



Newsletter

May 2026

Issue #04

A Note from the Team

After a fun-filled Spring, the Hudson County 4-H team is gearing up for a fun and busy Summer. We welcome all youth to join one, or many, of our programs. Thank you all for helping us build community, for continuing to engage with us, and for making Hudson County 4-H part of your life.

Contact Us!

Rutgers Cooperative Extension of
Hudson County 4-H Youth Development

Address (By Appointment Only):

830 Bergen Ave. Suite 3A
Jersey City, NJ 07306

Phone: 201-369-5280 Ext. 4288

Email: Hudson4H@njaes.rutgers.edu

Hudson County 4-H Website:

<http://www.hudson.njaes.rutgers.edu/4h/>

Follow Our Instagram:

@HudsonCounty4H



Youth Spotlight

Congratulations Neelay!

Neelay has been a 4-H member since 2022. He has been part of Teen Council, Youth Urban Farm Club, Changemakers, STEM Ambassadors, and the STEM Equity Challenge. He represented NJ at 4-H Citizen Washington Focus in Washington D.C. It's exciting to see our seniors graduate, and wish him luck at such a great school!

College: Rutgers New Brunswick

Major: Data Science, focus in computer science

Career: Hopes to become a quant

Favorite 4-H Memory:
Playing Hide & Seek at
4-H Winter Camp



Inside This Issue



4-H
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School Partnerships:



Roosevelt School in Weehawken

Last week we visited some new friends at Roosevelt School's Garden Club. Thanks to the wonderful donation of native plants from Montclair Community Farm & Montclair History Center, we were able to revitalize a native plant bed and transplant some spring bulbs to their own dedicated space! This club is working on beautifying the space in front of their school to provide a safe haven for pollinators.



Explore Middle School

16 Explore Middle School 8th graders came back this Spring to help us prepare the Historic Jersey City and Harsimus Cemetery Garden for the new growing season! Harsimus is our longest-running 4-H partner and Youth Urban Farm Club site. We appreciate Explore Middle School for pouring so much love and energy into helping us jump-start another growing season. They dug right in, clearing out weeds and multiple garden beds which we look forward to planting this summer with Youth Urban Farm Club members!



4-H Happenings

Rutgers Day

Rutgers Day is an annual, free, all-day community festival and open house, held at Rutgers University in New Brunswick. This year, we had a total of 8 STEM Ambassadors come with us to run circuitry activities and a button making activity for festival goers. They engaged with the public and educated young kids in STEM. The day was filled with fun, learning, exploring...and cupcakes!



HCIA Earth Day

Our booth was run by 3 enthusiastic youth leaders, who promoted food waste prevention habits through a 'Save, Share, Compost' activity. Participants explored strategies for reducing food waste by learning how to save edible food, share excess with others, and compost food scraps. They examined real-life food waste scenarios and practiced decision-making around food recovery and composting!



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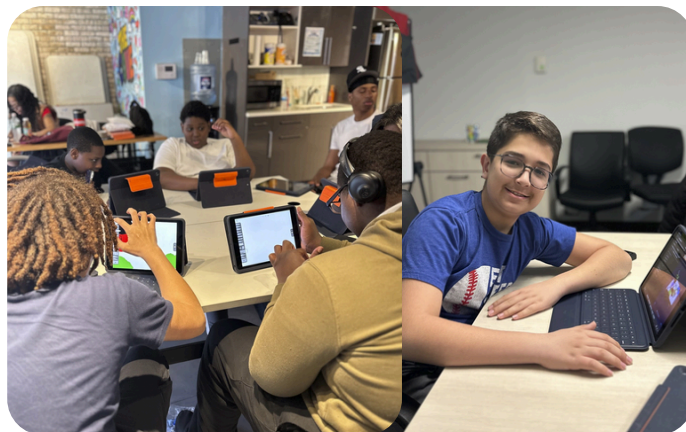
RCE Earth Day

Our STEM Ambassadors ran a STEM Activity station during our RCE Earth Day & Garden Opening Celebration! Youth learned about circuits, made binary code bead bracelets, and some got a little bit of face painting!



STEM Workshops

We have been having such a blast teaching STEM programming at the COVE and at our office! Our program at Hudson Partnership CMO - The COVE has been focused on Digital Art, and at our office, Coding!



Our Clubs & Programs



Updates:

Cavy Club & Dog Club

Both of these clubs are no longer active. We hope to see you around at other clubs and events!

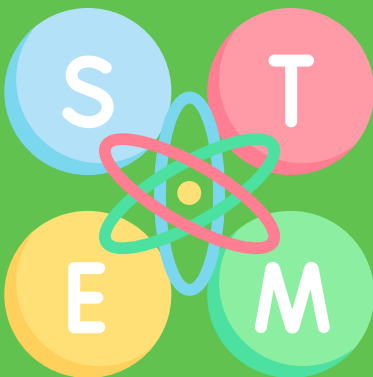
Coming Soon...

Summer STEM Program!

Soon we will be releasing the information for our Summer STEM Day Camp!

The camp will meet on weekdays near Journal Square.

Keep an eye out for more info-coming soon!



Join a Club!

YOUTH URBAN FARM CLUB 2026 for youth ages 12-18

SPACE IS EXTREMELY LIMITED!

YUFC is coming back this summer for its 6th year in action here at Hudson County! In partnership with the Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) department of RCE of Hudson County and our dedicated community gardeners, urban farmers, and community composters, we look forward to bringing YUFC to you better than ever. Sites will be filled on a rolling basis. For the best chance at a spot, register by May 20th!



Learn More: <https://HUDSON.NJAES.RUTGERS.EDU/4H/YOUTH/URBAN-AGRICULTURE-OPPORTUNITIES/>

CHANGEMAKERS PROGRAM 2026 for youth in 9th-12th grade

APPLICATIONS DUE MAY 17TH

Changemakers is BACK! NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY! This program aims to empower youth of diverse backgrounds to learn about food systems, urban agriculture, and food justice, and empower them to make an impact in their food system and communities. We welcome all interested youth in grades 9-12 to apply!

Register Here: <https://go.rutgers.edu/q87eggs1>



Questions: Contact us at HUDSON@HJEAES.RUTGERS.EDU

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Hudson RCE Events



AgriCultural Traditions Workshop Series

Various Saturdays 1-3PM

RCE Learning Garden in Lincoln Park, Jersey City

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
Cooperative Extension
of Hudson County
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

RCE LEARNING GARDEN
Inside Lincoln Park - Near the corner of Communipaw Ave & Route 440

(AGRI)CULTURAL TRADITIONS WORKSHOP SERIES

	<p>TRADICIONES ANDINAS PARA LA SIEMBRA (ANDEAN AGRICULTURAL TRADITIONS) with Kushimuyu // 1 PM - 3 PM</p>	30 MAY
	<p>MIGRATING CROPS AND WILDLIFE - WE ARE ALL MIGRANTS! 1 PM - 3 PM</p>	13 JUNE
	<p>CROPS OF THE WORLD AND THE DIASPORA 1 PM - 3 PM</p>	11 JULY
	<p>INDIGENOUS MEDICINAL PLANTS & PRACTICES with Guazabara // 1 PM - 3 PM</p>	08 AUG

Register here: <https://go.rutgers.edu/adi0ttfp>
For more information, contact: rm1679@njaes.rutgers.edu

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Board of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Hudson County, Hudson County Department of Health and Human Services, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Volunteers Needed at the Hudson County RCE Learning Gardens

Inside Lincoln Park, Jersey City



GARDEN VOLUNTEER HOURS

EVERY WEDNESDAY	TIME 4PM-7PM
EVERY SATURDAY	TIME 10AM-1PM

RCE Learning Garden at Lincoln Park, Jersey City, NJ (near the corner of Communipaw Ave & Route 440)
contact rm1679@njaes.rutgers.edu for more info



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New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station



scan QR code to sign up



Inside West Hudson Park, Harrison



GARDEN VOLUNTEER HOURS

EVERY TUESDAY	TIME 4PM-7PM
EVERY SATURDAY	TIME 10AM-1PM

RCE Learning Garden at West Hudson Park, Harrison, NJ (near the kid's playground & Keasby St)
contact ja.zamora@njaes.rutgers.edu for more info



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scan QR code to sign up



REGISTER HERE: <https://go.rutgers.edu/adi0ttfp>

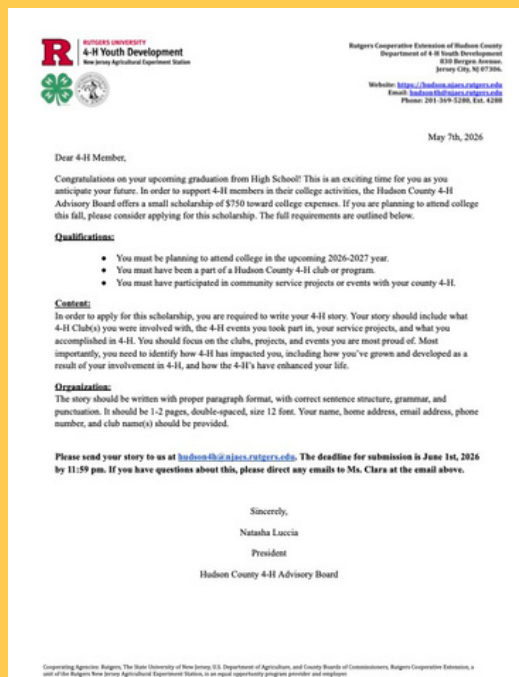
Upcoming Events

Calling All Seniors!

Senior College Scholarships

Applications are due by June 1st at 11:59PM, and must be emailed to HUDSON4H@NJAES.RUTGERS.EDU

[See Application Here!](#)



Tell Your 4-H Story!

Dearest seniors, you are invited to please complete this short survey for the Class of 2026 to be featured on our Instagram!

<https://forms.gle/qZkLRixErUuEDbbf8>.

Thank you for making 4-H a part of your high school career. It has been a pleasure to see you all grow into spectacular young adults. Please remember that wherever the road takes you, you will always have a home in 4-H!

Honor Cord Requests

We have a limited amount of graduation honor cords to give to our graduating high school seniors! If you are interested in getting a cord, please reach out to us at HUDSON4H@NJAES.RUTGERS.EDU



Upcoming Events

Other State-wide Opportunities

Click the Flyer!

National 4-H Animal Science Career Night



Presented by the National Association of Extension 4-H Youth Development Professionals, Animal Science Working Group

Join us for an evening to hear from noted speakers in the animal science industry as they share career exploration insights, advice, and more! Youth do not need to be a 4-H member to participate.

Open to youth in grades 7-13 (ages 12-19)

June 18, 2026

at 7-8:30p.m. EST
via Zoom
*Classes and Clubs encouraged to join



Register by June 17 at 11:59p.m. EST at go.illinois.edu/CareerNight



For more information contact: srcarls2@illinois.edu



Dr. Mark Hoge
Associate Professor of Animal Science and Livestock Judging Coach
Western Illinois University



Mr. Kevin Robinson
Senior Animal Care Specialist
Sea World San Diego



Backyard Farming Basics

Healthy Birds, Safe Herds



Update: This event has been changed to a hybrid format! You may join us on May 29 from 6 to 8 PM in person at the Rutgers EcoComplex, or virtually via Zoom.

Scan the QR code below for more information (including the link to the Zoom registration), or visit: <https://go.rutgers.edu/backyardfarmingbasics>



Questions? Contact Tess Stahl (tess.stahl@rutgers.edu) or Hassan Warriach (hassan.warriach@rutgers.edu).

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.



2026 4-H Dog Fun Match & K-9 Arts Show

Saturday, June 13, 2026
(rain or shine)

Event is part of [Hunterdon County Community Day](#)

Registration deadline: May 31!

- Fun Match - <https://go.rutgers.edu/44kh65>
- K-9 Arts Show - <https://go.rutgers.edu/446uo9kg>

\$10 per participant

Participate in any 4-H dog fun match classes.

Location

[Hunterdon County Fairgrounds](#)
1207 Route 179, Ringoes, NJ 08551



Questions? Contact:

Kelly Dziak, Morris County 4-H Agent - dziak@njces.rutgers.edu
Shannon Glynn, K-9 Arts Show Coordinator - shannon.glynn@co.middlesex.nj.us
Christine Higham, Seeing Eye - chigham@seeingeye.org

Bergen County 4-H and Bergen County Community College (BCCC) Present

Food Systems Alliance

CALLING ALL YOUTH GRADES 9TH-12TH

ABOUT THE CLUB:
Explore urban agriculture, food pathways, technology, sustainability, and future professions in food!

FUN MEETINGS

- Activities like garden work, seed plantings, building a model greenhouse, and more!
- Tons of opportunities to complete community service hours, partnered with local initiatives and nonprofits!
- Ongoing service-learning - work as a cohort to complete a final group project!
- Be assigned a college student mentor to learn from and work with!
- Snacks included!

JOIN TODAY!
Scan the QR Code or go to: go.rutgers.edu/gfuh46

MEETINGS AT BERGEN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Contact us with questions at: bergen4h@njces.rutgers.edu