



ULSTER CURRENT

A quarterly publication of Cornell Cooperative Extension Ulster County

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Follow our programs on



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Emerald Ash Borer in Ulster County

In early September, CCEUC Educator, Teresa Rusinek toured Saugerties where Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) was first detected and confirmed in Ulster County. She was astounded to see the number of Ash trees affected by this destructive, invasive pest.



According to Mark Whitmore from Cornell University Dept. of Natural Resources, some of the damaged trees were infested only two years ago and would likely be completely dead by next year.

EAB is a serious concern because infested ash trees decline rapidly and EAB spreads quickly. There is no effective control outside of injecting individual trees with insecticide, which must be performed by a licensed arborist. This infestation will not be limited to Ulster County. In a short amount of time, communities all over the Hudson Valley region will need to deal with large amounts of dead, hazardous ash

trees that will need to be taken down and disposed of. It is recommended that communities plan for this now on both the municipal and private landowner levels.

One of the first steps is to inventory ash trees. Funding for inventories/surveys is very much needed at this time. Another important aspect of this outbreak is compliance with the growing quarantine that regulates and restricts movement of wood in New York. Recently, Ulster and Greene Counties have been included in the quarantine zone.

Now is the time for individuals

and communities to consider their planning process to minimize the potential economic and aesthetic impacts of the EAB outbreak.

In response, CCE Ulster held meetings in New Paltz and Saugerties which targeted municipal officials and businesses that will be impacted by the recent discovery of EAB in the region.

The meetings targeted town level policy makers who are interested in learning about the situation and the steps needed to be taken to prepare communities. Also informed were highway superintendents/staff and other professionals who need to be able to identify EAB and know appropriate protocols to follow.

For more information about EAB call Teresa Rusinek at 845-340-3990 ext. 315 or email tr28@cornell.edu.

Esopus Flood Damages Being Assessed

On October 1, Ulster County was hit with a major flood. Staff from CCEUC and Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District are currently working with the Towns of Shandaken and Olive, to assess damage to streamside infrastructure.

Hollow that was destroyed in the flood and to help with stream work in the Esopus Creek in the Town of Shandaken to better protect residents of Brown Road, an area that has repeatedly suffered flood damage.



Brown Rd. in Shandaken

CCEUC, through the Ashokan Watershed Program Implementation Fund provided by NYC DEP, is offering financial assistance to the Town of Olive to repair a stream crossing culvert in Traver

Other projects are currently under review. Technical assistance for these projects is being provided by UC SWCD and NYC DEP's Stream Management Program. For more information

contact Elizabeth Higgins, AWSMP Program Coordinator at 845-688-3047 or email emh56@cornell.edu.

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4-H Dog Drill Team Take NYS Championship

Twelve members of the Ulster County 4-H MuttMasters Club competed in the 4-H Dog Drill Team competition at the NYS Fair in Syracuse in September.

Their dedication, hard work and team effort resulted in a flawless eight minute performance of their theme "K-9 Police" performed to a variety of theme songs from popular television police shows. A dog



Back Row L-R: Jessica Birch, Amber Huckeba, Harry Birch, Katherine DeWitt, Bryan Huckeba, Jenny Burkins, 4-H Leader & Trainer, Courtney Weis, Team Captain, Lori Potter, Joy Weis, 4-H Parent. Front Row L-R: Samantha Bruck, Evan Mardiney, Kristin Nerone, Elissa Mardiney, Tim Bruck Jr.

drill team is a group of 4-H youth accompanied by their dogs which perform a choreographed routine. Among the many exercises included are the synchronized pinwheel, dog recall and communication techniques.

The 4-H Dog Drill team took top honors in 2007 as well. For more information about 4-H or the Dog Program contact Jenny Burkins at 845-340-3990 ext. 331.

4-H to Host Inaugural Fall Festival in November

Join CCEUC's 4-H Youth Development Program staff members and 4-H youth clubs from Ulster County as they gather for the inaugural 4-H Fall Festival coming Sunday, November 7 to the Ulster County Fair Grounds located at 249 Libertyville Road in New Paltz. The festival is FREE and will begin at 12:00pm and festivities will proceed until 3:00pm. Lots of exciting hands-on activities, contests & educational demos for the entire family!

Come see & pet the rabbits, cows, chickens, horses & other animals raised by our 4-H'ers!

Watch our 4-H'ers as they demonstrate their expertise during Public Presentations, a tractor skills con-

test, a veterinary science demo, dog obedience, learn about Alternative Energy & more! Kids, participate in a photo contest, a baking contest, make a scarecrow with your friends, lots of fun & games for all ages!

You could even win prizes! Parents, come and learn about 4-H and how you and your family can benefit from one of the oldest and well known youth education organizations in the country!

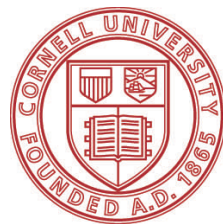
Visit the 4-H Snack Bar, 4-H Milkshake Booth & Bake Sale! (all proceeds from the 4-H Snack Bar,



4-H Milkshake Booth & Bake Sale benefit 4-H Youth Programs in Ulster County).

Contact Patti Zellmer for more information and contest rules at 845-340-3990 ext. 334.

CCEUC to Hold Annual Meeting & Presentation in December



Cornell University Cooperative Extension Ulster County

We will be hosting our Annual Meeting and presentation on Thursday, December 2, 2010 at 7:00pm at the SUNY Ulster campus located at 491 Cottekill Rd. in Stone Ridge in the Student Lounge located in Vanderlyn Hall. The meeting and

presentation is free and open to the general public. Please pre-register by calling 845-340-3990.

The evening's agenda begins with the election of new CCEUC Board and Program Committee members,

Treasurer's report, a review of CCEUC programs of 2010, a vote on the proposed changes to the CCEUC Constitution and CCEUC Staff and current Board and Program Committee member recognition followed by fall themed desserts, coffee, cider and tea.

The evening will close with the featured presentation on climate changes and their effects in the Hudson Valley.

Walk, Bike, and Roll To or At School - Kingston Style



On October 6th, International Walk, Bike or Roll To or At School Day took place as a city-wide initiative of the Safe Routes to Schools and Parks committee of the Healthy Kingston for Kids project. HKK is a partnership led by

CCEUC and funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Partners include the Kingston Parks and Recreation Department and the Kingston City

School District and others.

From bicycle education at Anna Devine Elementary to a group walk from Deitz Stadium to Edson Elementary. Kingston is celebrating Walk, Bike or Roll To or At School Day with activities that are

fun, original and educational. The initiatives on October 6 were part of a global celebration which aimed at increasing awareness about the benefits of walking, biking and rolling (wheelchairs, skateboards, rollerblades, etc.) to school. Michelle Obama wrote a letter of support to all the students and schools that participated nationwide.

The day also kicked off a long-term Safe Routes to Schools and Parks initiative to make the Kingston City School District more walkable and bikeable for children. Eleven schools participated from the Kingston City School District. For more information about HKK contact Kristen Wilson at 845-340-3990 ext. 347.

Food Safety and GAPs Audit Training for NY Produce Growers

Many national buyers are requiring Ex-third party food safety verification from farms supplying fresh food items. Federal Food Safety Legislation may be a reality in the near future.

This 2 day workshop will be held on December 8 and 9 at Hudson Valley Lab located at 3357 Route 9W in Highland. The workshop is designed to assist producers in completing USDA GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) certification for their farm operations.

The cost for both days is \$100. No refunds, except in case of snow closing; substitutions are allowed. Class size is limited to 30 participants.

Pre-registration is required by Tuesday, November 30, 2010.

This training is a collaborative effort by the Cornell Cooperative



tension Associations of Columbia, Dutchess, Orange, Rensselaer and Ulster Counties, the Cornell Vegetable Team, the National GAPs Program at Cornell, the Lake Ontario Fruit Program and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.

Day 1 (December 8, 2010)
Intro to farm food safety and GAP certification. 8:30am - 3:30pm.

Day 2 (December 9, 2010)
Writing your individual farm food safety plan. 8:30am - 3:30pm.

For more information contact Mike Fargione at 845-691-7117.

The complete agenda and registration form can be downloaded at www.cceulster.org under the Event Registration section.

EXTENSION EDUCATORS

Lydia M. Reidy

Executive Director

Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program

Elizabeth Higgins

Michael Courtney

Beth Roessler

Agriculture

Teresa Rusinek

Michael J. Fargione

Audrey Reith

José Colon

Dona Crawford

Family & Consumer Science

Mary Marsters

Janie Greenwald

Jennifer Patterson

Eileen Polk

Pablo Shine

Deanna Young

4-H Youth Development

Patti Zellmer

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Healthy Kingston for Kids

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Jennifer Burkins

Vicki Campbell

Jude DeFalco

Colleen Griffith

Marie Raymond

Kathy Ugolino

Master Gardener Hotline Hours Change for the Season

The Hotline will be changing their hours to 9:00am to 12:00pm on Fridays only from November 1 through March 1. The hotline provides the public with free gardening advice.

The Hotline number is 845-340-DIRT. Messages can be left at any-time but will only be returned on Fridays from 9:00am to 12:00pm.





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Cooperative Extension
Ulster County

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Ulster County
Communities***



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Please Recycle

Create Your Very Own Victorian Kissing Ball



Master Gardeners; Barbara Darbin and Cheryl Alloway constructing a holiday kissing ball at last years workshop.

The holiday season is approaching so why not start thinking about decorating your home with

Learn the secrets to making an old fashioned kissing ball. They're

a charming Victorian decoration for your doorway. CCEUC's Master Gardener Program will provide the evergreen boughs and know-how at this hands-on workshop on Tuesday, November 30, 2010 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at their Extension Education Center, located at 10 Westbrook Lane in Kingston.

fragrant, beautiful and not as hard to create as they look. Please bring pruning shears and wire clippers if you have them. All other supplies will be provided and you will go home with a gorgeous long lasting addition to your holiday decorations. The fee is \$25 per person.

Class size is limited; registration deadline is Wednesday, November 24, 2010 and pre-registration is required to participate.

Please call 845-340-3990 for registration information, or visit our website at www.cceulster.org and click on Event Registration Forms to download a registration form.

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**Cornell Cooperative Extension Ulster County
Master Gardeners
Relatives as Parents Program
Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program
Ulster County 4-H Youth Development
Safe Routes to Schools and Parks in Kingston**