



*Strengthening
Families and
Communities*

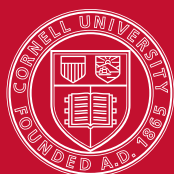


*Protecting and
Enhancing the
Environment*



*Fostering
Economic
Development*

2016 Report to the Community



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
of Suffolk County



*Promoting
Sustainable
Agriculture*

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The Cornell Cooperative Extension educational system enables people to improve their lives and communities through partnerships that put experience and research knowledge to work.

Published by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County

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Greetings

2016 was our 99th year here at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, and we are proud to look back at all we've accomplished in those years. With science and technology ever evolving, our dedicated staff has worked tirelessly to keep us current on the latest information to best serve our county residents.

In these pages, we are proud to feature our education and applied research, and **highlight an accomplishment from each program area**. From our master gardeners coming together to make sure the joy of growing is shared with the next generation, to our SNAP-Ed/Eat Smart New York team launching a new advertising and education program to promote healthy eating and drink choices. CCE is always pursuing new ventures. We welcomed record numbers of guests through events, day camp and 4-H programs to the Suffolk County Farm and Education Center. The Marine Program updated their touch tank and education spaces at our Southold facility to better reach visitors with the message of conservation and preservation, and Family Health and Wellness educators expanded an innovative series for grandparents raising their grandchildren.

The tireless work of our staff, volunteers and supporters is one of our most valuable assets here at CCE. With the continued support of government partnerships, grants, Cornell University, community and partnering nonprofits, we look forward to celebrating our centennial anniversary in the coming year.



Vito A. Minei
Executive Director



Timothy J. Hopkins
Board President



Agriculture

Suffolk County is among the leading counties in the state for wholesale crop value that provides diversified agricultural/horticultural commodities. CCE Suffolk has worked throughout the year to promote sustainable and environmentally sound methods of farming, protecting our local resources for generations to come.

Since 1917, the Agriculture program has provided applied research and educational programming and assistance for many priority agricultural issues such as farmland preservation, environmental protection, landscape care, soil health, stewardship and pesticide management.

2016 Highlight: Entomology

CCE Suffolk entomologists along with Agriculture Stewardship staff have introduced major changes to fruit production, significantly reducing orchard pesticide use while increasing fruit quality. 70% of Suffolk acreage now uses mating disruption, a non-pesticide method to manage important pests, instead of just insecticides. Weekly monitoring means insecticides are used only when needed and chosen for low environmental impact. Our entomologists also work with greenhouse growers on implementing biological and other non-pesticide strategies for pest management. They maintain a research program to find alternatives to conventional controls, and manage diagnostic labs to accurately identify pest and plant problems and for early detection of new and economically damaging pests such as spotted wing drosophila and southern pine beetle.

Mating disruption ties release pheromone attractants and help reduce or eliminate insecticides for damaging pests such as oriental fruit moth.

In 2016:

- **90% of farms** in Suffolk County implemented agricultural best management practices
- **90 Suffolk County agriculture** and horticulture industry personnel were reached through the 2016 Plant Science Day at the Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center
- Over **10,000 phone calls**, emails, letters, meeting contacts and on-farm visits were addressed - providing research-based information and sound advice
- Conferences, workshops and field days were attended by **over 1000 growers** and stakeholders
- The agricultural industry has increased adoption of the use of **18 RainWise weather stations** improving monitoring and pest and disease forecasting through Cornell University's Network for Environment and Weather Applications



4-H Youth Development

CCE Suffolk is dedicated to providing youth a better understanding and appreciation of their environment and health while offering a foundation of community service plus education in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Programs are offered throughout the county as well as on location at the Suffolk County Farm & Education Center in Yaphank.

The fundamental 4-H ideal of practical, learn-by-doing experiences encourages youth to experiment, innovate and think independently. Youth learn leadership, citizenship and life skills through more than 1,000 projects with topics as varied as robotics, GPS mapping, DNA analysis, public speaking, nutrition, animals and community service.

2016 Highlight: Cross Country Exchange

4-H has embarked on a “Grow True Leaders Campaign” to help more youth with hands-on experiences so they grow into true leaders in their local communities and future careers. In the spirit of acting locally and thinking globally, the Suffolk County 4-H has partnered with a sister organization in Texas as part of an exchange program to broaden their horizons and knowledge beyond our county borders.

In July, 8 youth and 5 chaperones traveled from Texas to Long Island for 7 days to stay with host families. They enjoyed exploring Long Island agriculture, sharing their knowledge of livestock and agriculture from the Texas perspective, while discovering our marine life and experiencing the different cultural aspects of the east coast. In 2017, Suffolk County 4-H will travel to Texas.





Texas 4-H youth enjoy the beauty of LI's coastline and learn about livestock at the Suffolk County Farm.

In 2016:

- **51,000 youth** were reached by 4-H through in-school and on-farm programs
- The Early Childhood program at the Suffolk County Farm engaged with more than **970 caregivers and children**
- A **\$33,000 National Mentoring Partnership** grant supported mentoring programs at Longwood Middle School in a girls-only STEM club
- **555 youth enjoyed camp** at the Suffolk County Farm. Youth spent time with special programs to get an overall picture of agriculture and the environment. **A specialized 2 weeks of Diabetes Camp** focused on how to live with and manage diabetes



Family Health & Wellness

The Family Health and Wellness Program (FHW) connects with Suffolk County families and provides research-based information, skill-building education and guidance to parents, and others responsible for raising and teaching children.

Our overall goal is to help families acquire knowledge and skills that support the healthy physical, cognitive, social and emotional development of children. FHW educators conduct educational programs at schools, libraries, community organizations, faith centers and work sites throughout Suffolk County. FHW educators support other human service professionals and paraprofessionals working with families through training, technical assistance and resource information.

2016 Highlight: Support for Grandparents

There has been a marked increase in the number of grandparents who are raising their grandchildren because the parents are unable to do so. Our Family Health and Wellness team has put together a 'Parenting A Second Time Around' program (PASTA) to help this generation "keep current" on issues such as child development needs and trends change.

In 2016, FHW worked with local libraries to create support groups for these second-time parents, hosting speakers on topics such as behavior impulse control, the Early Intervention Programs in Suffolk County, the local opioid epidemic and NARCON training.





New bus wraps will spread the healthy message of eating right throughout Long Island.

Eat Smart New York

The SNAP-Ed Eat Smart New York program encourages healthy eating habits and physically active lifestyles to promote health through evidence based nutrition education.

Our educators work on Policy, Systems and Environmental change solutions to enhance communities. Through programs for veterans, the homeless, and seniors, Eat Smart NY is reaching vulnerable populations and making positive impacts.

2016 Highlight: Bus Wraps

In 2016, CCE Suffolk partnered with Rides Unlimited, Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE), and CCE Nassau to unveil a series of new bus wraps to promote awareness of a healthy lifestyle.

In 2016

FHW

- **300 staff** from Longwood Middle School learned about the impact of cyberbullying
- **8800 Suffolk County residents** took part in FHW educational workshops
- **50,000 individuals** were reached with reliable information on healthy child development

Eat Smart New York

- More than **69,000 individuals** with limited resources were helped by SNAP-Ed
- SNAP-Ed has proven results – **94% of participants** improve their nutrition practices
- **706,952 people** were reached through social marketing, the media, and other community events and activities



Marine

With 980 miles of coastline in Suffolk County, our marine environment is important to the vitality of life on Long Island. Our wetlands and dune environments, as well as meadows of grasses serve important ecosystem functions in the lifecycle of a large variety of avian and fish species by providing hunting, foraging, mating, and nursery grounds.

CCE Suffolk's Marine Program works with volunteers to conserve, protect, and restore our natural resources. Initiatives include horseshoe crab monitoring and research, eelgrass and marsh grass restoration, rain gardens installation, shellfish restoration as well as finfish research and industry support.

2016 Highlight: Stormwater Education

A significant focus of our water quality efforts is through stormwater management. Stormwater runoff is water from rain or melting snow that does not soak into the ground. It flows from roofs, paved roads, bare soil, and sloped lawns. As it flows, it can collect pollutants such as fertilizers, pesticides, oils and grease, animal wastes and sediments. This polluted stormwater ends up in the Long Island Sound, the Peconic Estuary and the South Shore Estuary.

CCE Suffolk works to ensure the safety of our local water for recreational and commercial purposes. Our educators work closely with county and local governments in stormwater management, using GIS technology to inventory and map stormwater infrastructure, and identify bacterial source pollution through DNA analyses so that mitigation measures can be developed.



In 2016

- Marine staff planted **50,000 oysters** in a project with the communities of Bellport, Brookhaven Town and Fire Island National Seashore
- Over **1500 fishermen** and members of the public were reached with education and outreach efforts
- **245,000 scallops** were placed in the nation's largest spawner sanctuary and **35,500** were free planted in the Peconic system
- **54 stormwater management educational programs** were conducted reaching more than 1000 adults and children
- Over **200 volunteers** assisted with habitat restoration work relating to both eelgrass and salt marsh propagation

The protection of Suffolk's wetlands is an important facet of our educational outreach programs.



Outreach and Special Events

CCE is in communities throughout Suffolk County – with outreach, educational programs and special events! Thank you to all who support our efforts!

Our annual **Jazz Under the Moonlight** brought together friends of CCE for music and prizes! Former board president Maureen Fiorello (1) perused the Silent Auction as Jack Van de Wetering and Pat Wiles (7) enjoyed the evening. All proceeds support CCE educational programs.

Karl Auwaerter, owner of Bayport Flower House and longtime benefactor, welcomed guests as CCE's Master Gardeners showed off a beautifully restored Children's Garden at their summer **Garden Party**. (2)

The competition was stiff at the Seafood Throwdown at **Grown on Long Island Day** at the Suffolk County Farm. Using local fare, two sisters prepared their seafood dishes from scratch and were congratulated by Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone. (3, 5)

CCE's Marine program held a **Taste and Tour** at the Suffolk County Marine Environmental Learning Center in Southold. Attendees were treated to seafood delicacies as they toured this newly renovated educational site. (4)

Thank you to Suffolk County Legislator Monica Martinez who participated in the **Family Iron Chef** competition hosted by our SNAP-Ed nutrition education program. Local produce and budgeting were important facets of this competition. (6)





1



3



4



2



5



6



7

Community Partnerships

Family Health & Wellness educators brought a Cornell inspired bookmaking activity to families from **Even Head Start**. CCE Human Development specialists introduced developmentally appropriate books to parents while stressing the importance of reading to young children. These parents learned what makes a good quality children's book as they created their own books for their child.



Marine educators worked with **school districts like this one in Setauket** and taught students about stormwater runoff issues and the importance of creating rain gardens that collect rain water from roofs and parking lots at their school.



CCE Executive Director Vito Minei spoke on behalf of the Community Preservation Fund alongside the **Long Island Farm Bureau, Peconic Land Trust and Assemblyman Fred Thiele and Senator Ken LaValle**. CCE uses funds derived through this fund to educate and lead the industry with water quality efforts.





Volunteers from PSEG (pictured with Executive Director Vito Minei) were honored at CCE's Annual Meeting as Outstanding Community Partners. PSEG employees volunteered as mentors for a 4-H STEM Club in **Longwood Middle School**. They shared their career experiences as women in the science and technology field and motivated these young people at weekly meetings.



Suffolk County Legislator Kate Browning (District 3) was honored as CCE's 2016 Friend of Extension. Legislator Browning is a strong advocate of CCE, especially for the Suffolk County Farm in Yaphank which engages thousands of families each year through special events and agricultural/environmental education programming.



Nutritionist Gerry Lake and **Suffolk County Legislator Robert Calarco** (District 7) were on hand to kick off SNAP-Ed's Healthy Corner Store Project with Jose Tavares of Weir's Community Market in Medford.

Community Support

Thanks to the support of the individuals and businesses listed on this page, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County continues to deliver high quality, research-based educational programs for our communities. The generous support you provide goes directly back to your neighbors in the form of library workshops, support for our marine and agricultural industries, youth development programs and educational support for those in need. Join us and make a difference in your community. Please show your support and make your contribution today by using the enclosed envelope or donating online at www.ccesuffolk.org. Thank you!

\$10,000 and over

The Frank and Gertrude Kaiser Foundation

\$5000 to \$9999

Timothy Hogue

The Robins Island Foundation LLC

\$2000 to \$4999

Farm Credit East

Lions Club of Deer Park

Nassau Suffolk Landscape Grounds Assoc.

Perennial Charm Nursery

Rudden Family Trust

Lois Sheinfeld

Don Thompson

\$500 to \$1999

Karl Auwaerter, Bayport Flower Houses

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John Lehner

Kevin Lombardi

Malvese Equipment Co.

Timothy & Cynthia Maran

Alfonso Martinez-Fonts

Susan Matthews

Patrick McAsey

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Karen Miller

Jim Morgo

Moriches Bay Garden Club

Rebecca Muellers

Robin Newman

North Fork Nursery

Desmond O'Sullivan

Cindy & Tim Philbin

Christopher Pickerell

Cheryl Pufahl

Harold and Louise Reebel

Michael Reilly

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Dawn Schultzer

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TJ Star

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Herbert Strobel

Stephanie Templeton

Carol Tvelia

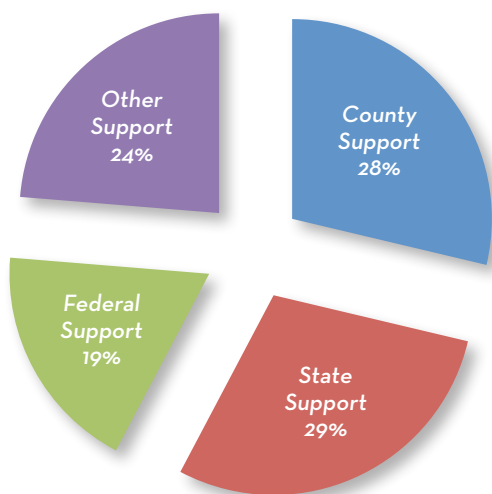
Irene Usher

Village Scapes Inc.

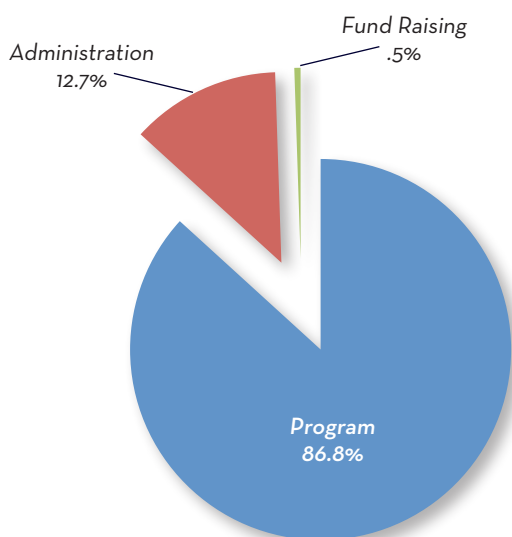
Theresa Weiland

Financial Support

2016 Annual Resources Support



2016 Functional Expenditures



County

Annual Appropriation	2,013,131
Other County Support.	1,454,214
Other County/Value of Building Space	1,013,502
Total County Support (28%)	\$4,480,847

State

County Law 224 Formula	248,932
Special Projects: Funded by the State through Cornell University	47,605
Special Projects: Funded by the State Direct to Suffolk Extension	316,095
Fringe Benefits	3,918,138
TOTAL STATE SUPPORT (29%)	\$4,530,770

Federal

Smith Lever	57,304
Expanded Food and Nutrition Program (EFNEP)	98,891
Special Projects: Funded By Federal Funds through Cornell University	88,990
Special Projects: Funded By Federal Funds Direct to Suffolk Extension	2,651,817
TOTAL FEDERAL SUPPORT (19%)	\$2,897,002

Other Sources of Support

Enrollment Fees, Program Participation Fees.	1,953,533
Sale of Equipment, Income from Publications, Dividend Income, Interest, Facilities Use, Fundraising, Miscellaneous Sources.	362,752
Restricted and Unrestricted Contributions	391,034
Special Projects: Funded through Cornell University	34,218
Special Projects: Funded by Local Agency or other Sources.	953,586
TOTAL OTHER SOURCES OF SUPPORT (24%).	\$3,695,123

GRAND TOTAL OF ALL SUPPORT \$15,603,741

Volunteer Support

In addition to these sources of support, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County depends heavily on volunteer support for its many and varied educational programs. In 2016, 937 volunteers contributed 23,730 hours valued at \$559,079. Included in the accounting records is the value of donated materials and supplies, as well as equipment and facilities usage, with a value totaling \$138,970.



Peconic Dunes Summer Camp

Our Sites throughout the County

Extension Education Center

423 Griffing Avenue, Suite 100
 Riverhead, NY 11901-3071
 631-727-7850 • FAX: 631-727-7130
 suffolk@cornell.edu

4-H Youth Development and Diabetes Education Center

350 Yaphank Avenue, Yaphank, NY 11980
 4-H: 631-852-4959
 Diabetes: 631-852-5193
 FAX: 631-852-4650

Community Nutrition Education Program

Eastern Suffolk EFNEP and Eat Smart New York
 423 Griffing Avenue, Suite 100
 Riverhead, NY 11901-3071
 631-727-7850 • FAX: 631-727-7130

Western Suffolk EFNEP and Eat Smart New York
 21 E. 9th Street
 Huntington Station, NY 11746
 631-957-3158 • FAX: 631-957-7497

Insect and Plant Disease Diagnostic Labs

Eastern Suffolk
 423 Griffing Avenue, Suite 100
 Riverhead, NY 11901-3071
 Lab Hours: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
 Hort Info Line: 631-727-4126, 9am to Noon
 FAX: 631-727-7130

Western Suffolk
 Bayard Cutting Arboretum
 Montauk Highway
 P.O. Box 463, Oakdale, NY 11769-0463
 Lab Hours: Tue. - Fri. -- 8:30am to 4:30pm
 Hort Info Line: 631-581-4223; Tue. - Fri.
 8:45 am to 11:45 am • 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center

3059 Sound Avenue
 Riverhead, NY 11901-1098
 631-727-3595 • FAX: 631-727-3611

Peconic Dunes Summer Camp

6375 Soundview Avenue
 Peconic, NY 11958
 631-852-8629 • FAX: 631-852-8627

South Fork Marine Education Program

301 Bluff Road, P.O. Box 2603
 Amagansett, NY 11930
 631-767-5171

Suffolk County Farm and Education Center

350 Yaphank Avenue
 Yaphank, NY 11980
 631-852-4600 • FAX: 631-852-4606
 Animal Helpline: 631-852-4603

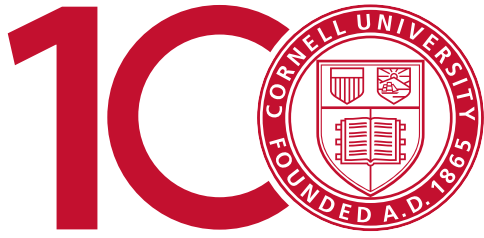
Suffolk County Marine Environmental Learning Center

3690 Cedar Beach Road
 Southold, NY 11971
 631-852-8660 • FAX: 631-852-8662

Western Suffolk Marine Education Program

Coindre Hall
 P.O. Box 554, Huntington, NY 11743
 631-239-1800 • FAX: 631-239-1797

Visit us at our website: www.ccesuffolk.org



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
of Suffolk County

Celebrating our Centennial: 1917 – 2017

During the year 2017, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County will celebrate our establishment 100 years ago.

With the goal of bringing the “university to the people”, cooperative extensions were created in the early 1900s. The local factor of having a cooperative extension in each county made this goal a reality. In 1917, Cornell Cooperative Extension was established to help residents of Suffolk County through educational programs that help families, schools, government and local businesses.

We have celebrated many accomplishments and much growth throughout these years. Visit our website for notable excerpts from our 100 years of service!



Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Cornell Cooperative Extension is funded in part by Suffolk County through the office of the County Executive and the County Legislature.

