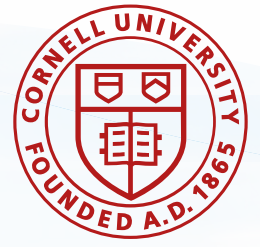


Cornell Cooperative Extension Rockland County



ANNUAL REPORT

2025



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About CCE Rockland

Mission

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.

Vision

Cornell Cooperative Extension is a national leader in creating positive change on behalf of families and communities through rigorously-tested extension programs. We create measurable change by aligning local needs with the resources and priorities of the land grant system and its state and federal partners.

A Letter from the President of the Board & the Executive Director

Dear Friends of Extension,

The year 2025 was an exciting one for CCE Rockland, marked by strong enrollment, new programs, and meaningful community impact.

Our 4-H programs continued to thrive, including the launch of the 4-H Teen Leaders program, which engaged students from seven high schools in leadership development, career exploration, and program planning. We also expanded our veterinary science offerings to include human medicine, helping students explore a wider range of healthcare careers.

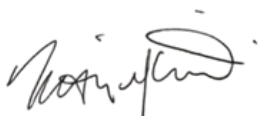
CCE Rockland maintained its leadership in environmental education through management of the Stormwater Consortium of Rockland County, supporting municipalities in meeting New York State requirements while increasing public awareness of stormwater pollution and prevention.

Horticulture education also grew, reaching new audiences through hands-on learning. Twenty-two scout troops participated in programs that fostered environmental awareness, and school partnerships such as Seed to Salad and Rooted in Learning gave students opportunities to explore agriculture, nutrition, and local food systems from farm to table.

Although federal funding for SNAP-Ed ended in September 2025, our commitment to nutrition education remains strong. Our Hudson Valley Nutrition team is pursuing new funding opportunities, and a generous anonymous donation will help sustain staff through 2026 as we build a new foundation for these important programs.

As we look ahead to an exciting and impactful 2026, we invite you to stay connected with us. We are deeply grateful to our donors, sponsors, partners, collaborators, and volunteers, whose generosity and dedication are at the heart of everything we do.

With gratitude for your continued support,



Maria Gagliardi
CCE Rockland President
Board of Directors



Jody Addeo
CCE Rockland
Executive Director

2025 Impact at a Glance

**Serving 5,000+
Rockland County
Residents in 2025**

**500+ native plants
sold supporting
local ecosystems
& pollinators**

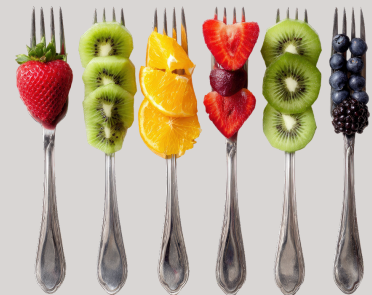


**2,900+
youth
engaged**

A group of diverse youth silhouettes are shown in various celebratory poses, such as jumping and raising their arms, representing the 2,900+ youth engaged in the program.

**963
Horticulture
consultations**

**1,196 residents reached
through nutrition
education**



**1,182 students
reached through
Agricultural
Literacy Week**



**450+ residents
reached through
environmental
education**



4-H Development

4-H Program Highlights | 2025

In 2025, Rockland County 4-H engaged hundreds of young people in meaningful learning experiences that built leadership, career readiness, and civic engagement. Through hands-on programs, community partnerships, and service opportunities, 4-H empowered youth to become informed, skilled, and connected contributors to their communities.

Leadership Development & Civic Engagement

Teen Leadership Rockland

Sponsored by Leadership Rockland and CCE Rockland, this 16-session program engaged twenty-six high school sophomores in leadership development while fostering meaningful connections with peers and community leaders. New experiences included a tour of Montefiore Nyack Hospital with interviews of medical professionals, an exploration of art and culture at the Rockland Center for the Arts, and a visit to VCS to learn about counseling and family support services.



4-H Teen Leaders

Launched in January 2025 with fifteen members, the 4-H Teen Leaders Club focused on leadership development, community service, career exploration, and skill-building. Youth participated in site visits to the Rockland County Sheriff's Office and White Plains Hospital, learned self-defense through LifeForce, explored Alzheimer's awareness, led a Keep Rockland Beautiful cleanup at Children's Park in Chestnut Ridge, and facilitated activities at the Orange County Country Fair. Interest in the club grew, with a November meeting drawing 33 prospective members. Participants later elected officers, developed a tentative schedule, and completed a holiday card service project for Meals on Wheels. The club will continue meeting twice monthly throughout 2026.



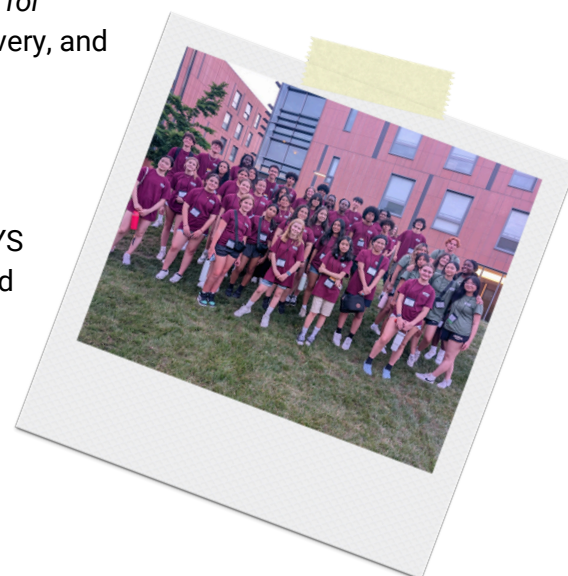
Legislator Aney Paul Leadership Workshop

On August 14, Kristin Ruggiero facilitated leadership activities for sixteen youth ages 11–18 during Legislator Aney Paul's Free Leadership Workshop at the Rockland County Legislature. The session, *Stand Up, Speak Out, Lead On: Public Speaking for Leadership*, featured interactive exercises focused on organization, delivery, and confidence in public speaking.

Career Exploration & College Readiness

New York State 4-H Career Explorations

From June 25–27, forty Rockland County 4-H members attended the NYS 4-H Career Explorations Conference at Cornell University. For the second consecutive year, Rockland County sent the largest delegation and had the highest number of Focus Assistants, with seven youth serving in leadership roles. Participants joined more than 180 youth statewide to explore career pathways, develop leadership skills, and experience college life.



Rockland 4-H Members Attend Ignite by 4-H National Summit

From March 12–16, 2025, three Rockland County 4-H members represented New York State at the Ignite by 4-H National Summit in Washington, D.C. Supported by a full National 4-H scholarship, participants joined more than 1,600 youth nationwide. The summit included inspiring speakers, career exploration, hands-on leadership workshops, visits to national monuments and the National Museum of Health and Medicine, and initial planning for a “Lead to Change Project.” Youth also connected with the New Jersey 4-H delegation and met with Senator Cory Booker to discuss service, leadership, and career pathways.



4-H Careers in Human and Animal Medicine

Launched on October 6, 2025, this new 10-session program brought together twenty-seven high school students from Rockland, Westchester, and Bergen Counties. Participants explored human and animal medical career pathways through site visits to Montefiore Nyack Hospital, Dominican University, Mercy University, Oradell Animal Hospital, Helen Hayes Hospital, Rockland BOCES, Valley Cottage Animal Hospital, and Montefiore Einstein’s Orthopedic & Spine Center. Youth also connected with a Touro University medical student and a veterinarian from Nanuet Animal Hospital, gaining valuable insight into educational pathways and financial planning for medical careers.



Research, STEM & Environmental Education

4-H Youth for Climate Action, thirty-three high school students participated in this intensive 16-session program focused on understanding climate change and addressing local environmental issues. From December through May, youth visited community sites and collaborated with peers and professionals to design, develop, and implement climate action–focused service projects. Thanks to generous funding from Orange and Rockland Utilities, participation was offered at no cost to youth.

Cornell Youth Investigators

Developed by Cornell University’s Program for Research on Youth Development and Engagement (PRYDE), this program supported twenty-two North Rockland High School freshmen in building social science research skills. Led by 4-H Educator Kristin Ruggiero, participants completed eight sessions and attended a Youth Summit at Cornell University during the annual 4-H Career Explorations Conference.



Clubs & School-Based Programs

Horses-R-Us 4-H Club

The eleven members of this community club participated in a wide range of local, regional, state, and national opportunities, including Equine Affaire, the Heritage of West Nyack Fall Festival, community service with 13 Hands Equine Rescue, public presentations, and exhibitions at the Orange County Country Fair.

4-H Cloverbuds Club

In its second year, the Rockland County 4-H Cloverbuds Club engaged youth ages 5–7 (and their siblings) in hands-on learning and community exploration. Seven members met monthly to explore local organizations, participate in seasonal activities, and complete service projects in a supportive group setting.

Panthers 4-H Club at Willow Grove Elementary School

Led by a Family and Consumer Science teacher and a 4-H member, this after-school club served seventeen youth in grades 4–6. From November through May, members met weekly and participated in leadership development, STEM experiments, holiday crafts, woodworking, and other hands-on skill-building activities.

4-H Club at North Rockland High School

Founded by an active 4-H member, this after-school club at North Rockland High School began on November 24 with thirty interested students. Through weekly meetings, the club emphasizes practical life skills, career exploration, and community involvement. In 2025, members collaborated to brainstorm session topics, create greeting cards, and strengthen their public speaking skills.

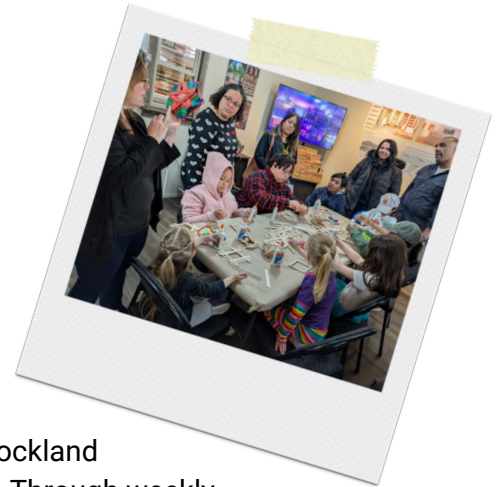
Events, Recognition & Youth Showcases

4-H Public Presentations

On March 1, nine 4-H members ages 5–13 participated in the Rockland County 4-H Public Presentations Event, presenting on topics of their choice and receiving constructive feedback from an experienced evaluator. Four youth advanced to the District 4-H Public Presentations Event on April 26, and three continued to the virtual Northeast States Competition on October 4.

Orange County Country Fair

On July 19, nine youth submitted a total of 21 projects for evaluation at the CCE Orange Educational Center & 4-H Park. Entries included hand-sewn and crocheted items, photography, artwork, creative writing, recycled crafts, Cloverbud projects, and a community service project. All submissions were showcased at the Country Fair from July 24–27, and ten exceptional exhibits advanced to the New York State Fair in Syracuse, where they were re-evaluated and displayed throughout the event.



4-H Awards and Recognition Event

On October 18, ten 4-H members, along with volunteers and families, were recognized for their participation in the Rockland County 4-H Program and their dedication to service, learning, and leadership.

Community Outreach & Engagement

NY Agriculture in the Classroom: Agricultural Literacy Week

Agricultural Literacy Week is a statewide initiative in which volunteers read agriculture-themed books to elementary classrooms and lead hands-on activities.

This year, a dedicated Master Gardener Volunteer coordinated the program in Rockland County.

Volunteers read *The Pie That Molly Grew* by Sue Heavenrich and Chamisa Kellogg and guided students in making "pumpkin pie in a bag." From March through June, fifteen volunteers (including five 4-H members) visited 63 classrooms in eight schools, reaching 1,182 students countywide.

4-H Outreach

4-H maintained a strong community presence by leading youth activities at Rockland County YouthFest, the Haverstraw Center's *Unity in the Community* Spring Break Program, and the Accessible Family Fun Day. Throughout the year, over 1,500 people were connected to local, regional, state, an



Horticulture Diagnostics Laboratory

The Horticulture Diagnostics Laboratory provides assistance to residents and community organizations by identifying plant pests and diseases and answering general gardening questions related to ornamental plantings, landscapes, and vegetable gardens. In 2025, the lab was supported by our Master Gardener Volunteers, whose time and expertise allow the program to respond to a high volume of public inquiries and provide individualized guidance to the community.

From January through December 2025, the lab handled a total of 963 inquiries. These requests were received through multiple channels, including 588 phone calls, 280 in-person visits, and 95 email inquiries. Many callers experiencing disease problems were encouraged to bring samples to the lab for diagnostic identification, allowing for more accurate recommendations. During this period, 508 fact sheets were distributed to provide research-based information to residents.

In addition to diagnostics, the lab assists the community in many practical ways. Examples of assistance in 2025 included helping homeowners diagnose tree decline, advising vegetable gardeners on pest management, supporting school or community gardens, assisting municipalities or landscapers with plant health concerns, or providing guidance on drought stress and watering practices. These services help residents protect landscapes, improve garden productivity, and make environmentally responsible management decisions.

Weather conditions played a significant role in plant health throughout the year. Rainfall was below average, and drought conditions that began in fall 2024 continued into 2025, resulting in lower-than-average reservoir levels by year's end. The season began with moderate temperatures and a cool spring, which resulted in relatively few plant diseases early in the year. Summer included several heat waves, though none were extreme, and autumn conditions were largely seasonal.

Most plant samples brought to the lab showed symptoms of drought stress. When insects or fungal issues were present, they were often secondary problems associated with plant decline caused by dry conditions. Mites were common due to hot, dry weather. Arborvitae (*Thuja* species) was a frequent submission; although damage to this plant is typically seen in spring due to desiccating winter winds and dry autumn conditions, similar damage was observed throughout the year in 2025. Spotted Lanternfly inquiries were most frequent in early fall, though overall inquiries declined compared to the previous year. The most common insects presented to the lab were ants, ticks, and bees.

The Horticulture Diagnostics Laboratory also received several equipment upgrades in 2025. All three lab computers were replaced, including two workstations used by Master Gardener Volunteers and one dedicated to the digital microscope. The microscope software was updated to the most current version, and all computers were connected to a shared drive with internet access, improving efficiency, recordkeeping, and diagnostic capability.

Through diagnostics, education, and volunteer service, the Horticulture Diagnostics Laboratory continues to be an important resource for Rockland County residents, helping the community respond to environmental challenges and maintain healthy landscapes.



Horticulture Education & Master Gardener Volunteers

Green Gardener Program

The Green Gardener Program is an online educational series designed for gardening enthusiasts preparing for the upcoming growing season. With an emphasis on sustainable practices, the program serves both beginners starting their first gardens and experienced gardeners seeking to refresh their knowledge. The four-session series covered Starting a Garden from Scratch, Seed Starting, Native Plants, and Vegetable Gardening. Each session lasted approximately 90 minutes, allowing time for participants' questions and discussion. Recordings and educational resources were shared after each session, enabling participants to review materials and apply what they learned at home.

MGV Native Plant Sale

CCE Rockland Master Gardener Volunteers hosted their third annual Native Plant Sale, selling more than 500 native plants. Volunteers carefully selected North American native species well-suited to Rockland County landscapes that support pollinators and strengthen local ecosystems. To expand the educational impact of the sale, Master Gardener Volunteers also enhanced the Native Plant Sale website by adding educational pages highlighting the environmental and aesthetic benefits of gardening with native plants.

Nature and Garden Based Programs with Scouts

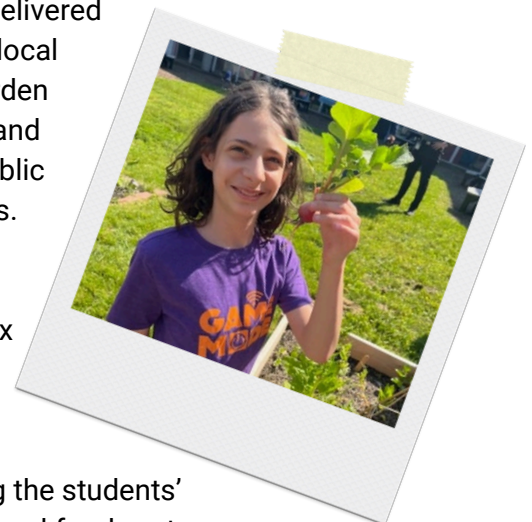
Master Gardener Volunteers coordinated and delivered a series of hands-on, nature-based educational programs for Rockland County Scout troops. Each session was designed to support Scouting goals while providing engaging, seasonal learning experiences. Programs included Leave the Leaves in the fall, Animal Adaptations in winter, Butterflies All Around in spring, and Moonlight in the Garden in summer.

Speakers' Bureau Presentations

Master Gardener Volunteers and Horticulture Educator Kristen Ossmann delivered a variety of horticulture presentations to community groups, libraries, and local organizations throughout Rockland County. Topics included Starting a Garden from Scratch, Seed Starting, Crops in Pots, Wreath Making, Native Plants, and Native Trees of the Northeast. These presentations continue to expand public access to research-based gardening information and sustainable practices.

Seed to Salad Program

Master Gardener Volunteers partnered with seventh-grade students at Felix Festa Middle School to deliver the Seed to Salad program, an engaging hands-on gardening experience. Students planted radish, sugar snap pea, and lettuce seeds, learned about plant growth, and harvested their crops several weeks later. The program culminated in a "salad party," celebrating the students' harvest and reinforcing the connection between gardening, nutrition, and local food systems.



Therapeutic Horticulture Program with Meals on Wheels Senior Activity Centers

Master Gardener Volunteers delivered seasonal therapeutic horticulture programs at five Meals on Wheels Senior Activity Centers. A total of 25 programs were conducted, with activities including succulent plantings, sensory herb sachets, pansy plantings, spring flower bouquets, and winter wreath making. These programs promote social engagement, creativity, and well-being among participating seniors.

Rooted in Learning Program with Harvest NY

Through funding provided by Harvest NY, CCE Rockland continued implementing the Rooted in Learning program, which connects students, school cafeterias, and locally grown food. In 2025, the program was delivered in partnership with Clarkstown North High School, Clarkstown South High School, and North Rockland High School.

All three schools enthusiastically embraced the program, demonstrating strong commitment and creativity. The initiative strengthened community relationships and supported the integration of the “3Cs”—Cafeteria, Classroom, and Community—into programming. In fall 2025, students participated in farm visits and apple tastings in collaboration with Dr. Davies Farm, providing firsthand exposure to local agriculture and food systems.

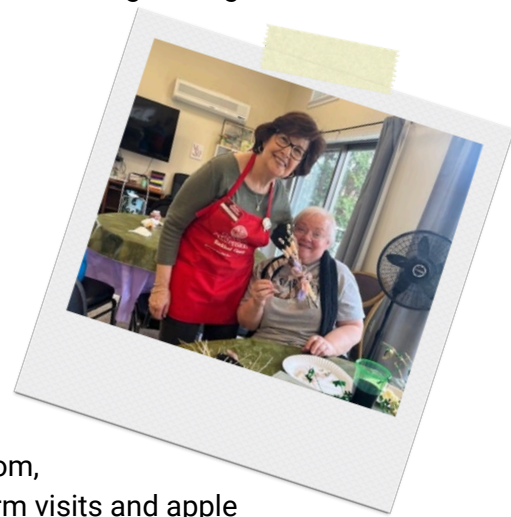
MGV Site Assessments

In 2025, Master Gardener Volunteers launched a new Home Garden Site Assessment service. These consultations provide homeowners with guidance on managing their landscapes using sustainable practices. Each one-hour consultation is conducted by a team of two trained Master Gardeners and includes recommendations on plant placement, native plant selection, plant and weed identification, pest and disease management, lawn care, and soil health.

Following the visit, homeowners receive a detailed written summary along with educational resources, enabling them to implement improvements and maintain healthier, more sustainable landscapes.

Program Impact

In 2025, Master Gardener Volunteers strengthened community knowledge of sustainable gardening through workshops, youth and senior programs, public presentations, and consultations, contributing to healthier landscapes and greater environmental stewardship across Rockland County.



Environmental Education

Stormwater Consortium of Rockland County

The Stormwater Consortium assists Rockland's towns and villages in meeting stormwater permit requirements mandated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) while educating the public about water quality and stormwater pollution. In 2025, the Consortium advanced major initiatives to help municipalities comply with new regulations, strengthen collaborative partnerships, and expand public education focused on protecting local waterways.

Key Accomplishments

Training Video: Pollution Inspection and Sampling

A comprehensive training video was produced to demonstrate best practices for inspecting and sampling pollution in storm drains and to outline the local laws municipalities must follow to prevent illegal discharges.

Unified Stormwater Mapping Database

The Stormwater Mapping Database was expanded to include additional infrastructure throughout Rockland County, improving the ability to track stormwater flow, municipal facilities, construction sites, and green infrastructure. This unified system enhances compliance with state permitting requirements and supports more effective planning and response.

Sustainable Lawns Initiative

The Sustainable Lawns Initiative was launched to promote simple lawn care practices that protect water quality. Maintaining taller turf grass increases root depth, improves soil infiltration, and reduces sediment runoff into local waterways—helping to prevent harmful algal blooms (HABs) and supporting overall ecosystem health.

Unified Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP)

A 100-page Unified Stormwater Management Plan was developed and updated to align with the latest NYSDEC permit requirements. Updated annually, the SWMP serves as a central resource for municipalities. Staff are meeting with each community to tailor the plan to local water quality challenges, and specialized sections guide contractors in sediment control, addressing one of the most common and damaging pollutants to drinking and recreational waters.



Advocacy: NYS Fertilizer Law Letter

An advocacy campaign was coordinated regarding the NYS Nutrient Runoff Law and the sale of phosphorus-containing fertilizers. A joint letter signed by all 17 County Legislators and County Executive Ed Day was sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, the Attorney General, and the NYSDEC Commissioner, urging stronger enforcement. The five Rockland towns also issued a shared letter of support, joined by multiple municipalities.



Legislative and Community Leadership

Recognition: Legislator Paul Cleary, District 2

We extend our sincere appreciation to Legislator Paul Cleary for his leadership and support. As a member of the CCE Board of Directors, Legislator Cleary has played an instrumental role in strengthening the Stormwater Consortium of Rockland County and expanding partnerships among towns, villages, and the county. His leadership in the NYS Fertilizer Law initiative and advocacy for county funding were key to expanding staff and resources for the Stormwater Program. Through these efforts, a dedicated municipal support position was secured, enhancing regional collaboration and water quality protection.

Education and Outreach

CCE Stormwater & Water Quality Education Webpage

The CCE Rockland Stormwater Mapper continues to be updated to reflect the status of local water quality. The tool also supports the Rockland PLUS planning team, who use it in “watershed address” activities with students helping the next generation understand their environmental impact.



Hudson River Fish Advisory Program

Two Rockland Conservation & Service Corps interns joined the program to educate the public about health risks associated with eating fish from the Hudson River. One intern, accepted a full-time position as a Watershed Ambassador representing the Hackensack, Hudson, and Pascack Watersheds, continuing his work in water quality protection.

Community Engagement

In 2025, environmental education programs reached more than 450 Rockland County residents, strengthening countywide stewardship and empowering communities to reduce non-point source pollution. Outreach efforts will continue to expand in 2026 as we work to further protect Rockland’s water resources.



SNAP-Ed NY

Who We Are

SNAP-Ed is the nutrition promotion and obesity-prevention component of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Through this program, states provide nutrition education and obesity-prevention interventions for individuals and families who are eligible for SNAP or other means-tested federal assistance programs. SNAP-Ed focuses on improving health outcomes and reducing food insecurity among low-income communities.

What We Do

Using evidence-based curricula, SNAP-Ed educators teach practical skills that empower participants to make healthier choices within their budgets. Topics include healthy eating on a budget, smart shopping for fruits and vegetables, meal planning, basic cooking and food safety skills, weight management, and physical activity. Programs are delivered in both English and Spanish, ensuring that nutrition education is accessible to the diverse communities we serve in Rockland County.

In addition to direct education, SNAP-Ed utilizes Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) change strategies to promote healthier communities where people live, work, learn, and play. In Rockland County, one example of this approach is the Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program, which increases access to fresh produce while reinforcing nutrition education.

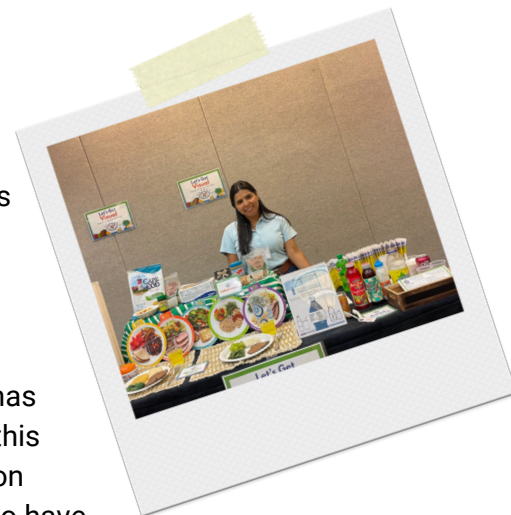
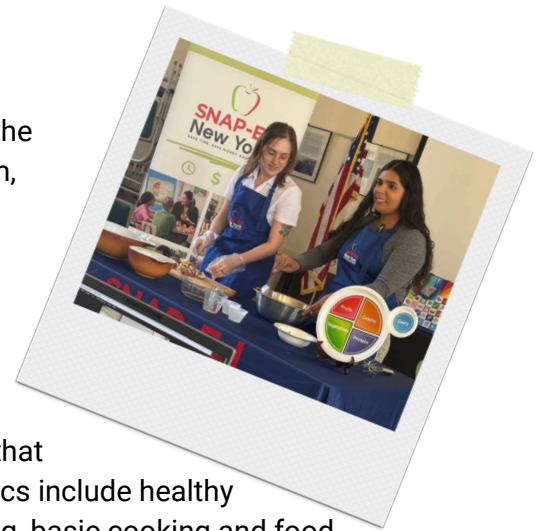
What Is Changing

In July 2025, federal funding for SNAP-Ed was eliminated from the federal budget with the signing of HR 1. Despite this significant change, the program has received a private donation and is actively pursuing grant funding to continue this important work under a Regional Nutrition Program model. Maintaining nutrition education services remains a priority to ensure vulnerable residents continue to have access to evidence-based health and wellness programming.

Program Highlights

In 2025, SNAP-Ed programming in Rockland County delivered 47 programs, reaching a total of 1,196 participants. Youth represented the majority of participants (1,045), with an additional 151 adults reached through community-based settings. School-based education remained a central focus, with 39 programs delivered in K–12 schools, reaching 1,101 participants, including 1,021 youth and 80 adults. These partnerships reflect a strong commitment to providing nutrition education early in life, helping students build lifelong healthy habits.

Additional outreach took place in community and recreation centers, family resource centers, food assistance sites, public housing locations, individual homes, and senior centers. Adult participation was concentrated primarily in senior centers (45 participants) and food assistance and family resource settings, ensuring SNAP-Ed reached individuals and families where they already access services and support.



Clean Energy Hub

What is the Mid-Hudson Regional Clean Energy Hub

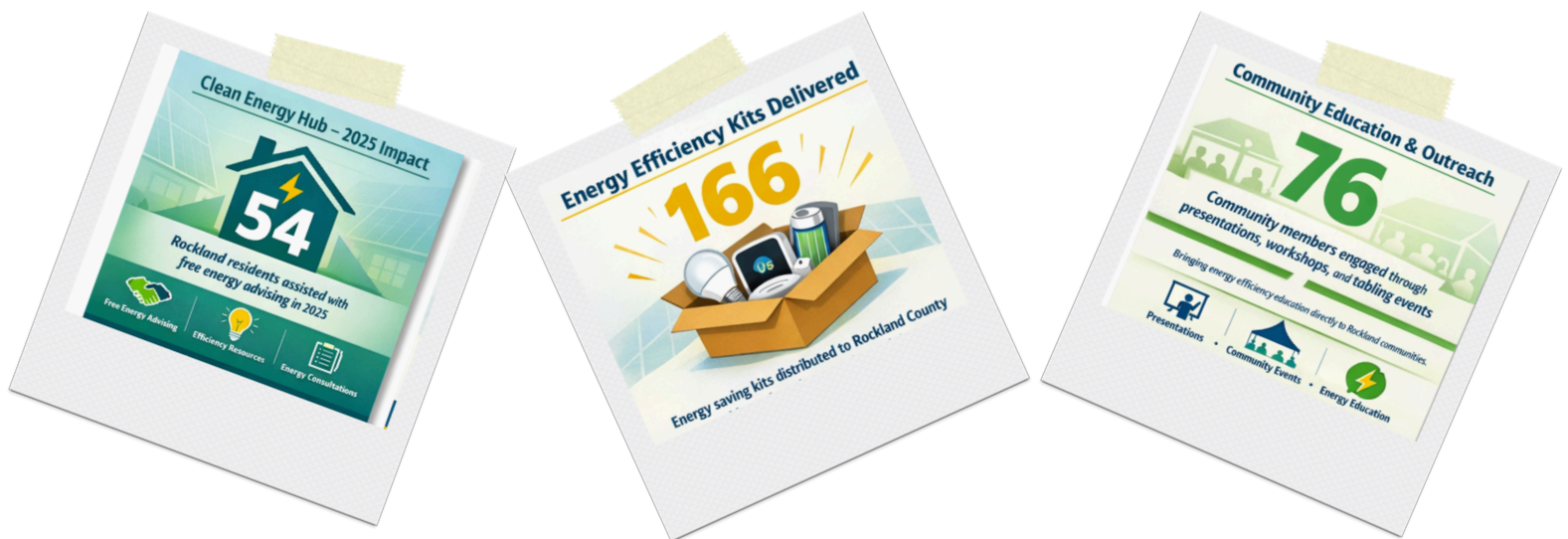
The Mid-Hudson Regional Clean Energy Hub is a partner network made up of the Cornell Cooperative Extension associations of the Mid-Hudson Region (Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan and Ulster Counties), Sustainable Westchester, New Yorkers for Clean Power, and the Consensus Building Institute. The Clean Energy Hub is funded by a multi-year grant from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).

What does the Clean Energy Hub do?

Through the Hub's energy advisors based out of the Cornell Cooperative Extension associations, the Hub provides no-cost assistance for residents, businesses, and nonprofits seeking to reduce energy consumption, save money on energy costs, and make their spaces more comfortable year-round. Such assistance includes connecting people and organizations to energy efficiency resources, tools and programs for the purposes of making informed energy decisions, and energy-saving project guidance. These services are provided for free, regardless of homeowner/renter status, immigration status, and/or financial status. Public awareness presentations and workshops about energy efficiency and related topics are conducted by the Hub's energy advisors throughout the year.

Impact of the Clean Energy Hub in Rockland County

As of December 2025, 100+ Rockland County residents have received energy efficiency assistance from the Rockland energy advisor, which in many cases, has resulted in homes receiving energy efficiency upgrades via programs offered by NYSERDA, Orange & Rockland, and RECAP (Weatherization Assistance Program provider agency). In 2025, 166 Rockland community members were provided with free DIY energy efficiency kits via the Save Energy Save Dollars workshop initiative.



Thank You Donors!

We are incredibly grateful for the generous support of our 2025 donors. Your commitment and generosity have allowed us to continue our important work and make a positive impact on our community. Thank you for believing in our mission and helping us strive towards a better future.

Giving Tuesday

Elaine Allinson
Judith Andersen
Carolyn Amdurer
Ann & Gerald Barry
Stephen B Becker
Donna De Sousa
Mary Anne Evangelist
Marcia & David Fernandez
Maria Gagliardi
Brian Hughes
Thomas P Hughes
Paul Larsen
Susan Ozer
Ann Marie Palefsky
Charlie Pane
Susan Ridge
Paul Trader
Philip Yacuk

Hudson Valley Gives Day

Jody Addeo
Elaine Allinson
Suzanne Barclay
Ann & Gerald Barry
Robin Eifert
David Fernandez
Maria Gagliardi
Thomas Hughes
Heather Hurley
Kathleen Iger
Lucy Joyce
Paul Larsen
Quynh Madans
Amy Macdermott
Mid-Hudson Valley Federal
Credit Union
Cristina Moreno
Susan Ozer

Anne Marie Palefsky
Susan Ridge
Marc Silverstein
Resorts World Catskill and
Hudson Valley
Bianca Wentzell

General Donations

Sandra Arenson
Carolyn Amdurer
Terrance Connolly
Harry Donenfeld Foundation
The James Brooks and Laura
Graves
Robert Grando
Orentreich Family Foundation
Nancy & Brian Quinn

Native Plant Sale

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Eileen Albus
Carolyn Ambrey
Carolyn Amdurer
Eileen Anderson
Olga Anderson
Sandra Arenson
Lisa Backelman
Susan Balban
Suzanne Barclay
Elizabeth Berman
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Geraldine Shaw

Marc Silverstein
Karen Steinmetz
Loretta Tito
Kristi Thurston
Mary Vail
Cynthia Whitehouse
Ellen Whiteurban
Osa Willis

Our 2025 Community Network

Thank you to our Community Partners!

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rockland has partnered with nonprofit agencies, organizations and businesses during the past year including:

- 13 Hands Equine Rescue
- Amy Albam
- BRIDGES
- CCE Dutchess County
- CCE Orange County
- CCE Putnam County
- CCE Suffolk County
- CCE Sullivan County
- CCE Ulster County
- CCE Westchester County
- Center for Safety & Change
- Clarkstown Community Learning Center
- Clarkstown Garden Club
- Clarkstown High School North
- Clarkstown High School South
- Clarkstown Justice Court
- Clarkstown Police
- Dominican University
- Dr. Davies Farm
- Eileen Fisher ReNew
- Felix Festa Middle School
- Four Paws Guidance Dog Training
- Garden Club of Nyack
- Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
- Hackensack Riverkeeper
- Harvest NY
- Haverstraw King's Daughters Library
- Haverstraw, Nyack Youth, Spring Valley and Western Ramapo Collaboratives
- Headstart of Rockland
- Helen Hayes Hospital
- Historical Society of Rockland County
- Keep Rockland Beautiful
- Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory
- Leadership Rockland
- Library Association of Rockland County
- LifeForce Self Defense
- Lower Hudson Valley PRISM
- Meals on Wheels
- Mercy University
- Minisceongo Creek Watershed Alliance
- Montefiore Einstein Comprehensive Orthopedic & Spine Center
- Montefiore Nyack Hospital
- Nanuet Animal Hospital
- New York New Jersey Trail Conference
- New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- New York State Department of Health
- North Rockland High School
- Nyack 2030
- Nyack Farmers Market
- Nyack Pollinator Pathway - Dana Harkrider
- NYSERDA
- NYSIPM
- Oradell Animal Hospital
- Orange And Rockland
- Ramapo Garden Club
- Rockland BOCES
- Rockland Community College
- Rockland Community Farm Network
- Rockland Composters
- Rockland Conservation and Service Corps
- Rockland County Center for the Arts (RoCA)
- Rockland County Department of Health
- Rockland County Division of Environmental Resources
- Rockland County Food Pantries: TOUCH, Sloatsburg, People To People, Catholic Charities
- Rockland County Human Rights Commission
- Rockland County Libraries
- Rockland County School Districts
- Rockland County Sheriff's Office
- Rockland County Youth Bureau
- Rockland Environmental Management Council
- Rockland Green
- Rockland Municipal Planning Federation
- Rockland Sierra Club
- Rockland Task Force on Water Resources Management
- Rockland Teachers Center
- Rockland Works
- RP Connor Elementary
- Sloatsburg Nursery
- Sparkill Creek Watershed Alliance
- Spring Valley Public Works
- St.Thomas Aquinas College
- Stormwater Consortium of Rockland County
- Strawtown Studio
- The Learning Collaborative
- The Mahwah Environmental Volunteers Organization, Inc. (MEVO)
- Towns of Clarkstown, Orangetown, Ramapo, and Stony Point
- United Way
- Upper Nyack Elementary
- Upper Nyack Green Committee
- Valley Cottage Animal Hospital
- VCS, Inc.
- Veolia
- Villages of Rockland County: Haverstraw, Hillburn, Nyack, Piermont, Wesley Hills, Sloatsburg, Chestnut Ridge, Montebello, Pomona, Airmont, Upper Nyack, New Hempstead, Suffern, West Haverstraw, Grandview, Kaser
- White Plains Hospital
- Wickes Arborists
- Wild Woods Restoration Project - Linda Rohleder
- Willow Grove Elementary School

2025 Funding

Thank you to our Funders!

Allstate

Bleakley, Platt & Schmidt Attorneys at Law

CHPE

Montefiore Nyack

New York Life Insurance

Orange & Rockland

Robert Grando Masonry

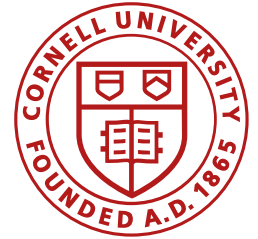
Rockland Green

St Thomas Aquinas College

Tilcon

Town of Clarkstown

Veolia



County

Honorable Edwin J. Day
Rockland County Executive

Honorable Jay Hood, Jr.
Rockland County Legislative Chair

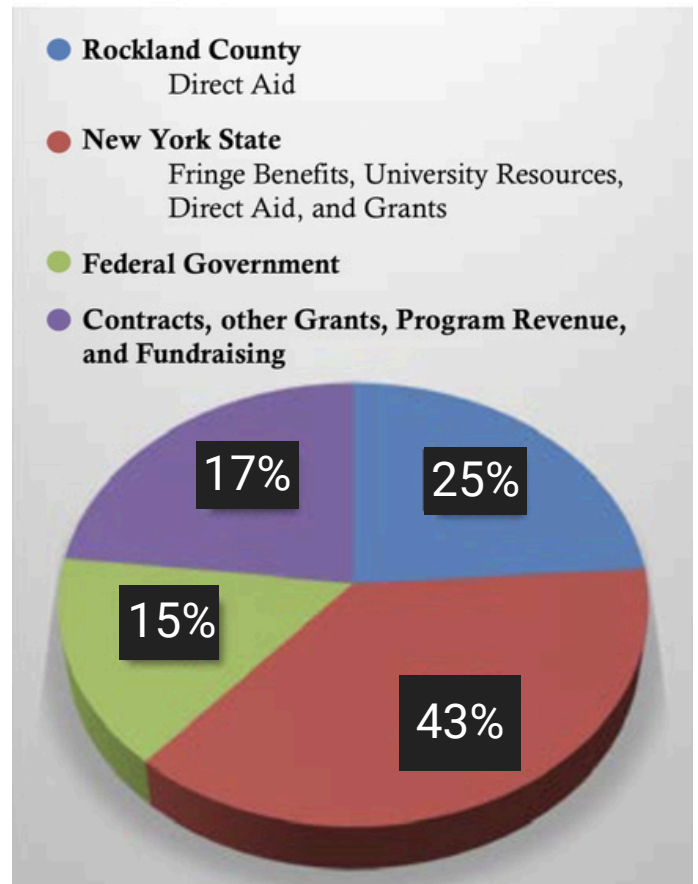
State

State of New York
Cornell University
Andy Turner, Director,
Cornell Cooperative Extension

Federal

United States Department of Agriculture

The County of Rockland, through the Rockland Legislature, provides substantial funding for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rockland's programs and operations which allows us to leverage state and federal funding.



Why Your Support Matters

Every program, every workshop, and every life we reach is made possible through the support of our community. At Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rockland County, we are committed to delivering research-based education, hands-on experiences, and meaningful opportunities that strengthen our community. But none of this work happens without the generosity of donors, sponsors, and partners who believe in what we do.

Empowering Youth Leaders

Through 4-H programs, young people gain leadership skills, explore career pathways, and build confidence that prepares them for the future.

Protecting Our Environment

Our stormwater and environmental programs help municipalities and residents protect local waterways, reduce pollution, and promote sustainable practices that benefit future generations.

Expanding Access to Healthy Food

Nutrition education programs equip individuals and families with the knowledge and tools to make healthier choices, improving long-term health outcomes across our community.

Strengthening Local Landscapes & Ecosystems

Through horticulture education and the work of Master Gardener Volunteers, we support residents in creating sustainable, thriving landscapes that benefit both people and pollinators.

A Critical Moment

In 2025, federal funding for SNAP-Ed nutrition programs came to an end. While we are actively pursuing new funding sources, this shift highlights how essential community support is to sustaining and growing these vital programs.

Your investment helps ensure that education, resources, and opportunities remain accessible to those who need them most.

Be Part of the Impact

When you support CCE Rockland, you are not just funding programs—you are investing in stronger families, healthier communities, and a more sustainable future.

Together, we are creating lasting change in Rockland County.

Ways To Support CCE Rockland in 2026

Support CCE Rockland on Hudson Valley Gives Day & Giving Tuesday
Make an impact through our annual community-wide days of giving.



Attend Speakers' Bureau Programs at Your Local Library
Learn from experts on sustainability, gardening, and environmental topics.



Purchase from the CCE Rockland Native Plant Sale Fundraiser
(RocklandCCEPlantsale.com)
Support local ecology while beautifying your landscape.



Volunteer with 4-H
Help inspire and educate the next generation of leaders.



Help the Stormwater Consortium
Keep our water clean by marking and maintaining your local storm drains.



Attend Our Sustainability Showcase & Walk
At Congers Lake (SustainabilityWalk.org)
Explore hands-on exhibits and eco-friendly solutions.



Visit Our Horticulture Lab.
10 Patriot Hills Drive, Stony Point
See our work in action and connect with our team



For more programs, events or to donate visit: RocklandCCE.org
845-429-7085 RocklandCCE@Cornell.edu

Cornell Cooperative Extension Rockland County provides equal employment and program opportunities. Please contact our office if you have any special needs or needs materials in an alternate format.