

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WAYNE COUNTY



Cornell Cooperative Extension | Wayne County

Cornell Cooperative Extension is a network of educators who bring research-based information to the community. CCE provides practical and applicable solutions to a wide range of issues, from agriculture to nutrition, from youth development to environmental conservation. By partnering with local organizations and institutions, Cornell Cooperative Extension ensures that its resources are tailored to meet the specific needs of each community they serve. Through their efforts, individuals are empowered to make informed decisions that positively impact their lives and those around them. The Cornell Cooperative Extension is a valuable resource for anyone looking to improve their community and make a lasting difference.

Who we are

At Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wayne County, we place great emphasis on shared leadership through locally elected Board of Directors and active program development committees. CCE is a collaborative effort between Cornell faculty and agricultural, nutrition, and 4-H youth development educators and teams. This is to better apply research findings that enhance, reinforce and maintain a healthy, thriving, and economically robust Wayne County.



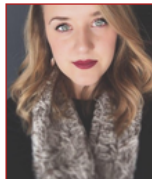
Nancy Gift
Executive Director



Adam Bullock
Nutrition Educator,
Northern Finger
Lakes SNAP-Ed NY



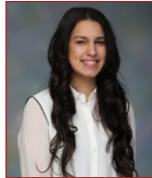
Nastasha Mathews
Administrative
Assistant



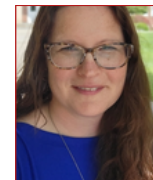
Shelby DePew
SNAP Ed Lead
Nutritionist
Northern Finger
Lakes SNAP-Ed NY



Katie Whitney
Accounts
Representative



Mikayla Otero
Nutrition Educator,
Northern Finger
Lakes SNAP-Ed NY



Melissa Spoon
4-H Youth
Development
Team Leader



Casey Tetidrick
Account
Representative



Taylor Hoose
Nutrition Educator,
Northern Finger
Lakes SNAP-Ed NY



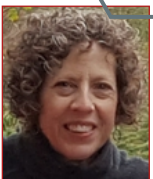
Amy Clark
4-H Educator



Thomas D'Amato
Facilities Coordinator



Amy Bullard
Admin. Assistant/
Outreach Coordinator
Active People, Healthy
Wayne



Laurie VanNostrand
Master Gardener
Program
Coordinator/Consumer
Horticulture



Camille Caceci
4-H Community
Development Educator



Josh Bowman
Ag Economic
Development
Educator

We appreciate all our volunteers and would not be able to reach the number of people we do without their dedicated support! Thanks for all you do!



A Message from the Board of Directors' President, John Nadig

Wayne County Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) is governed by a 13-member Board of Directors, including one voting member appointed by the Wayne County Board of Supervisors. Our board is supported and receives guidance from our

Cornell University State Extension Specialist, Tim Davis. The board is made up of elected volunteers, all residing in Wayne County, with the broad responsibility of setting the direction of the organization, providing oversight to finance and programs along with extension administration, hiring and supervising the Executive Director, and other accepted forms of administrative leadership. Board members are accountable for the implementation of policies and practices in a transparent and competent manner; allowing the association to achieve its educational mission and provide maximum benefit to the communities it serves.

While federal government actions have altered our funding structure at CCE Wayne, we have remained committed to our mission and our community. We continue to strive to be a bridge for the community in Cornell's research in nutrition, agriculture, and youth and development. I look forward to next year ahead and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as the board president.

Much thanks,
John

Board of Directors & Program Committees

John Nadig - President

Ariel Camp - Vice President

Shawn Youngman - Secretary

Christine Shove - Treasurer

Finance: Ariel Camp, Christine Shove, Fred Pickering

Building & Grounds: Judy Buckley, Shane Shultz,
Gerald East

People & Programs: Beth Kois, Betty Hammond,
Shawn Youngman

Nominating: John Nadig, Amy Kearns Auten, Scott
Converse

From the Executive Director Nancy Gift

Extension programs are generally resilient against national policy changes, because agriculture, gardening, youth development, and nutrition information are always needed. This year, we have definitely had to work hard for that resilience! We have reached out to dozens of farmers – both new to us and new to farming. We face the end of SNAP-Ed programming due to federal funding cuts, but we maintain a continuing commitment to nutrition programming across Wayne County, with added support from Wayne County Board of Supervisors (and taxpayers!). We have expanded our 4-H staff and youth programming, because 4-H is more important than ever as many people remember the value of hands-on educational experiences. Our Master Gardener volunteer team continues to grow – and to support Wayne County residents with what they grow. We stand ready to help residents of all ages to get the information and education they need to live better lives.

We are also deeply committed to the Cooperative. We cooperate with local agencies and neighbor nonprofits, we cooperate with experts of all sorts, at Cornell and beyond. Our facility has gone through several user-friendly upgrades: a fully refreshed activity room, a greenhouse, and a trail for staff and visitor use. In 2025, we have submitted grant proposals (totaling over \$400K) that could enable us to cooperate more deeply with school districts, local municipalities, and other social service nonprofits. We're ready to serve, ready to cooperate and educate, and ready to support the programs you need. Come by or contact us and let us know how we can help you!



MISSION STATEMENT

The Cornell Cooperative Extension educational system enables people to improve their lives and communities through partnerships that put experience and research knowledge to work



Increasing Sustainability of Local Agriculture, Home Gardens and Landscapes and the Environment with Changing Weather Conditions.



Increasing Agriculture Capacity and Consumer Access to Local Food Products.



Improving Food Safety Through Ag Producers and Consumer Connections.



Strengthening the Vitality of Communities through Youth and Families.



Increasing Nutrition Education and Decreasing Childhood Obesity.



4-H Youth Development

The Wayne County 4-H Youth Development Program engages youth ages 5-18 and helps them learn to become well-rounded, knowledgeable, contributing citizens. 4-H encompasses a variety of opportunities for youth, ranging from clubs, workshops, and community service to more intensive/longer-term leadership training, 4-H-led school programs, our 2 week-long summer camps, and the Wayne County Fair. During the 2024-2025 4-H year, which ran from October 1st to September 30th, we had nearly 300 youth enrolled in the 4-H program, and our reach has extended far beyond this number.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SKILL BUILDING AT CAMP BEECHWOOD

58 campers and 13 youth counselors participated in our 12th annual Camp Beechwood in July 2025! During this camp, they learned and practiced various skills, including problem-solving, woodworking, engineering, fishing, and more! For several of the teens, this was their first job experience, and they had to prepare a resume, do an interview, and plan activities for the campers; they were also trained in First Aid, and learned about youth development, safety protocols, and presentation skills. Camp Beechwood applied for accreditation and went through a rigorous application process and is now accredited through American Camp Association!



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

For 2024-2025 we were in three districts: Sodus, Red Creek and Clyde-Savannah. Programming runs from mid-October through May, and will continue to engage youth in the areas of agriculture, gardening, cooking/nutrition, STEM, community service, and more! We engage about 60 kids every session for all 30 weeks of school. We also distributed 250 Boredom Buster kits during the week-long school breaks and provided the schools with 1250 hours of screen-free, hands-on learning activities for local youth.

TEEN EXCHANGE

This year the Wayne County 4-H kids traveled to Routt County Colorado. Our youth got to stay with the families of their 4-Hers and enjoyed amazing travel opportunities. They attended two rodeos, went camping, worked on community service projects, went horseback riding and did a lot of hiking in the mountains. Teen Exchange is a two-year program and will start a new program this fall and we are looking forward to seeing where we will travel!



4-H Youth Development



WAYNE COUNTY FAIR

This year, we had over 129 youth exhibitors and 433 entries for static exhibits judged and displayed in the 4-H Exhibit building. Livestock areas saw an increase in several species as well. Many of the items displayed during the County Fair went on to the New York State Fair and our youth's hard work was recognized with quite a few purple rosettes!

Funds earned at the 4-H Dairy Booth during the Wayne County Fair and through Wayne County 4-H pointed horse shows are used for 4-H scholarships. In 2025, we awarded \$1,000 to the graduating senior who has been the most involved in leadership, community service, and public presentations during their high school years.

LIVESTOCK AUCTION PROGRAM

This year's auction included 17 4-H members that presented a diverse range of high-quality livestock, including beef cattle, market hogs, market lambs, meat goats, turkeys and meat chickens. The event drew a large crowd of dedicated community members, local businesses, and agricultural supporters, all eager to invest in the future of these young farmers.

The 4-H Livestock Auction Program is more than just an auction; it's a cornerstone of youth development. Buyers generously contributed to an impressive total, with sales reportedly surpassing last year's. This year's total was over \$64,000, almost double last year's. Proceeds from the auction directly benefit the 4-H members, and are used to save for their future education, acquire their next project animal, and some are even saving for their future agricultural endeavors. A portion of the funds also support the ongoing Wayne County 4-H Livestock Auction Program.

The success of this year's auction and the 4-H year is a testament to the strong partnership between 4-H youth, their families, dedicated volunteers, and the support of the community.





Active People, Healthy Wayne

a division of Finger Lakes Community Action

APHW is a program funded by the New York State Department of Health grant called, *Creating Healthy Schools and Communities*. The goal of this funding is to establish & support sustainable healthy communities as places where it is easier to practice healthy behaviors.

Schools

In 2025 we partnered with schools in the high need communities of: Clyde-Savannah, Lyons, North Rose-Wolcott, and Red Creek. We educate regarding making healthy improvements to District Wellness Policies in the areas of nutrition & physical activity.

In 2025 grant funds were used to purchase more than \$38,000 worth of physical fitness and nutrition equipment for 4 partnering Wayne County schools! Canoes, tower gardens, sensory room equipment, archery, badminton, blenders, gaga pits, boxing gloves, pickle ball, and more!



“This partnership has given our students a variety of opportunities for physical activity and exercise. By being able to purchase new badminton and archery equipment, we can continue to teach these popular units that kids truly enjoy. The addition of mountain bikes and kickboxing equipment will provide access to lifetime activities that students might not otherwise have outside of the educational setting. We are so fortunate to have this partnership with a program that recognizes the importance of staying active and participating in activities that bring joy to our students. It has been a positive experience for all involved.”

Lyons School District



Active People, Healthy Wayne

a division of Finger Lakes Community Action

Technical assistance is offered to the schools in practical, hands-on ways- including demonstrations using stationary bikes. While the person pedals, the bike either blends smoothies, creates spin art, or charges phones.



The bikes added a fun and educational experience at school events, farmers markets, and at a bike rodeo. We were invited to partner with other programs and shared at the NR-W HS during their PE class which impacted close to 350 students.

Food Service Guidelines

We implement food service guidelines within worksites, community settings & other venues to increase the availability and access to healthy (and often locally sourced) foods.



Active People, Healthy Wayne currently partners with 12 community and 2 work sites in Wayne County. The grant funds these sites have received has made much needed improvements possible. Purchases such as: Commercial freezers and blenders, air fryers, water bottle refill stations, shelving, carts, garden bed materials, and storage bins..

"You approached me for partnership at just the right time- I was just working on implementing healthier food choices for the students who visit the center."

Alex Eligh Community Center, Newark

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

WAYNE COUNTY FARMERS HAVE ACCESS TO FOUR AGRICULTURE TEAMS:

- CORNELL
VEGETABLE TEAM
- LAKE ONTARIO
FRUIT TEAM
- NWNY DAIRY,
LIVESTOCK AND
FIELD CROPS TEAM
- FINGERLAKES
GRAPE TEAM



THROUGH THE TEAMS FARMERS CAN OBTAIN:

- CORNELL GUIDELINES ON
VARIOUS COMMODITIES
- TEAM NEWSLETTERS WITH
CURRENT INFORMATION

CONTACT CCE WAYNE TO ENROLL OR SCAN THE QR
CODE TO GO STRAIGHT TO THE AG REGISTRATION FORMS



(315) 331-8415



CCEWAYNE.ORG



WAYNE@CORNELL.EDU



1581 ROUTE 88 N., NEWARK NY 14513



Agriculture Resources

Josh Bowman
Ag Economic
Development Educator

Agriculture is at the heart of Wayne County. With over 150,000 acres of land in production and over 1600 producers cultivating that land, it's hard not to be in awe of the local produce we have access to. Apples may be what we are known for in this county, but take a walk through our growing farmers' market scene, and you will see just how diverse our county's selection is. This is why CCE Wayne partners with the Grape Team, NWNV Livestock and Field Crop Team, the Lake Ontario Fruit Team, and the Cornell Vegetable Team, so that we can continue to provide expertise in all aspects of agricultural production. Our 2026 Ag registration has gotten a facelift this year to make the process of registering for the regional teams easier than ever with an online registration portal!

The Ag department has seen an increase in small farms utilizing our services in business and technical support, as well as community engagement with CCE as a whole thanks to workshops, an improved online presence, and our educators bringing Cornell's research into their local communities. This year our office has held beginner business workshops, a marketing workshop, a pesticide applicators exam prep course, and a beginner irrigation course, as well as partnering with Cornell's Horse Farm Improvement Program to help equine farms in our county improve their facilities.

We hosted two summer interns from Cornell who helped to map out possible food deserts in our county through the use of GIS, and we were awarded a grant through NY Soil Health to purchase a rainfall demonstration to show the importance of cover crops during fallow periods to reduce soil erosion and improve soil infiltration.

With over 150 recorded uses of our department's services this year, we hope to continue to grow this as we move forward with our goals of building a stronger local food supply and increasing the sustainability of our small farms through smart fiscal and environmental management, and through the promotion of our local foods at the markets in our county.



The Cornell Farmworker Program is committed to enhancing the living and working conditions of farmworkers and their families. We encourage all farmworkers and their families to visit this page to learn more, discover valuable resources, and connect with fellow farmworkers.



The Cornell Small Farms Program was established in 2001 as a part of Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) with the goal of improving research and support for small farms. This program aids farmers throughout all phases of their business development and is committed to ensuring that time, energy, and financial resources are distributed fairly among everyone involved.





Northwest NY Dairy, Livestock, Field Crops (NWNY)

 <https://nwnyteam.cce.cornell.edu>

Serving a 9-county region in the western part of the state, the NWNY team's specialists work together with Cornell faculty and extension educators statewide to provide service to farms large and small, focused on dairy, livestock, hay, corn, wheat and soybeans.



Finger Lakes Grape Program (FLGP)

 <https://flgp.cce.cornell.edu>

The FLGP provides unbiased, research-based information to the region's grape growers in areas including vineyard and pest management practices, new vineyard establishment, farm business management, marketing and business development, and more as a means of supporting the industry's growth and long-term sustainability.



Cornell Vegetable Program (CVP)

 <https://cvp.cce.cornell.edu>

Serving a 14-county region, CVP is a team of vegetable specialists providing educational programs and information to growers, processors, and agri-business professionals, arming them with the knowledge to profitably produce and market safe and healthful vegetable crops. The program focuses on food safety, variety evaluation, market development, pest management, and cultural practices.



Lake Ontario Fruit Program (LOF)

 <https://lof.cce.cornell.edu>

Serving a 5-county region, LOF provides educational programs for the commercial fruit industry using research-based information to help the tree fruit and berry industries in NY compete in the world market and provide safe, high-quality produce for consumers.

Regional Agriculture Teams:

NWNY DAIRY, LIVESTOCK, FIELD CROPS SPECIALISTS



Nancy Glazier
Small Farms, Livestock



John Hanchar
Farm Business



Jodi Letham
Field Crops & Soil



Kaitlyn Lutz
Bilingual Dairy
Management



Mike Stanyard
Livestock and Field
Crops Team Leader
Field Crops & IPM



Margaret Quassdorff
Dairy Management

The Northwest New York Dairy, Livestock, and Field Crops Program continues to advance its research and outreach objectives through the fall season, with a focus on producer support, applied field trials, and adaptive management strategies following a challenging growing year. The neonic silage trials have now been fully harvested, and the team is transitioning into grain harvest operations. In parallel, staff have been coordinating the soybean yield contests, ensuring consistency and accuracy in data collection and reporting. Collaboration with the New York Corn & Soybean Growers' Association (NYSC&SGA) remains a central focus, with continued refinement of the NYS Crop Budget Program proposal to strengthen statewide crop planning and profitability tools. The team also contributed to updated 2025 corn silage price estimates and provided outreach to support producers navigating silage pricing and feed purchasing decisions amid uneven yields and limited forage quality.

Across the region, many farms are managing reduced silage inventories and lower-quality feed due to delayed crop maturity and drought conditions. Some have begun outsourcing feed to fill supply gaps, emphasizing the continued need for economic guidance and resilience planning across dairy and field crop operations.

The 2025 summer field season included several successful educational and applied research activities:

- Neonic Risk Assessment trial harvests are underway.
- Three Corn Silage Dry Down Days—two in Seneca County and one in Yates County—helped producers evaluate silage moisture and harvest timing for optimal feed quality.
- The Yates County Cover Crop Field Day provided in-field learning on cover crop management, soil health, and nutrient cycling, emphasizing resilience and long-term soil improvement.
- Industry discussions throughout late summer highlighted corn not reaching full maturity, leading to early silage harvests and anticipated feed shortages across the region. These challenges have prompted producers and advisors to adjust management strategies and explore regional collaboration for feed sourcing and crop planning.

Heading into late fall and winter, the team will maintain focus on advancing key priorities:

- Finalizing NYSC&SGA engagement and securing support for the NYS Crop Budget Program.
- Completing the third case study for the NYS Women for the Land Program, emphasizing soil and climate health.
- Submitting a proposal to the Atkinson Center for Sustainability to support continued research on dairy feed management and system resilience following the 2025 season.
- Delivering a Dairy Bovine Reproduction and Artificial Insemination (AI) Training Course in Spanish, supporting workforce development and technical training for Spanish-speaking dairy employees.
- Continuing preparation for 2026 winter educational events, including:
 - Corn Congress – January 14, 2026
 - Soybean & Small Grains Congress – February 11, 2026



Julie Kikkert
Vegetable Team
Leader, Processing
Crops



An Important Tool to Minimize Worm Damage in Sweet Corn

Over 600 acres of freshmarket sweet corn are produced in Wayne County (USDA Ag Census, 2022) each year. Sweet corn pheromone traps are used to monitor the flights of several moths—European corn borer, corn ear worm, fall armyworm and western bean cutworm—that lay eggs on sweet corn, with hatching larvae causing damage to the crop. Trapping information is used to make timely management decisions targeting the pests currently on the farm. This year in Wayne County, a large fruit and vegetable operation hosted a trap in their successive sweet corn fields. The Cornell Vegetable Program trained CCE Wayne County's Josh Bowman on how to check traps and scout the fields. The weekly trap counts were reported to Cornell IPM for inclusion in their [Sweet Corn Pheromone Trap Network Report](#), and to the grower. Field observations were discussed with the Cornell Vegetable Program to advise the grower on action steps.

For additional information, please refer to the CCE Veg Team.



Christy Hoepting
Onions, Cabbage,
Broccoli, Garlic, Pesticide
Management



Robert Hadad
Farm Food Safety,
Organic, Business &
Marketing, Fresh Market
Vegetables



Lori Koenick
Fresh Market
Vegetables,
Mushrooms,
Urban
Agriculture



Corn earworm moths caught in a sweet corn pheromone trap. Photo by Elizabeth Buck, Cornell Vegetable Program.

Sweet corn pheromone traps are used to monitor moth activity near fields. Photo from Abby Seaman, Cornell IPM Program.



Elizabeth Buck
Fresh Market
Vegetables, Weed
Management, Soil
Health



Margie Lund
Potatoes, Dry Beans,
Post-Harvest
Handling & Storage



Judson Reid
Greenhouses/High
Tunnels, Small
Farming Operations,
Fresh Market Veg

Regional Agriculture Teams

FRUIT SPECIALISTS



Craig Kahlke
Fruit Team Leader,
Fruit Quality
Management



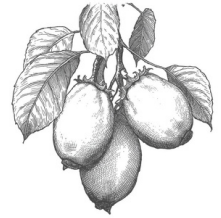
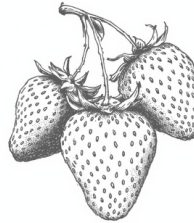
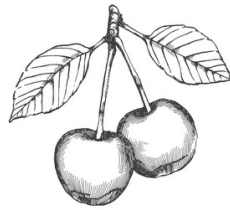
Mario Miranda Sazo
Cultural Fruit
Practices



Bonnie Nelsen, Ph.D
Business Management



Janet van Zoeren
Integrated Pest
Management



Quarterly Highlight for Lake Ontario Fruit Program

Once again this tour was planned and co-hosted with Lake Ontario Ag Consulting, LLC (LOAC), who are private crop consultants that do not carry the same bias that chemical companies may with sometimes overly endorsing their products. With two years of working together under our belts, planning was easier and more efficient for this tour, both in educational planning and all of the logistics. The tour featured 3 farms, and a lunch stop in Wayne County. Attendance was a little bit down compared to last year but still strong, at around 150-175 attendees all totaled.



Evaluations in the form of conversations with growers, sponsors, and other industry folks following the tour indicated that it was strong in content. In addition, we just had rain at the first stop and then the showers moved off, and the weather was excellent!

A drone photo of a 3-row tower sprayer demonstration at a tour stop of the 3rd Annual Western NY Fruit Growers tour on July 31. This is the second educational stop, at the Donald DeMarree Fruit Farm in Williamson, NY.



Spotted
Lantern Fly



Hans Walter-Peterson
Finger Lakes Grape Team
Leader, Viticulture
Extension Specialist

Spotted Lanternfly Nymphs Found in the Finger Lakes

The Finger Lakes Grape Program (FLGP) had a demanding and productive year in its continued efforts to support grape growers and winemakers in Wayne County. A major focus was the increasing presence of the Spotted Lanternfly (SLF), an invasive pest first detected in the Finger Lakes in 2024. Those populations expanded considerably in 2025, reaching at least one commercial vineyard in Seneca County during the summer. In response, the FLGP collaborated closely with Cornell Integrated Pest Management (IPM), the Finger Lakes Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM), and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets to keep growers informed and equipped with potential management strategies. These approaches were discussed with Wayne County grape growers during our Tailgate Meeting held at Boom Point Winery on July 8.



Spotted
Lantern Fly
Lifecycle



The FLGP also participated in two statewide monitoring projects in 2025, both of which included vineyards in Wayne County. The first project focused on scouting for invasive pests, including SLF, with monitoring conducted at Young Sommer Winery in Williamson. Fortunately, none of the targeted pests were detected in the county. The second project involved fruit sampling to track ripening progress in vineyards across New York State. Samples collected from Young Sommer and Boom Point Wineries contributed to statewide data sets and were featured in the weekly Veraison to Harvest newsletter, which provided updates and brief summaries of harvest conditions throughout September and October.

If you find SLF nymphs (now) or adults (starting sometime in August), be sure to report them using the SLF Reporting Form, or **contact Hans Walter-Peterson (315-521-8789)** for help getting information to IPM or Ag & Markets.



Community Horticulture ←

This year, our MGVs provided **2,485 hours of volunteer service** through the CCE of Wayne County Master Gardener Program.



Building horticultural knowledge through Master Gardener presentations.

Master Gardeners were at 18 locations this year where they provided lectures and demonstrations that were attended by 626 adults and 164 youth. Our Master Gardeners also taught a class on home composting during the 2025 Finger Lakes Regional Master Gardener Training.



Teaching about food gardening through our Master Gardener's Vegetable Gardening Workshops



Participants of the 2025 Seed 2 Supper course observe Master Gardeners Jeff and Pat during hands on activities.

In 2025, **75** people attended Master Gardener programming to learn more about home vegetable gardening. All sessions, including Beyond Beginner, Building on the Basics, and Seed 2 Supper, a 9-hour course for beginner gardeners, were offered at no cost.



NY Master Forest Owner Program



Connecting people to Master Forest Owner Volunteers

In Wayne County, there were 9 visits completed by 3 volunteers encompassing a total of 150 acres of forest.

In the Northwest Region, there were 36 total visits completed by 20 volunteers over a total of 821 forested acres:

- 71% of the visit requests resulted in an actual site visit
- Most of the requests come from either the postcard campaign or passed along from CCE

- Around 25% live on the property they requested the visit for
- After the visits, many intend to contact foresters, write down their owner objectives, conduct forest vegetation management (either chemical or mechanical), create trails, produce firewood, and plant trees

Community Horticulture ←

Empowering individuals to cultivate and sustain vegetables, trees, lawns, and other ornamental plantings is our top priority.

Through our Community Horticulture Master Gardener Program, we addressed 1191 inquiries from the gardening community. Surveys from those who received recommendations indicated that 87% plan to implement or follow them. We also assisted 11 community/school gardens with donations of seeds and technical support as needed and provided 1426 people, enrolled in our mgwayne newsletter, with monthly tips and information on growing vegetable gardens, managing their lawns and home landscapes, and updates on invasive species.



MGV Noel - examines a sample under the microscope.

We have been actively educating the public about Spotted Lanternfly and the Box Tree Moth. Early detection is crucial in mitigating the impacts of these pests. For ongoing updates on these and other invasive species, join our MGWayne Monthly Tips newsletter and our Master Gardener Facebook page, which together have an audience of over 2,100 followers.

Spotted Lantern Fly

Box Tree Moth



Master Gardener Hotline

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wayne County offers a variety of diagnostic services to help identify plant diseases, insects, weeds, and soil pH levels. Our Master Gardeners volunteers are available to answer your questions throughout the year. MGVs are in the office on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9 AM to noon during the growing season. You can also reach us year-round via email at mgwayne@cornell.edu or by leaving a detailed message on our voicemail at **(315) 331-8415, ext. 107**. Please include a daytime phone number where we can contact you. When messaging or emailing, providing as much information as possible about your query will assist us in giving you the best response.



Master Gardener Judy Buckley assisting on the hotline



Master Gardeners responded to 1,191 inquiries this year from the community!

From July- September 2025, CCE received funding from SNAP-Ed Community Growers Grant to invest in the Clyde Community Garden. Through this grant a garden manager was appointed and able to host events like Yoga and art & music events, do community outreach, and in collaboration with Clyde community volunteers grow fruit, vegetables and herbs.

Clyde Community Garden



LIBRARY STORY TIME AT
LAURAVILLE LANDING FOLLOWED
BY A TOUR OF THE CLYDE
COMMUNITY GARDEN



Rachel Semmel
Community Garden
Manager



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Installed an information booth along the Empire Trail and Clyde Garden reaching 600 cyclists!
- Collaborated with the Clyde-Savannah Public Library on a garden tour and story time as well as a seed garden which saw patrons utilizing as early as the end of July.
- Arranged for a gardening-related children's story walk that will be built in 2026.
- Gave talk to 50 people at the Clyde Historical Society



TOTAL PRODUCTION 2025:
225LBS OF FRUIT AND
VEGETABLES!

Tomato: 6 plants, 75 pounds
Eggplant: 4 plants, 8 pounds
Lettuce: 20 plants 7 pounds
Zucchini: 4 plants 74 pounds
Scarlett Runner beans 10 plants 20 pounds
Broccoli: 12 plants 20 pounds
Cucumbers: 6 plants 13 pounds
Peppers: 4 plants 3 pounds
Cantaloupe: 2 plants 3 pounds
Varied herbs: 6 plants 2 pounds



“ The success of this garden, despite the limited time frame, was due entirely to 1) Rachel's extraordinary efforts at collaborating with community organizations and volunteers, and 2) the cross-program assistance from CCE Wayne staff, including 4-H, Master Gardeners, agriculture, SNAP-Ed, director, and finance. -Nancy Gift, PhD, Executive Director ”

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

- Participated in the Clyde Fireman's Festival with a Clyde Garden float and tossed donated seed packets that were enjoyed by the public attending.
- Coordinated with the city of Clyde in purchasing a table and umbrella to be placed at the garden as well as planned the garden's expansion in 2026 due to high community interest.





NORTHERN FINGER LAKES SNAP-ED NY

The Northern Finger Lakes SNAP-Ed NY Program held at CCE Wayne serves 6 counties. In 2025, six of the 15 nutrition team members were housed in CCE Wayne and served Wayne and Ontario Counties. SNAP-Ed NY teaches people how to shop for and cook healthy meals on a limited budget.

SNAP-Ed NY has been a program provided by CCE Wayne since 2015 (previously called EatSmartNY). Due to recent federal funding cuts, this comprehensive program at CCE Wayne is set to officially conclude on December 31, 2025, creating a significant loss of accessible nutrition support in the area.

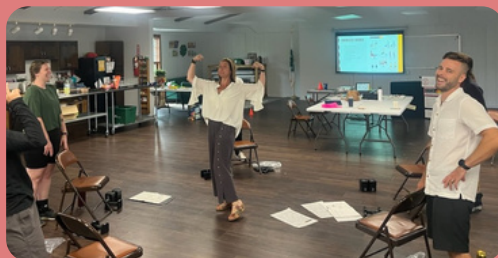
While the future of comprehensive, federally funded nutrition education programs in New York State remains uncertain, the spirit of health and wellness education will undoubtedly persist. CCE Wayne will continue to look at non-traditional opportunities in funding and is currently looking to find grants that support a broader intervention in health and wellness, expanding programming to picky eaters, additional fall prevention programming, and closed circle food practices. Our staff is working to ensure this program continues; however, pending the funding received, the public may see a shift in programming offered.

IN 2025: 5,851+ PARTICIPANTS ENROLLED **1,060+** WORKSHOPS **6** COUNTIES BASED IN

The Northern Finger Lakes Region of SNAP-Ed NY wants to recognize a dedicated leader, Maggie McHugh, Project Director, as she concludes nearly two decades of invaluable service to Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) and the SNAP-Ed program.

Maggie's leadership has been a driving force behind the success of SNAP-Ed NY in the Northern Finger Lakes region, leaving a legacy of tangible impact across Cayuga, Monroe, Livingston, Ontario, Seneca, and Wayne Counties. Under her guidance, the program has consistently delivered a diverse range of evidence-based nutrition education interventions. These programs have not only provided crucial information on healthy eating and food preparation but have also been tailored to the specific needs of the community.

We want to thank Maggie for her service and dedication and wish her all the best with her future pursuits.



STAY STRONG STAY HEALTHY: WELLNESS FOR OLDER ADULTS

SNAP-Ed NY adopted the Stay Strong Stay Healthy (SSSH) Curriculum to accompany its community wellness effort and support physical activity through practical protocol. The intervention supports older adults and reinforces aging with dignity, independence, and a sense of belonging. Trained instructors deliver an exercise protocol twice weekly, for eight weeks, with practical nutrition lessons. SSSH pilot began in February 2025, and since then, we have reached 16 registrants, with 15 being 60 years of age or older.



The results of the Stay Strong Stay Healthy Project speak to many benefits gained:

- 81% report being **more confident in walking up and down the stairs.**
- 88% report being **more confident in bending over and picking items off the floor.**
- 100% report that they can now be **physically active without access to a gym or rehab center.**
- 69% report that they now **get together with a core group of people while doing physical activity.**
- 94% **feel a sense of belonging to a group** of folks who do the same activities.
- 58% **experienced fewer near-fall incidences** as compared to the two months before the start of it.

Real People, Real Results

Vicky joined Stay Strong Stay Healthy with hopes it would help with balance and reduce fall risk. What she didn't expect was the boost in her confidence and the friendships she developed. Participants encourage one another, celebrate progress, and carry healthy habits outside of class. She proudly shared: "This program didn't just give me strength, but it gave me back my social life. I smile a lot more and look forward to classes."





Healthcare
Provider
Referral



Nutrition Education/
F&V vouchers
SNAP Ed NY, Finger Lakes
Region



Access to Healthy Food
Local Farmers' Market,
Farm Stand, Grocery Store



FVRx program has distributed over \$136,000 to food-insecure participants. \$116,000 has been redeemed, which is an 85% redemption rate.

SNAP-Ed's Fruit and Vegetable Prescription (FVRx) Program directly addressed several of Wayne County's most pressing health and economic challenges. With 13% of residents experiencing food insecurity and a high prevalence of chronic disease risk factors, this program connects vulnerable individuals with both fresh produce and the education needed to make healthier choices.

By distributing **over \$136,000 in produce incentives** to date and achieving an **85% redemption rate**, the program ensures that families not only receive resources, but also actively use them to improve their diets.

The Fresh Connect pilot further demonstrates measurable impact, with an 8% reduction in food insecurity risk and a **35% improvement in participants' self-rated health**—clear indicators of improved well-being and reduced long-term health care burden. These outcomes show that pairing nutrition education with financial access to healthy foods is an effective, community-based solution for Wayne County.

\$13,000+ has been distributed on Fresh Connect Visa cards. The average transaction is \$16.00. There is an **89% cardholder activity per month** due to the SNAP-Ed Program Operator monitoring enrollment rate, shopping activity, and fund utilization, and the nutrition educators teaching food resource management skills.



“
Now that I have gotten used to having fruits & veggies every day, I don't want to stop!” -FVRx participant

Finance

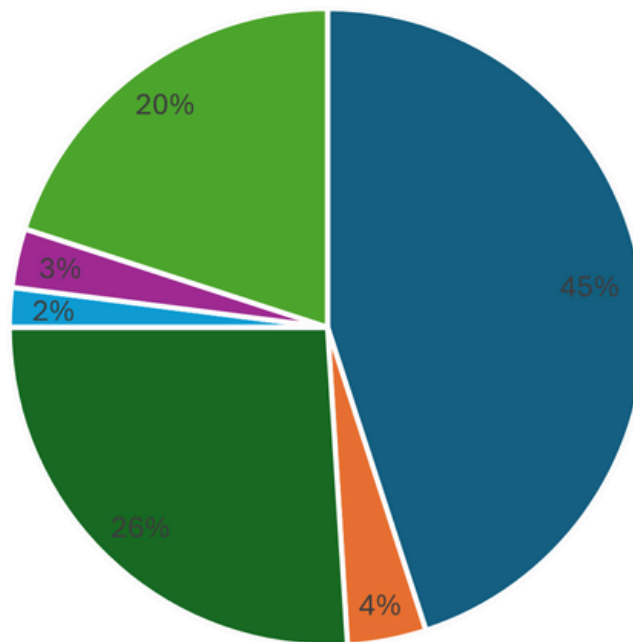
CCE Wayne is a subordinate governmental agency with an education mission that operates under a form of organization and administration approved by Cornell University as an agent for the State of New York. It is tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The CCE Wayne Association is part of the national Cooperative Extension System. As New York's land grant university, Cornell administers the system in this state. Each Cornell Cooperative Extension Association is an independent employer that is governed by an elected Board of Directors with general oversight from Cornell. CCE Wayne is supported by public and private funding.

In 2025, one of the newer opportunities for revenue included accepting donations to be entered in a raffle that took place during the Wayne County Fair, during which over \$500 was raised. The raffle included three separate baskets created using local business products including \$200 in products from Maxwell's Honey Bee Farm, Long Acre Farms, and a \$200 Wegman's gift card.

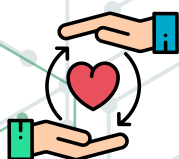
We acknowledge the County of Wayne as a primary partner and thank the County, our donors, community partners, and residents for their unending support!

CCE Wayne Funding



■ Federal ■ Fundraising ■ State ■ Program Revenue ■ Contracts ■ County

Because of your generous donations to the Friends of Extension fall fundraiser, we successfully raised



= \$8,010

Discover a Welcoming and Engaging Community at CCE Wayne's Events!

At CCE Wayne, we provide a broad array of events and activities to foster a supportive and friendly atmosphere for all ages. Our mission is to establish a secure and inclusive space where individuals can gather to appreciate their unique qualities and gain knowledge from each other. If you're looking to expand your skillset and become part of a vibrant and diverse community, come join us at CCE Wayne's Events today!

2026



- **Wednesday, Jan 7th** from 9:30-11:30 am - **Stay Strong, Stay Healthy** 8-week fitness class begins at CCE Wayne in Newark
- **Wednesday, Feb 16th-19th** ~ **Winter Weekend at 4-H Camp Amboy**
- **Friday, Feb 20th-21st & Sat, Feb 28th** - **4-H Public Presentations**
- **Saturday, May 9th** from 8:30 am - 11:30 am ~ **Master Gardener Plant Sale** at CCE, 1581 Rte 88 N., Newark
- **Saturday, May 9th** ~ **Teen Exchange Pancake Breakfast** at CCE Wayne in Newark
- **Monday, July 13th - Friday, July 17th** ~ **4-H Camp Beechwood**
- **Monday, July 27th -Friday, July 31st**~ **4-H Gardening & Cooking Camp** at CCE Wayne
- **Wednesday, July 15th** - from 4 pm - 8 pm ~ **Great Gardens of Wayne County Tour**. Tickets are available beginning in June 17th. This year our tour will feature gardens in the Macedon area.
- **Monday, August 10th - Sunday, August 16th**~ **Wayne County Fair**
- **Wednesday, October 1st** ~ First Day of the **New 4-H Program Year**
- **Friday, November 6th**~ Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wayne County's **Annual Meeting** at 1581 Route 88 North, Newark.

Check the CCE events page to stay updated.



CCEWAYNE.ORG





ccewayne.org



facebook



wayne@cornell.edu

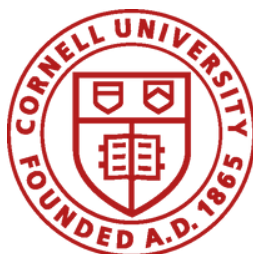


315-331-8415



1581 Route 88 North
Newark, NY 14513

M-F | 8:30am-4:30pm



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