Cornell Cooperative Extension
Delaware County

Growing Healthy Families, Confident Youth, Successful Farms & Stronger Communities
Greetings from the President and Executive Director

Open Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County’s annual report to read exciting success stories featuring innovative program accomplishments for 2019. These success stories share the impact of our educational programs that engage families, businesses and communities in the county and region with Cornell research-based information and resources from USDA. We are proud of the new and continuing program partnerships that opened doors this year to new program opportunities to foster economic development, promote local foods and sustainable farming, protect and enhance the environment and develop healthy youth and communities.

We value the opportunity to prepare the next generation of youth through 4-H club, camp and nutrition education school-based programs. Our New York STEM Camp program attracted 30 counties plus youth from New Jersey to a weekend of workshops and fun at 4-H Camp in June. 4-H Camp was full for five weeks in both the day and overnight camp programs and offered local scholarships to 201 Delaware County youth. Youth were involved in planning and presenting the third 2-day Catskill Leadership Climate Summit at Frost Valley with four workshop tracks on climate science, recycling, earth and water resources.

Nutrition education programs keep expanding to new schools and communities involving after-school, in school, daycare, 4-H Camp, food pantries, work force training, summer feeding programs, doctor offices, home and community sites through EFNEP and the Eat Smart New York program. Funding from BOCES though a 5-year CROP grant supports nutrition programs in 10 schools for parents and children in Delaware and Otsego Counties. Farmers’ markets are open in two communities and gardens are growing in eight communities thanks to community and school nutrition program partnerships. Regional training for master gardeners has prepared volunteers to develop community gardens throughout the county. Staff are working to make healthy food choices in schools and food pantries the first preferred choice. Energy grants and NYSERDA programs are being made available to communities and consumers through the Clean Energy Communities and Consumer Energy Efficiency programs.

Dairy Farms are becoming more sustainable through the benefits of the Precision Feed Management program which is expanding to serve up to 60 farms in the county. Agritourism in our area and the Northeast is growing and is a way for farmers to diversify their farm businesses. Managing Business Risk in Agritourism was presented to over 75 participants regionally and by Zoom to viewers from Maine to Pennsylvania. Family Farm Day continues to bring consumers to the farm to enjoy local foods and farms. Beef and livestock farming increases in number each year, along with programming for livestock producers.

The innovative work of Extension staff, volunteers and supporters is highly valued and an asset to our county and region. Our program outreach would not be possible without the support of the County Board of Supervisors, community and funding partners. We thank you, our funding and program partners, for helping us make a difference in the lives of individuals, families and communities in Delaware County.

Sincerely,

Craig Dumond,
Board President

Jeanne Darling,
Executive Director

MISSION OF CCE DELAWARE COUNTY

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County 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.
“We enjoyed being able to educate the public with a positive image of a dairy farm.”
- Family Farm Day Participant

“We are offering all of the vegetables and fruit that we did in the taste testing last year on the school menu this year; that was a great way to introduce new healthy food to students.”
- Cafeteria Manager

“I feel so very grateful for all the extra encouragement and opportunity you give me and my little business”
- Marketing Workshop Participant

“My boys came home singing (which they rarely do!) new songs and said they swam every day. Camp was a highlight of our summer.”
- Camp Parent

“The skills that I learned from my eight years in 4-H; including public presentations, leadership, sewing, team building and so many more, have been invaluable in college, the work place and life in general”
- 4-H Alumna
2019 STAFF

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4-H Administrative Assistant: Pam Conklin
4-H Camp Administrative Assistant: Cathy Scofield
4-H Camp Director: Corrine Tompkins

Agriculture
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Horticulture/Natural Resource Educator: Carla Crim
WAP Sr Team Leader/Nutrient Management: Dale Dewing
PFM and Nutrient Mgmt Team Leader: Paul Cerosaletti
WAP/PFM Community Educators: Melinda Gaida, April Wright-Lucas, James Romack
Nutrient Management Community Educator: Benjamin Hepler
WAP Dairy/Livestock Sr Resource Educator: Richard Toebe
WAP Administrative Assistant: Kim Holden

Human Ecology
Eat Smart New York Nutrition Educators: Maegan Freeman, Michaela Depatie
EFNEP Nutrition Educators: Cheryl Ceresna, Amy VanAlstyne
HE Administrative Assistant: Valerie Dudley

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**Energy Programs** - The Smart Energy Choices program is a new program designed to help residents with free and low cost energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions including weatherizing homes and businesses, installing efficient heat pumps, wood and wood pellet stoves or boilers and going solar. Program energy outreach has included program presentations to farmers, agency partners, WIC families, seniors and businesses. Twenty-three contractors are involved in completing energy audits and improvements for 165 people. Six new communities were designated as Clean Energy Communities including Town of Colchester; Town of Hancock; Village of Margaretville; Town of Franklin; Village of Hobart, and Village of Stamford. Delaware County now has 15 communities involved in the program and nine of those are designated Clean Energy Communities. Those municipalities have engaged in various activities including converting their interior lights to LEDs, installing electric vehicle charging stations, sending their code officers to energy training, committing to benchmarking their buildings energy usage and helping their residents learn about community solar options.

Cornell Cooperative Extension has been so helpful to the Town of Hamden in dealing with the reporting requirements set out by NYSERDA. Without their assistance, I am certain the Town of Hamden Solar Project progress and completion would be delayed into 2020 instead of reaping the benefits in 2019. - Wayne E. Marshfield, Town of Hamden Supervisor

**Energy Warriors** - Energy Warriors is a year-round weekly Extension program providing renewable education/clean energy certification in Weatherization and OSHA, and ten energy programs through NYS Weatherization Directors Association at the Youth Leadership Academy in South Kortright. Twenty-one youth have participated in Renewable/Clean Energy building science lessons with two youth demonstrating three home renewable energy systems (wind, solar and geothermal) at the Delaware County Fair and participating in Solar Car Racing and Building Structure Energy Summit Competition held in Albany, NY.

**Catskills Youth Summit** - Youth and teachers planned a climate summit at Frost Valley in October with over 100 youth and adults attending the two day summit. Staff have assisted the Wild Center in recruiting students from the Catskills who attended another two day leadership training in Brooklyn and completed 10 community youth outreach events in two years. Funding support for this event was provided by a national NOAA grant through the Wild Center, a Catskill Watershed Corporation grant, and local funding through the Soil and Water Conservation District.
EFNEP (Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program) celebrated 50 years of nutrition education programming delivered to families and youth in Delaware County and New York State at Cornell in June. EFNEP educators continue to enroll over 100 families/day care providers and 500 youth in nutrition and gardening lessons each year and work with ESNY Nutrition Program educators to offer nutrition, food safety and food preparation classes to parents and their children through CROP (Creating Rural Opportunities Partnership) and school based programs at 13 schools. 4-H campers and students in schools enjoy Junior Chef EFNEP classes. Workforce training programs have been completed in Delaware County and credits have been provided to day care staff through lunch and learn classes.

According to the Director of Cullman’s Daycare Center, “The Cullman’s Daycare Center is now using various whole grains introduced in the classes. Three snacks per week have been changed to vegetables and fruit and we are using creative ways to present vegetables and fruits to kids.”

ESNY (Eat Smart New York) educators delivered lessons at WIC sites, senior meals, senior groups, school health fairs, child care centers and at summer feeding program sites. Eat Smart New York offers evidence based CATCH (Coordinated Approach Towards Child Health) lessons to youth in and after school at 11 schools, and gardening lessons at 7 schools. Environmental nutrition changes have been made at 2 food pantries and discussed at 11 school meetings.
Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) in Delaware County is lead agency for the Delaware County Rural Healthcare Alliance, one of more than 30 rural health networks funded by a grant from the New York State Department of Health. Alliance program partners include local hospitals, Delaware County Public Health, EMS, Delaware County Mental Health, Office For The Aging, The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council, The Alzheimer's Association, Girls On the Run, SUNY Delhi, CCE nutrition educators and other local health partners.

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF RURAL RESIDENTS

Delaware County Rural Healthcare Alliance programs and initiatives include:

Sources of Strength - Youth peer leader and advisor training gave five schools the opportunity in October to create suicide prevention action plans for their schools. ACES - Adverse Childhood Experiences - Extension has formed an ACES Task Force as a collaborative effort to educate and engage Delaware County organizations and schools regarding ACES science and to implement trauma-informed and resilience-building practices and policies with a champion collaborative learning program with several schools. Above the Influence (ATI) - Above the Influence is a substance-use prevention program led by peer middle school youth leaders. Delaware Academy is the first school in Delaware County to be trained to implement this program.

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Immunization - Working with Bassett School Based Health Centers; Sidney Central and South Kortright Central schools have committed to increase HPV immunization rate among Delaware County residents ages 11 to 27 years of age through staff training and youth led school/community based educational programs.

Healthy Lifestyles - Extension improves nutritional knowledge and increases physical activity of Delaware County youth and adults to address the childhood and adult obesity epidemic. Programs include Girls on the Run which reached 35 schools and over 2000 youth this year. A seminar was held with speaker Ben Cort, Marijuana In the 21st Century - What you Need to Know. 200 people attended this conference. Age Friendly Communities - This program initiative promotes age friendly programs and safe walking/biking trails to increase physical activity among county residents. Upgrades to the Delhi pool play area and play equipment were completed along with trail design and signage for Margaretville, Delhi, and Colchester communities in 2019.

Health Workforce/Careers - The Health Workforce/Careers committee is working to implement a SCRUBS program for youth at Delaware Academy featuring health professions.

Long-Term Care Support - Working with the Long-Term Care Coordinating Council, the Alliance is striving to increase access to healthy living and long-term care support services for seniors and their families by mapping and piloting one integrative community health service that meets the needs of seniors and caregivers in Delaware County. Matter of Balance/Fall Prevention Tai Chi - The Alliance helps fund Tai Chi classes for seniors throughout the county to prevent falls. A Tai Chi participant shared “An amazing course. It has helped me regain control of my balance and given me new confidence.”
Human Ecology Programs

**Delaware Rural Healthcare Alliance:** Healthcare Leadership Workforce Trainings; Delhi Fitness Trails/Run; Complete Streets; Building More Active Communities; Senior Tai Chi program; Alzheimer Caregiver Conference; Girls on the Run; Breastfeeding Support Network; Sources of Strength Youth Suicide Prevention Program; Recovery Coach; Local and Regional Healthcare Planning, Breastfeeding Station at County Fair, Mental Health Video Production; Above the Influence; ACEs Task Force; Age Friendly Communities; Long-Term Care Support

**Eat Smart New York:** Eat Healthy Be Active; Eat Smart Live Strong/ Senior Nutrition; Family Mealtimes Matter; CATCH After School and Summer Feeding Programs; Farmers’ Market Nutrition Education Program; Smarter Lunchroom Program; Family Matters Grocery Store Pop-Up Tours; Farmer Market Meetings; Food Pantry Outreach; School Open House Exhibits and Demonstrations; Merideth Dairy Fest; Agency Training

**Expanded Food & Nutrition Education Program:** Breastfeeding Your Baby; Eat Smart Be Active; Sisters in Health; Cooking Up Fun; Teen Cuisine; Great Garden Detective Programs; Choose Health/School Gardening; Food Preservation; Garden-to-Table; Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program; Childcare Certification Training; Sidney Community Garden; Boys & Girls Program

**Energy and the Environment:** Catskill Youth Leadership Climate Summit; Clean Energy Community Program; CEEP - Consumer Energy Engagement Program; Indoor Air Quality and Water Quality; Climate Change Community Outreach Events; Energy Warriors; Fair Demonstrations; Earth Day Program; Community Solar Programs

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The dollar value of Delaware County’s Volunteers: $279,778

| Volunteers branch out and deliver resources | 47,192 |
| Directors and committees give strength and direction | 20,508 |
| Educators tap into knowledge | 1,361 |
| CCE Educator Staff | 23 |
| Program assistants and office staff provide a base of support | 25 |
| Board of Directors | 15 |
| Program committee members | 14 |
| Advisory committee members | |

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4-H Youth Development Programs

**Activities:** Community Service; 4-H Glow into the New Year; Fundraising - Duck Race & Golf Tournament; International Night; Leaders’ Day; Meredith Dairy Fest; Teen Trips/Awards; Teen Council; Teen Recognition Night; Fairs - County & State; Farmers Museum Junior Livestock Show

**Animals:** Hippology; Horse Shows & Clinics; Horse Quiz Bowl; Dairy Challenge; Dairy Judging; Dairy Quiz Bowl; Drill Team; Farmers Museum Junior Livestock Show; Livestock Auction Tagging/Weigh-ins; Livestock Skillathon; Meat Chicken Project; Pheasants; Poultry Roundup; Vet Science Programs; Livestock Judging; Fairs - County and State
Delaware County 2019 Programming

Agriculture Programs

**Horticulture and Natural Resources:** Master Gardener Volunteer Training; Holiday Centerpiece Workshop; Maple School; French Bio-intensive Gardening; Edible Landscaping; Simply Succulents; Hypertufa Pot Casting; Create a Pollinator Paradise; Birdsong Farm Community Garden; Heirloom Garden at Delaware County Historical Association; Invasive Species Detection & Response

**Business Management and Profitability:** Limiting Risk in AgriTourism; Farm Business Planning; Farm Business Summaries; Farmers’ Tax School; Organic Dairy Profit Group; Annual Dairy Tour; Family Farm Day; Dairy Margin Program Outreach; Ag Plastic Recycling Program; Clean Sweep; Dairy Benchmarks

**Crop and Animal Production:** Understanding Your Heifer’s Growth & Performance; Beef Quality Assurance Training; Sheep & Goat International Night; Necropsy Workshop; Field Demo Days; Wool Demonstrations; Stocker School; Corn Dry Down Days; Beef Production Schools; Catskill Regional Agriculture Conference; Crop Production School; Quality Management Assistance; Beef Producers Meeting; Sheep & Goat Producer Discussion Group; Scissor Cut Sampling; Avipel Demonstrations; Forage Variety Demonstration

**Environmental:** Soil Health Pasture Walk; Precision Feed Management; Nutrient Management Credit Workshop; Pasture Renovation

**STEM & Life Skills:** 4-H Quilters; Woodworking; Sewing for your Tablesetting; Embryology; NYS 4-H STEM Camp; Public Presentations; Rag Quilts; Sewing Evaluations; Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) Programming; Tractor & Machinery Certification

**4-H Camp Shankitunk Classes:** Archery; Arts and Crafts; Astronomy; Backpacking; Backyard Engineering; Beading; Chef’s Club; Counselor in Training; Outdoor Cookery; Drama; Fishing; Water Walk; Geocaching; Living History; Nature; Newspaper; Outdoor Skills; Photography; Rocketry; Science; Sports and Recreation; Swimming; Team Challenge; Woodworking; Yumba; Babysitter Certifications

*Based on 2018 year-end figures

**Estimate of Financial Support Received**

- **State Grants:** 13%
- **Federal Grants:** 6%
- **Other Grants:** 25%
- **County:** 7%
- **Federal:** 8%
- **State:** 9%
- **Other:** 70%

**Estimated Financial Support Received**

- **State:** 13%
- **Federal:** 8%
- **Other:** 70%

**Other Grants:**

- **Other Grants:** 25%

**Location:** Delaware County

**Outreach:** Taste of the Catskills Displays; Milford Earth Festival; Ag Literacy Week Readings; Displays and soil testing at Stamford Farmer’s Co-op; Catskill Regional Agriculture Conference; Programs at Sidney and Delhi Libraries; Meredith Dairy Fest; Delaware County Fair Exhibits and Forage Contest; Garden Club & Grange Hall Presentations; Presentations to Senior Citizens’ Groups
For the past six years, Delaware County has hosted an annual Father’s Day weekend, NYS 4-H STEM Camp at 4-H Camp Shankitunk in Delhi, NY. Collaboration between Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware, Orange, Otsego, Schoharie, Suffolk, Ulster, and the NYS 4-H Office/Alexa Maille NYS 4-H Specialist delivered an awesome educational and camping experience this year.

This year 90 youth attended from 30 New York counties and from one county in New Jersey. Utilizing Cornell Cooperative Extension staff and dedicated volunteers as instructors, high quality programming to all the youth participants is provided. This year courses included Archery Dynamics, Backyard Engineering, Code Explorers, Microorganisms, Rocketry I & II, and Outdoor Survival. All of the courses were a hit and this was the first year that every single class was filled to the maximum number of youth they could allow. Through collaboration and high quality programming that meets the needs of 4-H youth, the NYS 4-H STEM Camp continues to thrive and expand. Through grants and self-sufficiency, we have been able to keep the cost of the camp low and therefore accessible to participants from a variety of economic and social backgrounds. We are utilizing Cornell Qualtrics to track data and are always looking for new and up-to-date ways to measure the impact of our camp.

Youth are encouraged to experience camp with their parents/guardians, making the whole experience more worthwhile. When parents/guardians learn alongside their child(ren) they are better able to explain and reinforce STEM concepts at home. The NYS 4-H STEM Camp encourages family togetherness and learning.

**Programs Offered:**
- 2013 – 4 programs offered
- 2019 – 7 programs offered

**Camper Attendance:**
- 2013 = 26 campers
- 2019 = 90 campers - 246% Increase in Camper Attendance

**Camper Percentages:**
- 2013 – Male 54% Female 46%
- 2019 – Male 44% Female 56% - 22% Increase in Female Attendees
SCOPING OUT YOUNG SCIENTISTS

National 4-H has four Mission Mandates: Agriculture & Food Systems, Civic Engagement, Healthy Living, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). Delaware County 4-H received a grant from the Stewarts Shops ‘Holiday Match’ program to purchase seven microscopes and all the supplies needed to provide a class on microorganisms to further the STEM Mission-Mandate.

Twelve 4-Hers had the opportunity to learn about microorganisms at the NYS 4-H STEM Camp. The 4-Hers were able to look at microscopic organisms from multiple sources of water in and around 4-H Camp Shankitunk, including a cold running spring, a local pond, and ditch water. The youth were surprised and sometimes somewhat horrified at what they saw! After the 4-Hers focused-in on various types of microorganisms they researched and identified what they were seeing. The grant also allowed for the purchase of a magnifying lens that projected from a microscope to a large screen so the entire class could look at the multiple microorganisms. The 4-Hers had a great time and many said they would like to take the class again in the future. 4-H is helping our youth grow into competent, caring, and contributing members of our society. Our hopes are that this class has sparked an interest in our youth to pursue careers in the science field.

CAMPERS GET TRAVERSE WALL

Campers got a full body work-out while developing working memory, confidence, goal setting, risk management, and trust on 4-H Camp Shankitunk’s new traverse wall! This exciting structure was inspired by a camper who had recently experienced their first climbing wall and expressed wishing they could climb where they lived. Who knew that an off the cuff comment would get the wheels turning in the mind of the Camp Director and eventually materialize into this exciting new feature?

Opportunities for exposing youth to climbing are limited in Delaware County and several organizations and donors stepped up to make this project a reality: The Lindsay A. & Olive B. O’Connor Foundation, The Ricky J. Parisian Foundation, Coughlin & Gerhart LLP., Walter Gladstone, and other private donations raised on #GivingTuesday.

Campers of all ages enjoyed this new addition to camp where the volleyball court once stood vacant. The wall is double-sided and features a cutout window allowing for multiple users or relay races to spice things up. Some youth were determined to make it around the full wall while others were happy if they finished one panel. Athletic youth who zipped across the wall as if they were monkeys were encouraged to try traversing without the use of a certain color hold. This project is sure to benefit youth for years to come.
2019 has been an incredible summer! We are overwhelmed by the generosity of our community and can’t help but feel grateful for the support of partners and sponsors who made so many amazing projects at 4-H Camp Shankitunk possible this summer!

More than 200 youth received partial to full scholarships to attend 4-H Camp Shankitunk during the summer months of 2019! These scholarships were made possible through partnerships with Delaware County Youth Bureau, The Michael & Erin Martucci Family Foundation, The Town of Tompkins, The Ricky J. Parisian Foundation, Donald W. Gleason Unit 190 American Legion Auxiliary, Sullivan Contracting, Chenango County 4-H Leaders/Volunteers Association, alumni donations, and memorial campership funds. This year we were able to offer a once in a lifetime opportunity for 27 youth who received a full scholarship, personalized support before, during, and after camp, as well as up to $100 in necessary supplies to have a successful first experience at summer camp. The Delaware County Camper Access Mentor Program (DCCAMP) was a huge success and would not have been possible without our funding partners the Community Foundation for South Central NY and NYS 4-H funds awarded from National 4-H Council and Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies.

The NRA Foundation donated some new and much needed archery equipment. First-time archers at STEM Camp, regular season campers, and senior archers during 4-C Camp benefitted from the donation of several dozen top quality arrows and new bows. This equipment allowed more shooting time when our double range was in operation. One archer who has participated for many years shot their best grouping ever and fully attributed it to high-quality arrows. We’d also like to thank Mark Finne of Spring Valley Sportsman for donating his time and talents while servicing our older archery equipment.

We are looking forward to next summer when The Redwoods Group Foundation is supporting a few improvements in camp security and emergency preparedness training with our camp staff.

Thank you all for your support of positive youth development through 4-H Camping! We couldn’t have done it without you!

**GENEROSITY ON TARGET AT CAMP**
Dairy and livestock farms face tight profit margins and adapt their practices to efficiently grow their livestock. Feed is their largest cost and quality pasture is the least expensive feed a farm can produce.

CCE Delaware County in partnership with the Watershed Agriculture Program sponsored many pasture focused learning opportunities throughout Delaware County. These include a grazing track at the annual Catskill Regional Conference, multiple pasture walks annually, and focused workshops. In March 2019, CCE Delaware developed and taught a workshop on “Making a Grazing Plan that Works for Your Farm”. This 5-hour workshop reviewed the basics of pasture plant physiology and growth needs, presented the wide range of fencing and water system technologies available and their many unique applications to make grazing management labor efficient. Participants completed a series of forage production estimates and livestock forage need calculations, and a lesson on how to use soils information available online to estimate potential forage productivity of their pasture fields.

22 farmers representing 14 farms developed Grazing Plans for their farms using the information learned in the workshop on oversized aerial photo maps of their farms that were provided at the workshop. Individual follow-up with each farm is ongoing to provide support for the implementation of their grazing plans by CCE Cornell staff. A specific example of how a farm has been utilizing the information and skills learned at this workshop is a dairy farm located in central Delaware County. This farmer has utilized what he learned about his pasture soils to identify his more productive soil types. He is now focusing his management efforts in these pasture areas. One new management tactic this farmer is using is to record all of his grazing movements on a grazing chart to track his rotations to better manage his rest periods between grazings. He is also working to increase the legume content of his core pastures to provide nitrogen to the grass, increase the diversity of plants growing in his pastures, and enhance soil health. In summary, this farmer has gained skills and a management focus by attending several CCE Delaware grazing education events to increase his forage quantity and quality while reducing cash input costs. In this way, he is improving the overall economic viability of his farm operation.
The DiBenedetto family, Chris, Judy, Greg and Elena, have always been intensive, rotational graziers with pasture being the primary forage production system for their dairy cows. Lush pastures can result in too much protein in the diet and can result in a nutritional imbalance and reduce dairy cow reproductive performance. Further analysis also showed that phosphorus levels in the diet were excessive, raising the risk of nutrient runoff to the streams running through the farm. Working with Extension staff and their feed nutritionist, a strategy to better balance the cows’ diet was developed and implemented to improve the herd’s energy balance and reduce excess nitrogen and phosphorous excretions. This ration change has been very successful. Compared to 2018, herd benchmarks have improved bringing the farm in line with industry standards. The DiBenedettos report their cows are showing improved reproductive performance and according to Chris, “We definitely feel like this is the best ration we have fed to compliment the intensive pasture diet and it’s great to feel like we are headed in the right direction!” The Precision Feed Management Program is a partnership with the Watershed Agricultural Council and receives funding from NYC DEP.

Manage Your Risk in an Agritourism Business was designed to attract farmers who wanted to mitigate risk when starting an agritourism business. Agritourism is on the rise in the Catskills and in the Northeast in general. As agriculture continues to change, the link from consumers to the farm is important to maintain. Bringing visitors to the farm creates a great deal of risk along with rewards that include increasing the bottom line.

The program was a 6-part series offered in person in the 5-county region to over 75 farmers and by the internet platform, Zoom, to a diverse audience from Maine to Pennsylvania. The curriculum was developed to address the major areas of risk: financial, production, legal, marketing and human resource. The program was delivered by Mariane Kiraly and Carla Crim with technical assistance from Corrine Tompkins. The goals to also deliver more programs to a wider group of individuals and learn Zoom in the process were met with success.

Farmers appreciated being able to attend in person or by distance learning in the comfort of their own homes. They worked on their risk management plans in-between each session and discussions with farmer panels at the final session helped them solidify their plans. The series was funded by the Northeast Extension Risk Management Education program and was offered in the fall of 2018 and in the winter of 2019. The recordings have been made available on the CCE You-tube channel available on the CCE website.
The mission of the Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program is to support Cornell Cooperative Extension by utilizing research-based information to educate the public on best practices in consumer horticulture and environmental stewardship. In 2016, the first two Delaware County Master Gardener Volunteers completed a 10 week training class that was held in conjunction with CCE of Otsego, Schoharie, and Herkimer Counties. In 2018, five more volunteers went through the extensive training program. An additional two volunteers have transferred in from other counties. The volunteers not only assist Horticulture Educator Carla Crim in the delivery of talks and workshops around the county, but take on larger scale projects that speak to their specific interests in their own towns and villages.

- Master Gardener Laura Sanford is working to characterize heirloom apple tree varieties at John Burrough's Woodchuck Lodge. She observed the trees during the growing season, and will use both online and printed resources to identify the specific varieties.

- Master Gardener Sheila Ayres spearheaded a historical kitchen garden at the Delaware County Historical Association. With generous support from Delaware County Economic Development and the Common Ground Garden Club, historically-accurate fencing was installed around a small plot beside the Frisbee House. Heirloom varieties were planted and thrived in the rich soil, which was amended with compost donated by Delhi Community Compost.

- Master Gardeners Sonya Meiselbach, Bonnie Seegmiller, Judy Morse, Laura Sanford, and Elizabeth Kaden have dedicated many hours to the operation of Birdsong Farm Community Garden. They worked with over 30 volunteers throughout the season, and engaged with over 100 visitors at the garden on Family Farm Day.

- Master Gardener Judy Morse rejuvenated a raised bed garden for the senior citizens who participate in the “Our Place” program at St. James Church. In June, the beds were planted with flowers and vegetables in conjunction with a presentation entitled “Create a Pollinator Paradise”.

- Master Gardener Bonnie Seegmiller coordinated three horticulture workshops in the town of Colchester. Topics included succulents, hypertufa pot casting, and herbal infusions. She also helped deliver horticulture education through numerous displays and workshops around the county.
Growing Healthy Families, Confident Youth, Successful Farms and Stronger Communities

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals With Disabilities. Individuals who bring a diverse perspective and are supportive of diversity are strongly encouraged to apply. If you have special needs, please contact CCE Delaware at 607-865-6531.