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Monroe County

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CCE - Monroe County Horticulture Program Update
July 2025

Program Highlights

- **Commercial Horticulture**
 - Attending the upcoming New York State Soil Health Field Day for networking and professional development.
- **Diagnostic Clinic**
 - To date, DC has processed: 152 soil samples, 83 tick IDs, 45 consumer plant/insect, and 4 commercial business plant/insect submissions.
- **Master Gardeners**
 - This year's Plant Sale brought in around \$20,000 and was a huge success
 - Hosted over 50 regional participants from the Resilient Gardens Conference Tour for a luncheon and tour of the gardens at CCE Monroe.
- **Natural Resources**
 - Planted two native trees with School 50 4th graders and HF-L 2nd-5th graders.
 - Working to schedule neighborhood meetings and workshops on Urban Tree Equity.
 - Met with U of R Environmental Health Sciences Center – Community Engagement Core on potential partnership to monitor air quality in urban areas with and without tree canopy cover.
- **Garden Outreach**
 - As of June 30th, harvested and donated over 81 pounds of produce grown on the South Lawn Farm.
 - Recruited two organizations (Lifetime Assistance Inc. and Rochester School for the Deaf) to volunteer on the South Lawn Farm.
 - Speaking about community gardening at Mercy Spirituality Center on July 17th

Strategic Plan Update

- **Horticulture Team: 3.2** – *Celebrate our successes and recognize the contributions of our team.*
 - Collaborating on CCE's very first composting workshop. The entire Hort Team has played a role in developing, promoting, and executing for this important community workshop.
- **MGV: 4.1** – *Leverage our relationships with current partners and identify new collaborations to address gaps and opportunities.*
 - Working with internal and external partners to develop CCE Monroe's first composting workshop featuring several methods for composting at home.
- **GO: 5.2** Ensure the flow of information through formal and informal channels thereby strengthening the representation and value of the organization to the community.
 - Increasing use of social media, connecting and building new partnerships throughout the community, and holding educational events for community members.

BOD Engagement Opportunity

The Power of Composting: Monday, July 28, 2025, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM, 2449 St. Paul Blvd (pre-registration required)

Focus on Healing Relationships Through Community Gardening: Thursday, July 17 - 8:30 am - 12:30 pm 65 Highland Avenue

Story of Celebration or Success



Bishop Kearny High School graciously donated this 12'x25'x9' greenhouse to CCE Monroe. Members from the Hort Team and 4H Team worked diligently over the course of two days to disassemble the greenhouse and transport it to CCE's office. It will be reassembled onsite and will provide ample space for the CCE Monroe Team to grow plants, hold educational workshops, and test small-scale experiments to find innovative ways Horticulture can improve in the future.



In partnership with 4H, CCE's Natural Resources spent time at School 50 spreading the joy of trees. This particularly hot day did not dissuade these 4th grade students from coming out to help plant this Sugar Maple in the school's courtyard. This native tree species is New York's State Tree and will provide shade and learning opportunities for years to come.



Natural Resources and 4H teamed up yet again to provide a day full of fun learning activities at Honeoye Falls-Lima Manor School. Over 600 students participated in this year's field day, rotating through several stations throughout the day. CCE Monroe provided hands-on learning activities revolving around trees. The day culminated with the 5th graders planting a Linden tree as their parting gift as they will be moving on to a new school next year.

