

Greg Stevens Named Interim Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County



Effective July 1, 2026, Greg Stevens has been named Interim Executive Director for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County.

Greg brings more than 28 years of experience to the role. He began his career in 4-H Youth Development, where he was hired to provide classroom education through the School Outreach Program while also administering an Academic Enrichment Program during the summer months.

During this time, Greg developed and administered the highly successful Reality Check Youth Empowerment Program, and later partnered with school districts to strengthen anti-smoking policies through the Tobacco-Free Schools Program.

In 2015, Greg was promoted to 4-H and Family and Consumer Sciences Issue Leader. In 2023, he was appointed Assistant Director, where he assumed responsibility for the Adirondack Welcome Center Taste NY Program and expanded his work to include collaboration with the agriculture team.

Greg received a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communications from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Plattsburgh in 1993 and went back to SUNY Plattsburgh for a master's degree in Science in Liberal Studies- Administration and Leadership, graduating in 2011.

"I'm extremely excited about the next chapter for CCE Saratoga," said Stevens. "We have an incredibly talented staff, and it is an honor to work with such dedicated individuals while providing leadership to this Association on an interim basis—and hopefully continuing in a full-time role in the future. I've learned from the best over the years, and I hope to carry forward their outstanding qualities in this new endeavor."

Come see CCE Saratoga in action at the Saratoga County Fair: July 21-26

All Week		
10 am - 4:30 pm	Blacksmith Display/ Demo	Conservation Village
10 am - 4:30 pm	Living History (Free Activities)	Conservation Village
10 am - 7 pm	Chuckwagon Dave - (A chuckwagon is a historic horse-drawn vehicle that served as a mobile field kitchen. Come and try some free food samples.)	Conservation Village
10 am - 8 pm	Drive a Robot	4-H Center
10 am - 10 pm (Sun. 10 am - 8pm)	4-H Shooting Sports Booths (Archery and Air Rifle)	Kingsbury Way/Cow Path
Tues, July 21		
10 am, 12 pm, 2 pm and 4 pm	Taste NY Showcase - Garlic Delite Farm	Townley Building
11 am	Kids Activity: Collage Art (Create a flower for a pollinator)	Townley Building
1 pm	4-H Goat Show	Small Animal Show Ring
2:30 pm	Farm Animal Nutrition Trail Mix (Nut Free)	Townley Building
6 pm	4-H Swine Show	Small Animal Show Ring
6 pm	4-H Pack Goat Show	Small Animal Show Ring
7 pm	4-H Pet Care	Small Animal Show Ring
Weds, July 22		
10 am	4-H Dairy Cattle Show	Stewarts Dairy Show Ring
10 am, 12, 3 & 4 pm	Taste NY Showcase - Thymeless Homestead	Townley Building
10:30 am	Rainwater Harvesting	Townley Building
11 am	Pasture 101	Townley Building
2 pm	Kids Activity: Flower Art (Textures and Shapes)	Townley Building
3 pm	4-H Sheep Show	Small Animal Show Ring

CCE Saratoga at the Fair...cont'd from previous page



Thurs, July 23

10 am	4-H Western Horse Show	Adirondack Trust Co. Horse Show Ring
12 pm, 4 pm	Taste NY	Townley Building
10:30 am	What is Horticulture Therapy?	Townley Building
11 am	Horticulture Therapy Activity	Townley Building
1 pm	4-H Alpaca Show	Small Animal Show Ring
2 pm	Kids Activity: Wooden Sticker Ornaments	Townley Building
4 pm	4-H Beef Show	Stewarts Dairy Show Ring
4 pm - 7 pm	4-H Chicken BBQ: Pre-Order SC 4-H – SC4H	4-H Teen Council Snack Bar

Fri, July 24

10 am	4-H English Horse Show	Adirondack Trust Horse Show Ring
10 am, 1 pm, 4pm	Taste NY	Townley Building
11 am	Native Planting	Townley Building
12 pm	Kids Activity: Wooden Sticker Ornaments	Townley Building
2 pm	Kids Activity: Seed Necklaces	Townley Building

Sat, July 25

9 am	4-H Rabbit Show	Small Animal Show Ring
10 am, 1 & 4 pm	Taste NY	Townley Building
11 am	Kids Activity: Seed Necklaces	Townley Building
2 pm	Flower Arranging	Townley Building
2 pm	4-H Poultry Show	Small Animal Show Ring
2 pm - 3 pm	Mocktails in the (Trolley) Garden: The Culinary and Home Arts Department curated this special little gathering. Join CCE educators to hear about how to make some tasty summer drinks. Sample delicious bites provided by Taste NY. Enjoy some of the bounty of the season and the region.	Lewis Building
4 pm	4-H Sheep & Goat Obstacle Course	Small Animal Show Ring
7 pm	Farmers Olympics: A fun, friendly competition, and farm-inspired challenges that test skills, teamwork, and determination.	Stewarts Dairy Show Ring

Sun, July 26

9 am - 12 pm	4-H Master Showman	
10 am, 1 & 5 pm	Taste NY	Townley Building
11 am	Kids Activity: Plant a Sunflower in a Compostable Container	Townley Building
1 pm	4-H Dog Show	Stewarts Dairy Show Ring

Please Note: Schedules and times are subject to change.

CAR SEAT CHECK

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County is partnering with New Country Toyota of Clifton Park for a FREE car seat check to insure your car seat is properly installed. Nationally Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians and Instructors will be on site.

Tuesday, August 18 | 4 pm—8 pm
New Country Toyota of Clifton Park
 202 Route 146, Mechanicville

For date and to schedule an appointment call 518-885-8995.

What to bring to your car seat check:

- Your child (if possible)
- Your car seat manual
- Your vehicle owner's manual
- A cleaned-out vehicle (remove other items for easier access)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled for
September 9, 2026 | 7 pm | Extension Office

CCE Saratoga's Board of Directors

John Mancini - *President*
 Liz Newsom - *Vice President*
 Mark Preissler - *Secretary*
 Jim Pettis, Jr. — *Treasurer*
 Tom Venditti
 Alex Guilmette
 Ian Murray—*Board of Supervisors Representative*
 Danielle Hautaniemi - *Cornell Representative*



If you would like to attend, please reach out to Wendy at wlm8@cornell.edu.

IPM Strategies to Protect Corn and Soybean Seed in New York State

Wednesday, July 22, 2026 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm | FREE

CCE Washington County, 101 Main St., Argyle NY

DEC Pesticide Credits: 2.25 (1a, 4, 10, 21 and 23)

CEU Credit for certified crop advisors

Schedule

9:45 am	Register for credits
10:00 am	Presentations on risk assessment trials
11:30 am	Lunch (provided)
12:00 pm	Drive yourself to Fullerton Dairy (5 minutes)
1:00 pm	Adjourn



Please register by July 20: <https://tinyurl.com/5bzmV6xn>

For questions, please contact: Danielle Doering
(518) 764-2331 | dnd39@cornell.edu

Soil Health Field Day

August 4, 2026 | 10 am - 1 pm

Bethlehem Environmental Commons

722 Route 9W, Glenmont NY 12077

Join us for a morning at the Bethlehem Environmental Commons learning the basics of cover crops and soil health. This field day with New York Soil Health and the Capital Area Agriculture and Horticulture Program will focus on improving soil health in small-scale production systems. Participants will gain hands-on knowledge of seeding methods, rates, along with resources specific to New York growers.

Please contact Daniell Doering for questions:
(518) 764-2331 | dnd39@cornell.edu

Topics & Activities:

- Soil health for small-scale producers
- Cover crop crash course & demonstration plots
- Free cover crop seed and lunch provided!

Part of:
2026 Soil Health
FIELD DAYS

12+ Field Days Across the State!

Lunch will be provided and all attendees will leave with oat seed ready to use on their home gardens.

To register:

https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events_landin_g.cfm?event=AlbanySoilHealthFieldDay_201

Clean, Drain, and Dry !

Watch as our very own Alexa, from Capital Region PRISM demonstrates the steps to properly Clean, Drain, and Dry you watercraft and fishing equipment in order to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Visit the [Capital Region PRISM website](#) to learn more about invasive species.

During the week of the Saratoga County Fair, the Conservation Dogs Program will be at the Capital Regions PRISM's booth (Ranger's Cabin). Come meet the highly trained detection dogs that can detect invasive species, survey protected wildlife, and monitor ecological change.



TASTE NY
at the
**ADIRONDACKS
WELCOME CENTER**

WEEKLY TASTINGS

**Every Thursday from
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Open to the public - Free**

7/16 - Krunchy Kream
Freeze Dried Ice Cream

7/23 - Cirrus 9
Gourmet Cotton Candy

7/30 - Adirondack Creamery
WHiteface Mint Chip Ice Cream

UPCOMING EVENTS

7/17 - 12-4pm

**The Wild Center Workshop at the
Adirondacks Welcome Center:**

The Painter Troll: painting with natural dyes
Naturally dyed cookie decoration with
Happy Sprouts Goodies
Free and open to the public
RSVP on Facebook

7/21-26

Saratoga County Fair

Visit us in the Townley Culinary Building for
giveaways, presentations and contests

CURRENT SPECIALS

July is National Ice Cream Month!

Celebrate with ice cream samples

Stock up on Camping Essentials!

A gift basket packed camping goodies
will be available for \$75 throughout
July, plus we have bug spray, snacks,
hats, firestarters and more available for
sale separately.

TASTE NY
at the
**ADIRONDACKS
WELCOME CENTER**



*Follow us on
Social Media!*

Discover upcoming events, local
favorites, travel tips,
and everything happening in the
Adirondacks.



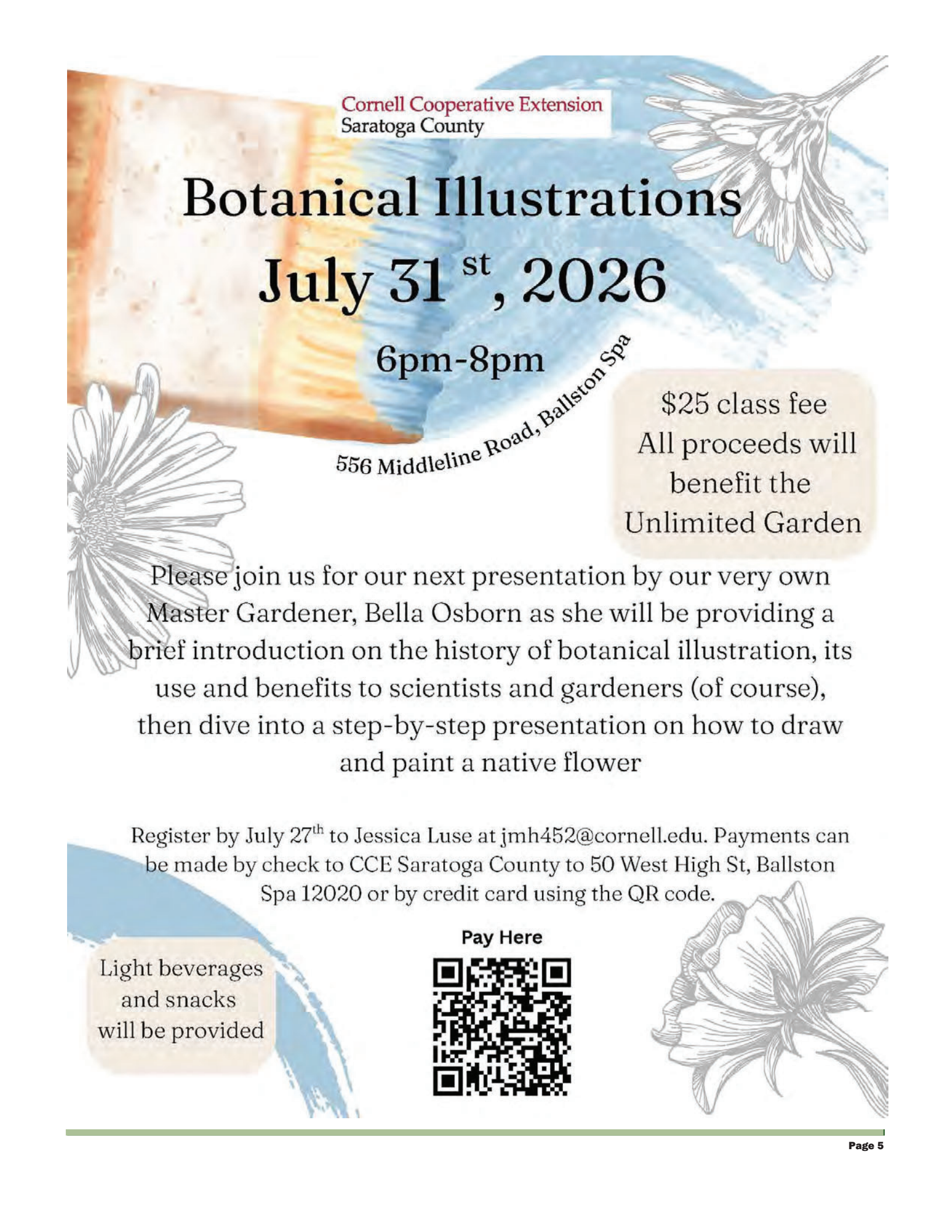
Facebook



Instagram

Explore • Discover • Enjoy the Adirondacks

**I-87 Northbound (Between exits 17 & 18), Queensbury, NY 12804
Market staff available from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM**



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Saratoga County

Botanical Illustrations

July 31st, 2026

6pm-8pm

556 Middleline Road, Ballston Spa

\$25 class fee
All proceeds will
benefit the
Unlimited Garden

Please join us for our next presentation by our very own Master Gardener, Bella Osborn as she will be providing a brief introduction on the history of botanical illustration, its use and benefits to scientists and gardeners (of course), then dive into a step-by-step presentation on how to draw and paint a native flower

Register by July 27th to Jessica Luse at jmh452@cornell.edu. Payments can be made by check to CCE Saratoga County to 50 West High St, Ballston Spa 12020 or by credit card using the QR code.

Light beverages
and snacks
will be provided

Pay Here



*You are cordially
invited to attend*

August 14, 2026
6PM

556 Middleline Rd
Ballston Spa NY

Please join us for
cocktails,
mocktails,
appetizers and
garden tours from
6-7pm

Dinner will be
served at 7pm

Enjoy an
evening of live
music, dancing,
silent auction
& raffles



*An evening
in the
Unlimited
Garden
Fundraiser
Event*

\$70.00 per ticket
Each ticket
includes
dinner & a drink
+18 to attend

Buy a table of 8
for the price of 7



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Saratoga County

Details

RSVP by
July 27th
payment required
online or by check
to:

CCE-Saratoga
50 West High St
Ballston Spa NY
12020
Attn: Jessica Luse

Please scan the QR
code to RSVP and pay
online or email
jmh452@cornell.edu



https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events_landing.cfm?event=ULG_241



Mocktails in the Garden

Join Jessica Luse and Brenna Kavakos
as they introduce growing your very own
fresh herbs to create refreshing mocktails for
the summer season!

AUGUST
26th

6PM-8PM

All proceeds benefit
the Unlimited Garden
fundraiser!

\$25

Registration by 8/19 can be made by emailing
Jessica Luse at jmh452@cornell.edu

Payment can be made by credit card or mailing your
check to CCE-Saratoga County

50 West High St, Ballston Spa NY 12020

<https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/Y76L6ZX5S6EB6>

Pay here

Location: 4-H Training Center
556 Middleline Rd,
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Saratoga County





7 Reasons to Order the CCE 4-H BBQ Chicken Dinner on July 23, 2026

1. It's delicious. Everyone says so. That's why it's world famous.
2. It's nutritious – Cornell is diligent about making this recipe good for you and now we use less salt but keep the great taste.
3. Other folks copy our recipe. (True) I can't say who the other famous chicken BBQ makers are, but trust us, they use our recipe.
4. Serving hungry fair goers for over 50 years!
5. You can get yours at the fair or pick up at the 4-H Training Center. No need to have to be AT the fair to enjoy this dinner.
6. We include a piece of the famous Smith's pie. Unlike the others who ignore that all important dessert.
7. You're gonna be hungry. Of course you are.



THURSDAY JULY 23, 2026
4PM TO 7PM



Our chicken dinner is only \$20 and includes ½ chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, dinner roll and butter, a drink and all topped off with a slice of Smith's pie. Dinners are served at the Snack Bar at the Saratoga County Fair from 4pm to 7pm. Pick up is at the 4-H Training Center at 556 Middleline Road in Ballston Spa for pre-order only. To pre-order for pick up or at the fair, go to <https://sc4h.org/>



CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SARATOGA COUNTY 518-885-8995



Japanese Beetle

Description

The Japanese beetle, *Popillia japonica*, is a scarab beetle about 3/8" long. The head and thorax are metallic green and elytra (outer wing covers) are copper-colored. Adult feeding damage appears as lacy leaves. The Japanese beetle feeds on over 400 plants including rose, raspberry, bean, grape and blueberry. The adults are good fliers and can move from one area to another in large swarms. When threatened, adults will feign death, dropping from the plant and often flying away mid-drop.

The larval stage is a C-shaped white grub similar in appearance to the grubs of the June beetle, rose chafer and European chafer. Japanese beetle grubs can be a major turf pest. A good indicator of a white grub infestation is skunks and crows digging up the lawn. The Japanese beetle white grub "treatment threshold" is typically 8-10 grubs per square foot, at which point treatment is warranted.

Life Cycle

Japanese beetles usually emerge in the beginning of July and can be found from then through September. After mating, the females lay eggs in turf. The eggs hatch and the young white grubs feed from late July and early August until the first hard frosts of fall drive them deeper into the soil. After hibernating through the winter, the grubs migrate back up into the turf root zone to feed again in May and June. Around mid-June, the grubs pupate, eventually emerging as adults in one to three weeks.

Management

Managing adult Japanese beetles is challenging because of the large numbers that can occur throughout the summer. A combination of approaches is suggested. Consistent handpicking or vacuuming of the adults can help protect your plants from the ravages of this pest. A coffee can, about a third full of soapy water, can be used to collect the beetles. Although controversial, you may want to consider pheromone/bait traps as part of your management strategy.

Be sure to place traps at least 50 feet away from the plants you want to protect. Also, do not wait for the trap bags to completely fill before emptying them. Poorly maintained traps can be a liability instead of a help. In spite of some evidence that they may draw in more beetles than would normally be present, some gardeners have reported positive results with the traps. Protective barriers (e.g. spun-bonded material) can be used to protect susceptible plants during massive influxes of beetles.

Foliage can be protected with sprays of pyrethrins, neem, Kaolin clay (Surround®), cyfluthrin, malathion, or carbaryl (Sevin®). Repeat applications, if permitted by the label, are often necessary for protecting plants from this pest.



Adult Japanese Beetle



White Grub

Japanese beetle white grub management efforts are most effective when control agents are in place when the white grubs are small and feeding in the turf root zone. In New England, beneficial nematodes (best application time: last three weeks of August) have been shown to be somewhat effective in managing white grubs. Milky spore has spotty results and is *not* recommended.

Other options to consider are white grub insecticides, such as chlorantraniliprole (GrubEx1®) (most effective when applied mid-April through May) and halofenozide (a molt-accelerating insect growth regulator/IGR). The best timing for halofenozide is late July through August. However, targeting the grub stage in hopes of relief from the adult beetles often leads to disappointment.

Be sure to read and follow label instructions on all management tools (traps, nematodes, and insecticides).

Information in this publication is provided purely for educational purposes. No responsibility is assumed for any problems associated with the use of products or services mentioned. No endorsement of products or companies is intended, nor is criticism of unnamed products or companies implied.

Identifying Moles and Voles

How To Tell Moles From Voles and Determine Which of These Pests is Damaging My Lawn or Garden

Moles and **voles** are often confused with each other but their appearance, diet and behavior are quite different. Adult moles are typically five to seven inches long with black or brownish gray velvety fur. They can be identified by their pointed, hairless snout and paddle-like front feet that are bent sideways for easy digging. They have small eyes and ears that are concealed entirely by their fur. Moles are primarily “meat eaters”, known as insectivores, and eat grubs and other insects (both adult and larvae), slugs, snails, earthworms. They may incidentally consume small amounts of seeds and other vegetation as they feed and tunnel.

Voles, also known as meadow mice, are rodents. Full grown, voles are usually five to seven inches in length with a stocky body, rounded snout, chiseled-shaped front teeth and a furry one-inch tail. They have small black eyes and furry ears. Adults have chestnut-brown hair mixed with black and dark gray underneath and immature voles are uniformly gray.

As herbivores, voles are “vegetarians” and eat a wide variety of plants, primarily grasses, and forbs (broad-leafed, non-woody plants), and can cause major damage by gnawing bark and girdling trees.

Since moles and voles are primarily nocturnal, they are rarely spotted above ground. They are most easily identified by their tunnels and the damage they do to lawns and gardens. Moles create a closed tunnel system, with shallow tunnels at ground level, deep tunnels for food storage, and volcano-shaped mounds of soil (“molehills”). A mole can tunnel 18 feet per hour in sandy or loamy soil and up to 150 feet per day. Although active all year long, they are most active during rainy days in the late spring and summer.

Damage done by moles occurs mostly in the lawn as they tunnel and feed on grubs and other insects. The molehills and ridges created by shallow tunnels can make it difficult to mow and cause unsightly brown spots in the lawn when grass roots are damaged by burrowing activity. Tunnels and molehills can also cause unsightly garden areas but damage to plants is usually minimal.

Voles construct many tunnels and surface runways with many open burrow entrances. The distinctive one- to two-inch-wide surface runways are a reliable indication of the presence voles. Freshly cut grass clippings and green or yellow droppings are evidence that runways are in use, while overgrown runways indicate that voles no longer use them. Voles sometimes inhabit mole tunnels. In these cases, active surface runways nearby and major damage to bulbs, seeds and other plants are good clues that voles are likely present.

Controlling moles and voles can be problematic. Thick layers of mulch can provide good cover for moles and voles. Keeping the mulch layer to no more than one to two inches can discourage tunnelling. Keeping mulch away from tree trunks can prevent voles from gnawing on tree bark and feeding on plants. Crushed marble or pea gravel can be used instead of organic mulches or landscape cloth. Control methods also include use of toxicants, fumigants, repellents, pesticides, traps, or barriers. However, success in eliminating or reducing moles and voles is likely temporary. Where mole or vole infestations are serious, homeowners may want to hire a licensed professional to trap or apply other control measures.



Mole in the yard



Vole in the yard

Photos by PennState Extension

SARATOGA COUNTY TO HOLD FREE RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC

DOGS, CATS, AND FERRETS WELCOME.



JULY 14, 2026
Registration will open June 23.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2026
Registration will open September 1.

Location:
4-H Training Center
556 Middleline Road, Ballston Spa

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
SARATOGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
(518) 518-7460

TIMES:

- **Cats** | 5:30 - 6:30 PM
(Must be in a carrier)
- **Ferrets** | 5:30 - 6:30 PM
(Must be in a cage or carrier)
- **Dogs** | 6:30—7:30 PM
(Must be on a leash)

By Appointment Only!

www.SaratogaCountyNY.gov/Rabies

Public Health Law § 2141 requires dogs, cats, and ferrets be vaccinated against Rabies. All vaccination certificates are written for one year unless prior proof of vaccination is provided. Owners must provide proof of vaccine to receive a three-year certificate for their animal.

CORNELL IPM Program

What's Bugging You?

Not all things that buzz, crawl or slither are pests. Figuring out WHAT is bugging you is the first step.

Each month at New York State Integrated Pest Management's "What's Bugging You? First Friday" events, experts share practical information and answer questions on using integrated pest management (IPM) to avoid pest problems and promote a health environment where you live, work, learn and play. We end with an IPM Minute, and cover a specific action you can take in the next few days to help you avoid pest problems. **Events take place online from 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm.**

AUGUST 7: Managing Spotted Lanternfly at Home

Spotted lanternflies continue to spread, and may be found in residential yards or on buildings. This session will offer tips to address lanternflies at home. [Register here.](#)

SEPTEMBER 4: Mosquitoes are still active | Is that a bee?

What you need to know about mosquito biology and IPM as we head into fall. And how to tell the difference between a wasp and a bee...and why it matters. [Register here.](#)



WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Click the photos to be navigated to each of our Facebook accounts:



CCE Saratoga



4-H



CCE Equine



Agriculture
Economic
Development



Capital Region
PRISM



at the
ADIRONDACKS
WELCOME CENTER

TASTE NY

WHO WE ARE

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Jim Pettis, Jr., <i>Treasurer</i>	Danielle Hautaniemi, <i>Cornell Rep.</i>

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Lauri Dittmer	

4-H/FCS PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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Heidi Meidenbauer	Shane Larkin
Peter Dandreaano	Ann Haden
Reyna Racaza	Isabella Hanson

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Ashley McFarland	Heer Patel
Erik Smith	Raevyn Saunders
Alanna Homan	

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Greg Stevens, <i>Assistant Director</i>	Angie Veeck
Wendy McConkey	Hunter Pedian
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Kelly Hurley	Mary Green, <i>Taste NY</i>
Chris Dittus	Erika Stark, <i>Taste NY</i>
Alexa Howansky	Shannon Onstot, <i>Taste NY</i>
Jillian Peek	James Hume, <i>Taste NY</i>

EASTERN NY COMMERCIAL HORTICULTURE

Crystal Stewart-Courtens	Chuck Bornt
Jeremy Schuster	Mike Basedow
Elizabeth Higgins	Elizabeth Hodgdon

Heather Kase

GC-SBN Leads

Jim McNaughton (HR)	Erik Yager (IT)
Anthony Zumbolo (Finance)	



50 West High Street, Ballston Spa
(518) 885-8995
Saratoga@cornell.edu
www.ccesaratoga.org

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities