2017 Youth in Nature and Outdoor Education
Program Work Team

1. Full Name of PWT:

Youth in Nature and Outdoor Education.
Co-Chairs: John Bowe – CCE Warren County (outgoing), Andrew Randazzo – CCE of Columbia/Greene (incoming) and Dr. Karim Kassam – Cornell University Department of Natural Resources

2. Identify your PWT’s Greatest Accomplishments of the Year:

Twenty-six volunteers and educators, including three youth leaders, were trained in the first ever 4-H Wild Edibles certification. This eight hour training was held just prior to the 4-H Forestry Weekend at Camp Shankitunk in Delaware County. A draft of the curriculum was circulated to participants with final release pending this fall/winter. Several wild edible educational kits were distributed to regions of the state. The following weekend nearly forty youth participated in the NYS 4-H Forestry weekend held at Camp Shankitunk. A team was selected from the participants to represent New York State 4-H at the National 4-H Forestry Invitational in Jackson Mills, West Virginia. Final purchases were made to upgrade our current fishing kits with ice fishing materials and were distributed throughout NYS. The draft versions of Wildlife Notebook, 4-H Wild Edibles, A Tree Dead or Alive, and 4-H Sportfishing were all presented via a county-campus partnership team at the annual Association of Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Educators conference in Ellicotville, NY. Also during that conference, a new co-chair, Andrew Randazzo was selected to take the place of John Bowe, who was stepping away to work on other projects. The committee chose to request funding for wild edibles, forestry, and outdoor adventures respectively.