

**Subject:** CCE Upcoming Programs

*Here is CCE Columbia & Greene Counties' program listing for the next few weeks. We're also developing an exciting spring program schedule that we plan to share with you by the end of March. Please contact either office if you have any questions and, as always, thanks for your continued support.*

## ***Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties***

Unless otherwise noted, programs are held at the following two locations:

*Agroforestry Resource Center, 6055 Route 23, Acra, NY 12405 (518) 622-9820 x0 to register.*

*Extension Education Center, 479 Route 66, Hudson, NY 12534 (518) 828-3346 x0 to register.*

Pre-registration is required and program fees are non-refundable. In cases of inclement weather, please call the appropriate office for program updates.

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### **INTRODUCTION TO GPS AND USING A GPS UNIT**

Date: Thursday, March 6

Cost: \$10.00 per person

Time: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Registration deadline: March 4

Location: Agroforestry Resource Center, Acra

To register call: 518-622-9820 x0

Presented by: Audrey Kropp, Natural Resources Program Educator

The Global Positioning System (GPS) is a worldwide radio-navigation system formed from a constellation of 24 satellites and their ground stations. Included in this system is handheld GPS receivers, a great resource for landowners, natural resource professionals, and other outdoor recreationalists. Current GPS units are accurate (plus or minus 15 feet) and can be used for marking specific locations, structures, streams, your vehicle location, as well as for fun activities such as geocaching. This training will teach you the basics of how GPS works, its various uses, and field applications of the GPS unit. There will be some Garmin GPS units available to use in the field or you can bring your own. The training will focus mainly on Garmin units.

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### **GARDENING SANDWICHED IN**

Date: Friday, March 7

Cost: Free

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Pre-register by calling: 518-828-3346 x0

Location: Extension Education Center, Hudson

Bring a sandwich and join the Master Gardeners to view a pre-recorded Cornell lecture. "Gardens Filled with Life: Designing with Flora of the American East."

This is a wonderful pre-recorded lecture by author and landscape architect Carolyn Summers. Ms. Summers is the author of *Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East*, she also created and maintains two demonstration gardens that display indigenous plants, one at her family's suburban home and the other at their three-hundred-acre Flying Trillium Arboretum property near the Neversink Reservoir.

"Author and landscape architect Carolyn Summers pre-recorded presentation gives an informative review of current research that reveals the many ways in which indigenous (native) plants form the basis of the food web that supports a healthy, biodiverse landscape. Her lecture covers ways to minimize harm from exotic plants, including the use of indigenous substitutes for a wide variety of traditional styles. Examples of striking, unusual indigenous plants used in formal settings will be provided along with naturalistic styles to explore the full design potential of northeastern indigenous flora".

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## CASHING IN WITH COUPONS

Date: Monday, March 10

Time: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Extension Education Center, Hudson

Presented by: Theresa Mayhew, Resource Educator

Cost: \$5 per person; \$10 per household

Registration deadline: Friday, March 7

To register call: 518-828-3346 x0

We all want to save money and coupon clipping is one way to achieve that. Couponing can take some time to organize and sometimes we buy things we don't need or want but, coupons are basically free money. With some effort and self-control, you can reap substantial savings. Researchers at Fort Valley State University Cooperative Extension Service found that families using coupons for refunds and discounts save 10 to 15 percent a year on groceries and household products. This *Savvy Consumer* series program will look at guidelines for coupon use, maximizing the value of coupons, tips for organizing and using coupons, and where to find coupons. Bring your unused, unexpired coupons for a coupon swap to take place at the program's conclusion.

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## CATSKILL CREEK WATER QUALITY PRESENTATION

Date: Thursday, March 13

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Agroforestry Resource Center, Acra

Presented by: Liz LoGiudice, Extension Educator; Tracy Brown & John Lipscomb, Riverkeeper

Cost: Free

Registration deadline: March 11

To register call: 518-622-9820 x0

Riverkeeper has been testing the Hudson River for fecal contamination and sewage discharges since 2006 and sharing the results with the public. In 2010 Riverkeeper partnered with the Catskill Creek Watershed Awareness Project to test Catskill Creek for fecal contamination, from the head of tide in Catskill to the South Cairo Bridge. Come out to hear about the results of the Catskill Creek testing and plans to expand this study further upstream. A presentation will be given followed by a question-and-answer session. If you can't make the presentation but are interested in volunteering for the sampling program, please email Jennifer Epstein, [jepstein@riverkeeper.org](mailto:jepstein@riverkeeper.org), for more information. For more information on Riverkeeper's Water Quality Study visit <http://www.riverkeeper.org/water-quality/locations/>.

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## RUTH LEONARD ART EXHIBIT

Reception: Saturday, March 15

Time: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Location: Agroforestry Resource Center, Acra

Cost: Free

For more information call 518-622-9820 x0

This exhibit surveys her work of paintings and works on paper over the past twenty years with an emphasis on the most recent work. Ruth Leonard's art work is a hybrid of observation and discovery using elements of landscape and nature. Her oil paintings are layers of impasto and transparency that examine and simplify forms that become a kind of iconic summary. Ms. Leonard received her BFA from Wayne State University in Detroit, MI. She was in NYC for ten years before moving to the Hudson Valley, and has been a resident of Cairo, NY for the past 23 years. (Please call the office prior to visiting to ensure the conference room is available for viewing).

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## HOW TO HOLD A SUCCESSFUL GARAGE SALE

Date: Tuesday, March 18

Time: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Cost: \$5 per person; \$10 per household

Registration deadline: Monday, March 17

Location: Extension Education Center, Hudson  
Presented by: Theresa Mayhew, Resource Educator

To register call: 518-828-3346, x0

Get ready to celebrate Spring's arrival: garage, tag and yard sale season is just around the corner! If you've always wanted to hold a sale to unload your no longer needed, wanted or used possessions, but aren't sure how to start, this program is for you! It will focus on the basics of what to sell, when to schedule a sale, how to set hours, pricing, signage, set up, advertising and other logistics, such as checking for any municipal regulations and having a plan for unsold items. Garage sales can meet a variety of objectives – they can help you clean out your house, generate extra cash, and enable you to catch up with your neighbors and other community members. Attendees will leave with a garage sale check list and other helpful resource materials.

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## PERFECTING YOUR PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Date: Wednesdays, March 19 and 26, April 2

Cost: \$5:00 per person

Time: 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Registration deadline: March 14

Location: Extension Education Center, Hudson

To register call: 518-828-3346 x0

*Do you like to exhibit photos at the fair? Want to know how to improve your photography? Would you like to have some photo exhibits matted and captioned, ready to give or show?*

If so, this workshop is for you. It is open to youth in grades 3+ (need not be a 4-H member). You will learn how to use your digital camera's focus, lighting, and staging to create photos that everyone will love. Kara Keeler, a local artist and photographer, will be teaching this workshop created especially for young people.

After the first session participants will be sent home with an assignment to take photos and return with some ready to review. During the second session, Kara will work with participants to learn about what was well-done in their photos and how they can improve.

The final session will be spent with each participant selecting their best photos to mat and caption. Please pre-register by paying the fee by March 14 – send to, or drop off at, CCE Columbia–Greene, 479 Rt. 66, Hudson, NY 12534. For more information contact Linda Tripp at 828-3346 x203 or [Lke2@cornell.edu](mailto:Lke2@cornell.edu).

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## 4-H VET SCIENCE SERIES (for Columbia County and Greene County youth grades 3-7)

Do you love animals and want to learn more about different species? Do you have a pet at home that you want to keep happy and healthy? Are you interested in becoming a veterinarian when you grow older? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then this 4-H Vet Sciences series is for you!

Dates:

Session 1: Thursday, March 20

Session 2: Thursday, March 27

Session 3: Thursday, April 3

Session 4: Thursday, April 10

Session 5: Saturday, April 12

Time: All Thursday night sessions will be held 6:30-8:00 p.m. The Saturday session time and location will be announced at one of the first sessions

Location: Extension Education Center Meeting Hall, Hudson

Cost: \$5 for 4-H members and \$10 for non 4-H members (Must be paid in full at the first session)

Registration Deadline: Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup> Please note that there are only 20 spots available for this series. First come; first served!

To register call: 518-828-3346 x0. Please leave your name, grade level and a phone number which you can be reached at.

In this five-session series, we will explore topics such as:

- Understanding differences of species in body styles, systems, breeds and life stages.
- Explore the animal basic needs and health/safety.
- Learn how veterinarians and owners work together to keep animals healthy.
- Investigate the many careers of animal science and veterinary science.
- The fifth and final session will be a visit to a local veterinary clinic!

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## MAPLE FEST: CELEBRATING THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF MAPLE SYRUP

Date: Saturday, March 22

Cost: Free

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Registration deadline: None

Location: Agroforestry Resource Center, Acra

For further information call: 518-622-9820 x0

Experience a taste of the “sweet world of maple sugaring” as part of the New York Maple weekend here at CCE’s Agroforestry Resource Center. The event will provide an opportunity to learn about sugar mapping procedures, including demonstrations in our own sugar shack, fun “maple syrup” taste testing, and displays of antique maple sugaring equipment. There will be information about the Greene County Maple Producers Association and an opportunity to buy maple sugar products from these diligent local agriculture producers. Delicious pancakes with pure maple syrup will also be available for sale in case you get hungry. Plan on joining us to participate in this annual spring ritual in the Northeast representing a few weeks of intense labor that leaves behind a year’s worth of healthy sweetness.

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## WOODS IN YOUR BACKYARD WEBINAR SERIES AND FIELD TRIP

For landowners in the Upper Hudson Valley

**Dates/Times:** Webinars - Wednesday evenings (**March 26, April 2, and April 9**) from 7:00 to 8:30 pm  
Field trip - Saturday, **April 12, 2014**. Location to be determined (Greene County)

**Cost:** \$20 (includes full-color, 139-page manual *The Woods in Your Backyard: Learning to Create and Enhance Natural Areas Around Your Home*, three webinars, and field trip)

**Registration:** Please register online at [dnr.cornell.edu/ext/pwt/bio](http://dnr.cornell.edu/ext/pwt/bio) by **March 14** to allow time for delivery of the manual. Late registrations will not be accepted.

Smaller properties are a big deal to forest management. The vast majority of land owners in New York State have less than 20 acres. This land, wooded or not, is a vital resource for all. By enhancing or creating natural areas and woodland on your lot, you can enjoy recreation, aesthetics, wildlife, and protect your water quality. By looking at how your property connects with other natural areas of potential natural areas, there are ample opportunities to make an even larger impact on the ecosystem. Owners of even just a few acres can make a positive difference in their environment through planning and implementing simple stewardship practices learned during The Woods In Your Backyard webinar series.

**Format:**

The Woods in Your Backyard will include a series of three evening webinars plus a half-day field trip. You may participate in the webinars from the comfort of your own home, or participate on-site at the local Cornell Cooperative Extension office in Greene County, Acra, NY or Albany County, Voorheesville, NY.

A high-speed internet connection such as LAN, DSL, satellite, or cable is needed to view the webinars. Phone modems cannot effectively transmit data. If you choose to listen from home, you will need a telephone to listen to the webinar audio.

For further information, contact Diana Bryant, at [dlt5@cornell.edu](mailto:dlt5@cornell.edu)

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### AMERICAN EEL MIGRATION STUDY – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*) is a migratory fish that is born in the Atlantic Ocean and enters rivers as tiny “glass eels” each spring. The species is in decline over much of its range, and baseline studies are needed for further management.

Each spring, CCE Columbia Greene works with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and their volunteers to monitor the migration of American eels from the Hudson River into the Hannacroix Creek. Teams of scientists and students collect glass eels using net and trap devices on several Hudson River tributaries. Juvenile fish are counted, weighed, and released upstream, often above dams to better habitat.

Interns and volunteers are requested to assist in the spring 2014 study. This requires mostly outdoor field work from late March through May, with very flexible schedules. Interested people should be willing to: become involved in outdoor field work; work in a team of volunteers; reliably get to sites one or more days per week. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Liz LoGiudice at 518 622-9820 x 33 or Zoraida Maloney at [zmalone@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:zmalone@gw.dec.state.ny.us), 845-889-4745 x107. For more information visit <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/49580.html>

**Please note:** We’ve just received confirmation that DEC will be offering an informational meeting about the eel project at the Catskill Community Center, 344 Main Street, Catskill, NY on **Wednesday, March 19** at 7:00 p.m.

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### SPRING GARDENING DAY 2014

Date: Saturday, April 5

Cost: \$25 pp for morning/\$15 pp per class

Time: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Registration deadline: **March 21**

Location: Columbia-Greene Community College

To register call: 518-828-3346 x100

The Master Gardener Volunteers will once again host Spring Gardening Day at Columbia-Greene Community College. This year we are offering 16 sixty-minute classes in two sessions. Class offerings are: Beekeeping; Chickens in the Back Yard; Container Gardening; Ecological Lawn Care; Gardening with Herbs; Invasive Earthworms; Nature and the Human Hand in the Rural Landscape; Rain Gardens; Shade Gardening; Some of the Plants You Love Can Hurt You; Square Foot Gardening; Starting Your Farm Dream; Trees and Shrubs; Vegetable Gardening for 2014. Chase away the winter blues and start the spring by attending some of our workshops. Invite a friend, relative or neighbor and make a morning of learning fun for all.

For a complete list of class descriptions and a registration form please call Extension Education Center at 518-828-3346 x0 or visit our website at [http://ccecolumbiagreene.com/images/Spring\\_Gardening\\_Day\\_2014.pdf](http://ccecolumbiagreene.com/images/Spring_Gardening_Day_2014.pdf)

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### Capital Area Agriculture & Horticulture Program

Please visit this website for additional workshop details <http://blogs.cornell.edu/capitalareaagandhortprogram/>

**Cornell Cooperative Extension Capital District Region**

You can find information on programs being offered by CCEs throughout the Capital District at <http://ccecapiatregion.org/home.aspx>



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For more information on CCE Columbia and Greene Counties, visit our website [www.ccecolumbiagreene.org](http://www.ccecolumbiagreene.org)

**Cornell Cooperative Extensions of Columbia and Greene Counties**

Agroforestry Resource Center, 6055 Route 23, Acra, NY 12405  
518.622.9820 (voice) 518.622.0115 (fax)

and

Extension Education Center, 479 Route 66, Hudson, NY 12534  
518.828.3346 (voice) 518.828-3069 (fax)

Email: [columbiagreene@cornell.edu](mailto:columbiagreene@cornell.edu)

Both offices are open Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Please email [amt18@cornell.edu](mailto:amt18@cornell.edu) to unsubscribe.

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**Angela Tallarico**

Senior Extension Administrator

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties

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[www.ccecolumbiagreene.org](http://www.ccecolumbiagreene.org)

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