird rate: $30
After March 1: $40
Book Early, Space is Limited!

Visit www.RocklandCCE.org/GardenersDay for more information and to buy your tickets.
(845) 429-7085 | jas946@cornell.edu
It’s the (Fertilizer) Law:
by Michael Wilson

The main purpose of the Fertilizer Law is prevention of non-point pollution due to stormwater run-off. This run-off will pick up anything that is left on the ground and carry it into a catch basin in the street. Every one of those catch basins is connected to a waterway. A percentage of the fertilizer used on lawns will run-off into the drainage system during a storm event and end up in a stream or river. These extra nutrients will create eutrophic waters, which is a water body that is over burdened with algae and in the process of declining. Because of this and to comply with Phase II of the Clean Water Act of 1972, Rockland County enacted the Fertilizer Law.

According to the Fertilizer Law, no person shall apply any lawn fertilizer:
1. That contains phosphorous or other compounds containing phosphorous, such as phosphate, except as provided in Section 5. There is an exemption is for agricultural use, perennial, vegetable, annual gardens, trees and shrubs or if a soil test recommends phosphorous.
2. Between December 1st and April 1st.
3. To any impervious surface including parking lots, roadways, and sidewalks. If such application occurs, the fertilizer must be immediately contained & applied to turf or put in a container.
4. To any turf or lawn area within 50 feet of any surface water, except that this restriction shall not apply where a continuous natural vegetative buffer, at least 10 feet wide, separates the turf or lawn area and the surface water.

For further information about fertilizer regulation, diagnostic services or insect ID, contact the Horticultural Lab (845) 429-7085, option 3 or Mike Wilson at ext. 110 or email mw767@cornell.edu.

Rockland Conservation & Service Corps is Recruiting Corps Members for this Summer

It's a full-time, 350-hour commitment from the end of May until mid August.

Conservation Corps Members dedicate their summer to outdoor, environmental service throughout the Rockland region. Their time is spent: beautifying parks and open spaces; making the region safer; improving water quality in rivers, streams and watersheds; modeling environmental stewardship; working on local hiking and walking trails; learning about regional planning and sustainability; teaching sustainability and environmental strategies to others.

If you or someone you know loves nature and is tough enough to work outside throughout the summer - apply! Contact rcsc@co.rockland.ny.us or 845-364-2930/2932 for more info or to request an application. College-aged, 18 and over

Work hard, learn a lot, have fun!
Community Based Climate Solutions

Sunday, March 10th, 2019, 10 AM—1PM
Dominican College, the Lawrence Room, Western Highway, Orangeburg, NY

We have less than 12 years to make major changes to our power generation, greenhouse gas emissions and more. Join us for a program about new, next-step, holistic climate solutions for our area. We can achieve ambitious and necessary goals. Our local actions matter. We can help bring about a sustainable, healthy, thriving future.

Program is Free! Register via e-mail to: RocklandGoesGreen@aol.com
Registrants receive detailed parking and building location directions.

Topics include:
- Exponential Climate Action Roadmap
- Municipal Resiliency Zones
- Rooftop Farms
- Retrofitting Existing Buildings For Low Carbon HVAC
- Electric Vehicles for Municipalities and Public Charging Stations
- Regulatory Roadblocks To Large Local Solar Projects and How To Solve Them

Speakers include:
- Melissa Everett, PhD, Ex. Dir. Sustainable Hudson Valley
- Donovan Gordon, NYSERDA, Director Renewable Heating and Cooling
- Amanda LaValle, Coordinator, Ulster County Dept of the Environment
- Annie Novak, Rooftop Farmer, Greenpoint, Brooklyn
- Kim Fraczek, SANE Energy Project, New York Energy Democracy Alliance

Presented by Rockland Goes Green
Co-sponsored by:
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, Sierra Club: Lower Hudson Group and Rockland, Rockland Citizens Action Network, Cornell Cooperative Extension Rockland, 350NJ/Rockland, Grassroots Environmental Education