



## Sullivan County Agriculture and Sustainability Policy Committee

July 13, 2017 AGENDA

12:30 PM

Committee Members:

Catherine Owens, Chair, Nadia Rasjz, Vice-Chair, Mark McCarthy, Terri Ward, Scott Samuelson

### Call to Order

### Attendance

Comments: Committee Chair

### Reports:

1. Office of Sustainable Energy – Heather Brown
2. Parks and Recreation- Brian Scardefield
3. Agricultural Report- Melinda Meddaugh

### Presentation:

1. David Lybolt-Canal Boat & Parks
2. Climate Smart Communities Program Overview

Discussion: None

### Resolutions:

1. To authorize the waiving of park entry fees for honorably discharged members of the Veteran Community.
2. To issue a Negative Declaration pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act regarding the addition of parcels of Real Property to existing Certified Agricultural Districts within Sullivan County.
3. To include viable Agricultural Land in an existing Certified Agricultural District within Sullivan County.

### Public Comment

### Adjourn

**COMBINED: LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM,  
CERTIFICATE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS  
AND RESOLUTION COVER MEMO**

**To:** Sullivan County Legislature

**Fr:** Brian Scardefield, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Beautification

**Re:** Request for Consideration of a Resolution: Entry Fee waived for honorably discharged

**Date:** June 29, 2017

**Purpose of Resolution:** [Provide a detailed statement of what the Resolution will accomplish, as well as a justification for approval by the Sullivan County Legislature.]

Sullivan County park entry fees waived for honorably discharged veterans who enter into our parks and museums, with presentation of a valid ID issued through the veterans "Return the F.A.V.O.R. Program."

**Is subject of Resolution mandated? Explain:**

No

**Does Resolution require expenditure of funds? Yes \_\_\_ No**

**If "Yes", provide the following information:**

**Amount to be authorized by Resolution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Are funds already budgeted? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_**

**If "Yes" specify appropriation code(s): \_\_\_\_\_**

**If "No", specify proposed source of funds: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Estimated Cost Breakdown by Source:**

**County \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Grant(s) \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**State \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Federal Government \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Verified by Budget Office:** 

**Does Resolution request Authority to Enter into a Contract? Yes \_\_\_ No**

**If "Yes", provide information requested on Pages 2 and 3.**

Request for Authority to Enter into Contract with [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] of  
[ \_\_\_\_\_ ]

Nature of Other Party to Contract: .

Other:

Duration of Contract: From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a renewal of a prior Contract? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If "Yes" provide the following information:

Dates of prior contract(s): From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Amount authorized by prior contract(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Resolutions authorizing prior contracts (Resolution #s): \_\_\_\_\_

Future Renewal Options if any:

\_\_\_\_\_

Is Subject of Contract – i.e. – the goods and/or services Mandated? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If "Yes" cite the mandate's source; describe how this contract satisfies the requirements:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If "No" provide other justification for County to enter into this Contract: [County does not have resources in-house, best source of the subject materials, required by grant, etc.]:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Contract Cost for [year or contract period]: (If specific sum is not known state maximum potential cost): \_\_\_\_\_

Efforts made to find Less Costly alternative:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Efforts made to share costs with another agency or governmental entity:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures (Bid, Request for Proposal, Quote, etc.)

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Person(s) responsible for monitoring contract (Title): \_\_\_\_\_

**Pre-Legislative Approvals:**

- A. Director of Purchasing: <sup>Assistant</sup> Alyson Lewis Date 7/10/17
- B. Management and Budget: Janet Myers Date 7/11/17
- C. Law Department: [Signature] Date 7/11/17
- D. County Manager: [Signature] Date 7/12/17
- E. Other as Required: [Signature] Date 7/7/17

Vetted in \_\_\_\_\_ Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ INTRODUCED BY THE AGRICULTURE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE TO AUTHORIZE THE WAIVING OF PARK ENTRY FEES FOR HONORABLY DISCHARGED MEMBERS OF THE VETERAN COMMUNITY**

**WHEREAS**, Sullivan County (“County”) is proud to be home to many members of the veteran community who have selflessly served our country with bravery and courage; and

**WHEREAS**; the County wishes to offer its gratitude to those members of the veteran community who have been honorably discharged from their service in the United States Military; and

**WHEREAS**, the County currently offers special benefits to honorably discharged members of the veteran community through the “Return the F.A.V.O.R. Program” (“Find and Assist Vets of Record Program”) by providing special discounts and other advantages offered by participating businesses and organizations; and

**WHEREAS**; it is the desire of the Sullivan County Legislature to extend the benefits of the Program to include free entry to all Sullivan County parks and museums; and

**WHEREAS**, the County encourages veterans to come enjoy the beautiful County Parks

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Sullivan County Legislature approves the waiving of the park entry fees for honorably discharged veterans who enter into our parks and museums, with presentation of a valid ID issued through the veterans “Return the F.A.V.O.R. Program.”

**Moved by** \_\_\_\_\_,  
**Seconded by** \_\_\_\_\_,  
**and adopted on motion** \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

**COMBINED: LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM,  
CERTIFICATE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS  
AND RESOLUTION COVER MEMO**

**To:** Sullivan County Legislature

**Fr:** Freda Eisenberg SC Division of Planning and Environmental Management

**Re:** Request for Consideration of a Resolution: Inclusion of New Parcels for Ag Dist 4

**Date:** June 22, 2017

**Purpose of Resolution:** [Provide a detailed statement of what the Resolution will accomplish, as well as a justification for approval by the Sullivan County Legislature.]

These resolutions are to add parcels to the NYS Agricultural District 4 pursuant to the annual 30 day window for requests for inclusion. There is a negative declaration resolution and then an inclusion resolution. The negative declaration resolution must be listed on the agenda ahead of the inclusion resolution.

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**Is subject of Resolution mandated? Explain:**

Agricultural Districts have an annual 30 day window allowing the opportunity for parcels to be added.

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**Does Resolution require expenditure of funds? Yes \_\_\_ No**

**If "Yes", provide the following information:**

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Are funds already budgeted? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If "Yes" specify appropriation code(s): \_\_\_\_\_

If "No", specify proposed source of funds: \_\_\_\_\_

**Estimated Cost Breakdown by Source:**

County \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Grant(s) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

State \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Government \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Verified by Budget Office:**  \_\_\_\_\_

**Does Resolution request Authority to Enter into a Contract? Yes \_\_\_ No**

**If "Yes", provide information requested on Pages 2. If "NO", please go straight to Page 3 and acquire all pre-legislative approvals.**

Request for Authority to Enter into Contract with [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] of  
[ \_\_\_\_\_ ]

Nature of Other Party to Contract: \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Duration of Contract: From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a renewal of a prior Contract? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If "Yes" provide the following information:

Dates of prior contract(s): From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Amount authorized by prior contract(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Resolutions authorizing prior contracts (Resolution #s): \_\_\_\_\_

Future Renewal Options if any:

\_\_\_\_\_

Is Subject of Contract – i.e. – the goods and/or services Mandated? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If "Yes" cite the mandate's source; describe how this contract satisfies the requirements:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If "No" provide other justification for County to enter into this Contract: [County does not have resources in-house, best source of the subject materials, required by grant, etc.]:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Total Contract Cost for [year or contract period]: (If specific sum is not known state maximum potential cost): \_\_\_\_\_

Efforts made to find Less Costly alternative:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Efforts made to share costs with another agency or governmental entity:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures (Bid, Request for Proposal, Quote, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) responsible for monitoring contract (Title): \_\_\_\_\_

**Pre-Legislative Approvals:**

- A. <sup>Assistant</sup> Director of Purchasing: Amyson Lewis Date 7/10/17
- B. Management and Budget: [Signature] Date 7/11/17
- C. Law Department: [Signature] Date 7/14/17
- D. County Manager: [Signature] Date 7/12/17
- E. Other as Required: [Signature] Date \_\_\_\_\_

Vetted in \_\_\_\_\_ Committee on \_\_\_\_\_





617.20  
Appendix B  
Short Environmental Assessment Form

**Instructions for Completing**

**Part 1 - Project Information.** The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

Part 1 - Project and Sponsor Information			
Name of Action or Project: <i>30 Day window of inclusion, pursuant to Section 303-b of the NYS Agriculture</i>			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): <i>Town of Mamakating</i>			
Brief Description of Proposed Action: <i>Modification of an Agricultural District, by including parcels pursuant to the 30 Day window of inclusion, pursuant to NYS Agriculture and Markets Law 25-AA, section 303-b</i>			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: <i>County of Sullivan</i>		Telephone: <i>845-807-0447</i>	
Address: <i>100 North Street</i>		E-Mail:	
City/PO: <i>Monticello</i>		State: <i>ny</i>	Zip Code: <i>12701</i>
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.			NO  YES
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other governmental Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval: <i>NYS Agriculture and Markets</i>			NO  YES
3. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? <i>45,626</i> acres			
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? <i>11.51</i> acres			
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? <i>0</i> acres			
4. Check all land uses that occur on, adjoining and near the proposed action.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parkland			

AA

5. Is the proposed action, a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations?	NO	YES	N/A
		X	
b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?		X	
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?	NO	YES	
			X
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area? If Yes, identify: _____ _____	NO	YES	
		X	
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels?	NO	YES	
		X	
b. Are public transportation service(s) available at or near the site of the proposed action?		X	
		X	
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements? If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies: _____ _____	NO	YES	
		X	
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply? [If Yes, does the existing system have capacity to provide service? <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES] If No, describe method for providing potable water: _____ _____	NO	YES	
		X	
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities? [If Yes, does the existing system have capacity to provide service? <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES] If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment: _____ _____	NO	YES	
		X	
12. a. Does the site contain a structure that is listed on either the State or National Register of Historic Places?	NO	YES	
		X	
b. Is the proposed action located in an archeological sensitive area?		X	
13. a. Does any portion of the site of the proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain wetlands or other waterbodies regulated by a federal, state or local agency?	NO	YES	
			X
b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody? If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres: _____ _____ _____		X	
14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/grasslands <input type="checkbox"/> Early mid-successional <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban			
15. Does the site of the proposed action contain any species of animal, or associated habitats, listed by the State or Federal government as threatened or endangered?	NO	YES	
		X	
16. Is the project site located in the 100 year flood plain?	NO	YES	
		X	
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources? If Yes, a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties? <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES	NO	YES	
		X	
b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)? If Yes, briefly describe: _____ _____			

18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g. retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)? If Yes, explain purpose and size: _____ _____	NO	YES
	X	
19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility? If Yes, describe: _____ _____	NO	YES
	X	
20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste? If Yes, describe: _____ _____	NO	YES
	X	
<b>I AFFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE</b>		
Applicant/sponsor name: <u>Freda Eisenberg</u>	Date: <u>6/27/17</u>	
Signature: <u><i>Freda Eisenberg</i></u>		

**Part 2 - Impact Assessment. The Lead Agency is responsible for the completion of Part 2. Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept "Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"**

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	X	
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	X	
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	X	
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	X	
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?	X	
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?	X	
7. Will the proposed action impact existing: a. public / private water supplies?	X	
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	X	
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	X	
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	X	

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	X	
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	X	

**Part 3 - Determination of significance. The Lead Agency is responsible for the completion of Part 3.** For every question in Part 2 that was answered "moderate to large impact may occur", or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

The action contemplated here in, is a modification of Agricultural District No. 4. The modification only involves the inclusion of a certain number of parcels in the District. The inclusion of parcels into the District will in no way create an adverse environmental impact of any nature.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.
<hr/> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>County of Sullivan</p> <p>Name of Lead Agency</p> <hr/> <p>Luis Alvarez</p> <p>Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency</p> <hr/> <p>Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Date</p> <hr/> <p>Chairman</p> <p>Title of Responsible Officer</p> <hr/> <p>Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)</p> </div> </div>	





**COUNTY OF SULLIVAN**  
**Parks and Recreation**  
**SULLIVAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER**  
100 NORTH STREET  
PO BOX 5012  
MONTICELLO, NY 12701

Monthly Report

Agriculture & Sustainability Committee Meeting – July 13, 2017

The press conference we held at Fort Delaware to help promote the County Parks went very well. I would like to thank Dan Hust for setting up the conference and all who participated and were involved. We have received a lot of terrific feedback on the event.

The Clean Team has begun work litter plucking the County roads. They have also been completing some beautification projects around the County's Cultural Center and Parks.

I looked over the existing trail system that is at the Adult Care Center and Community Complex in Liberty with staff from Public Health and Workforce for Development. We are trying to come up with a way to make a new trail system because the NYSDEC will not allow anyone on the dam that is located on the back side of the lake, which the old trail incorporated. I am currently trying to come up with a new trail system that would work around the county property.

I met with a representative from Workforce for Development in regards to finding someone to help out with daily tasks in my office.

We held the County's Trail Committee meeting at Lake Superior. We hiked around the back side of Lake Superior which proved to have great potential for a trail system throughout.

The Commemoration of the Battle of Minisink will be held this year at the Minisink Battleground Park on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Sullivan County Historian John Conway and his wife Debra have been organizing the event.

I have been working with Debra Conway from the Delaware Company in regards to the Fallen Soldiers Monument that they are having installed at the Minisink Battleground Park. Sullivan County DPW have built a concrete base for the stone monument to sit on are going to be building a laid up stone flowerbed around the monument. We are hoping to have everything completed by the Minisink Battle Commemoration.

I had a credit card machine installed at Fort Delaware so we are now able to accept cards. I am hoping it will boost gift shop sales and admission. I will also be setting it up in the Parks and Recreation Office.



**Sullivan County Office of Sustainable Energy**  
**SULLIVAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER**  
100 NORTH STREET  
PO BOX 5012  
MONTICELLO, NY 12701-5192

Sullivan County Office of Sustainable Energy Monthly Report for June 2017

*Climate Smart Communities*

- OSE has confirmed receiving 113 out of the required 120 points for certification as a Climate Smart Community. Additional documentation has been submitted and we are currently anticipating 126 points. Our goal is to become certified prior to the filing of two County CFA applications as certification is worth additional points in the scoring process. OSE continues to identify pledge elements to further our level of certification.

*Electric Vehicles*

- The first round of applications for the County's EV Charging Infrastructure Reimbursement was due on May 25. The Town of Thompson submitted an application for a station located at the Town of Thompson Town Hall. That application was subsequently approved and the contract has been signed and returned by the Town for final execution. We anticipate more applications in the second round, due August 3<sup>rd</sup>, as the turnaround was quick for the first round from the time the program was adopted. We have several inquiries and receive more each week.
- OSE is working with Sustainable Hudson Valley's Drive Electric Hudson Valley program and EV Connects to gain access to low cost EV Charging stations, as well as to organize events during the summer season to provide information about electric vehicles as well as to offer an opportunity to test drive electric and plug in hybrid vehicles (Ride and Drive events).
- The Sustainability Coordinator attended a roundtable discussion at the NYSERDA offices located in Albany NY about accelerating the deployment of EV technology around the state. Representatives from State, local, and private agencies shared information about experience, best practices, existing and upcoming programs, and regulatory changes that could create opportunities for deployment of EV technology that could be beneficial to the County, its businesses and its residents.



### *Solarize Sullivan*

- A mailing was coordinated between the Solarize Sullivan campaign, OSE, and the County Manager's Office. A similar mailing during the 2016 campaign generated more than 30% of the overall leads.

### *Benchmarking*

- OSE staff continues to compile and enter data into our benchmarking software. We are on track to have all data entered and our first reports generated by September 1, 2017 as per the County's benchmarking policy.

### *Outreach*

- The Office of Sustainability has a new website, which went live on June 30, 2017.
- Staff provided the Town of Mamakating with a report and recommendations following a site visit to various Town facilities.
- Continue to field inquiries about the EV Infrastructure reimbursement program

### *Meetings/Events*

- Tour of the OMEGA Institute's wastewater treatment plant, which utilizes an "eco-machine" to treat its wastewater onsite.
- NYSERDA EV Roundtable discussion
- Met with representative from RUPCO to discuss the Green Jobs-Green NY program
- Meeting scheduled with NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal and Delaware Opportunities to discuss Weatherization Program

# JUNE 2017 AGRICULTURE REPORT



Cornell University  
Cooperative Extension  
Sullivan County



## RESEARCH PROJECTS

CCE Sullivan submitted a grant to SARE to perform research project on eggshells as a soil amendment in 2018. CCE Sullivan is also completing work on an organic no-till research project with Cornell University at a Sullivan County vegetable farm.

## JUNE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:

**BEGINNER FARMER CLASS (Intro to Swine)** June 6th

CCESC Educator Michelle Lipari will cover breed selection, breeding and farrowing, feed and nutrition, equipment, healthcare, and the regulations for selling meat.

**BEGINNER FARMER CLASS (Intro to Vegetable Farming)** June 20th

CCESC educators will discuss the basics of starting up a vegetable farm in the Sullivan Catskills.

**THE LAWS OF FOOD LABELING** June 27th

This workshop will help you navigate the different labeling regulations. Jason Foscolo from the Food Law Firm will discuss food labeling as mandated by the Federal Drug Administration.

## FARMERS MARKET PROMOTION PROJECT

We kicked off the Farmers Market promotion for both the Liberty and Monticello. As a result of the increased marketing there was an increase in attendance at the Monticello market compared to last year's event. Farmers reported increased sales. Despite the rainy weather at the Liberty Farmers Market event, there was also a reported increase in attendance at the market. For July, we are focusing on an educational campaign 'Spend Ten' Campaign. The campaign will provide outreach to the community regarding what they can purchase at a farmers market with \$10.



**LIBERTY Market**  
*Friday EVENINGS*  
*Farmers Market Kickoff*

COOKING DEMOS  
SAMPLES PRIZES  
MUSIC...AND FUN!

FREE! JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> 3-6  
119 N. MAIN IN LIBERTY  
BEHIND THE ROOSTER!

**HELLO Summer**  
*Hello MONTICELLO*  
*Farmers Market Kickoff*

COOKING DEMOS  
SAMPLES PRIZES  
MUSIC...AND FUN!

FREE! JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup> 11-2  
IN FRONT OF SULLIVAN  
COUNTY GOV'T CENTER

## JUNE AGRICULTURE REPORT 2017 (continued)

### VALUE - ADDED DAIRY PROCESSING PROJECT

The equipment for the Bethel Creamery project was delivered and installed. The new facility is currently producing yogurt. We anticipate a ribbon cutting in August and we are currently working through completing the reporting paperwork for the USDA and CDBG grant programs.

### SC AGRICULTURE & FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD:

The Board officially has a logo as part of our Right to Farm educational project.

**AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT 30 DAY WINDOW:** A vote to accept the recommendation to include 2 parcels in Agriculture District #4 will take place at the August Legislative meeting and a report must be submitted by September to NYS Ag & Markets.



### CATSKILLS KITCHEN FOOD INCUBATOR PROGRAM

The kitchen continues to gain interest and new users. Potential users have toured the kitchen and 1 new food business were recently approved to use the kitchen for their products. The Catskills Kitchen also hosted a successful cooking class. The class taught participants easy, healthy recipes that can be made using farmers market ingredients.



Upcoming programs include:

- Farmers Market Cooking Class: August 11th
- Labor Laws and Regulations: July 12th

### Agri-Business Retention & Expansion Program:

We recently hired a new Agriculture Coordinator, through support from the County Legislature. The coordinator started on May 23rd and will start to work with farms on farm business management and business planning. In addition, the Coordinator will assist existing Ag staff on the activities below:

- **Farm Assistance:** Assisted 30 farms through phone, email and field visits. Assistance includes business planning, value added, hay and soil testing, best management practices and production practices
- **Programming:** Currently developing ag business programming for 2017. Programs include social media marketing, farm labor, agri-tourism, quickbooks and business planning. We recently developed a brochure highlighting all of our Ag Business programs.
- **Farmer Resource Manual:** We are in the process of developing a 'Guide to Farming in Sullivan County' manual. We anticipate printing and distributing the manual by July. The manual is intended for both existing and new farmers.

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Staff assisted producers with the following:

- Soil Testing (over 20 soil test were conducted in June)
- Pest Management: CCE staff worked with vegetable farmers to scout for potential pests
- Business Planning Support: Staff are working with new farmers and farmers looking to expand on business planning. Staff are working to develop a model Business Plan template for High Tunnels.
- Beginner Farmer: Staff have conducted field visits and meetings with landowners looking to start a farm.
- Crop production: Staff have been assisting farmers with crop production and management.

Hello,

You are receiving this letter as a notification of a study that is taking place to explore the feasibility of converting the historic O&W Railroad corridor into a multiuse trail to serve the residents of Sullivan County. The plan is to complete the 50-mile stretch of the O&W Rail Trail that traverses the County from Summitville in the Town of Mamakating to Livingston Manor in the Town of Rockland, as well as an additional 10-mile O&W Spur that originally connected the Village of Monticello with the City of Port Jervis in Orange County.

To assist in this process, the Sullivan County has hired the consulting team of Alta Planning + Design. The Feasibility Study will evaluate and make recommendations on existing and incomplete segments of trail, surface type, phasing for trail development, and associated costs for the trail among other items.

One key component of the plan is public input. As adjacent property owners, we realize you most likely have questions or concerns about how this corridor is developed. It is our goal to have an open dialog about these concerns and mitigate issues as the plan is developed.

Field observations for the complete and incomplete trail segments are Planned for the 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> of July, 2017 (weather dependent). Two members of the consulting team will be traveling (on foot, and by bicycle) the full length of the proposed trails over this 3-day period. They will be making observations on Developed trail conditions, and undeveloped segments to evaluate existing railroad beds, road crossings, river crossings, potential trailheads and any conflicts with surrounding uses. Portions of developed trail are located on private property. If you have any questions or concerns with field observations that will be taking place, please call the phone number provided or reply to \_\_\_\_\_.

It is our sincere hope, that The Sullivan County Rail Trail can be completed, and becomes an asset to our region. We want you to be a part of this process. More information about the Sullivan County Division of Planning & Environmental Management can be found at <http://www.co.sullivan.ny.us>.

Sincerely,