

Cornell University  
Cooperative Extension  
of Suffolk County



# 2013 Successes



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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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Dear Friend of Extension,

2013 was a year of big accomplishments and new endeavors for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County (CCE). We are so proud that our major programs—Family Health and Wellness (FHW), 4-H Youth Development, Marine and Agriculture—all participated in very successful educational projects and programs. This report highlights just some of our many achievements.

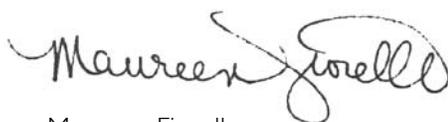
Our educators brought research-based education to residents and professionals as a means of making our county a better place to live and a more nurturing environment for our children. These goals were met in a variety of ways in 2013:

- Our FHW staff brought nutrition, wellness, parenting and early childhood development advice to child care centers and directly to parents at workshops throughout the county and through our new blog.
- The Agriculture staff helped farmers learn how to work more effectively with existing crops and on new ventures like the expanding hops cultivation on Long Island. We continued the essential efforts in pest management and cost-effective crop production.
- CCE Suffolk Marine staff bolstered the vital eelgrass and shellfish population and recovered thousands of derelict lobster pots plus continued their work on shellfish production enhancement and fin fisheries sustainability.
- As a result of extensive efforts by our 4-H staff, we taught children, through fun hands-on activities, how they can protect the environment, live a healthier lifestyle, and we introduced them to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Our day and overnight camps welcomed more than 3,000 campers this year.

Through these projects and programs, CCE Suffolk continues to accomplish our overall mission of strengthening families and communities, protecting and enhancing the environment, fostering economic development and promoting sustainable agriculture.

Our goals are achieved with the help of government partnerships, grants, volunteers, Cornell University, community groups and non-profits. We are grateful to everyone who made 2013 such a successful and productive year for Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Please enjoy learning about our recent achievements in this 2013 Annual Report.



Maureen Fiorello  
Board President



Vito A. Minei, PE  
Executive Director

# Teen Chefs Show Off Their Skills

CCE joined Whole Foods and the Bloomingdale's Fund of the Macy's Foundation to sponsor the first Jr. Iron Chef Competition at Whole Foods in Lake Grove. The day was a resounding success with 11 teams of middle and high school students competing to create healthy unique dishes featuring local and USDA foods that could be replicated in a school cafeteria.

This educational event encouraged youth to learn new cooking skills for a healthier lifestyle, promote the use of local food to support our local farmers and create healthy vegetarian or vegan recipes.



# Recovering Abandoned and Lost Lobster Pots

With grants from the NOAA Marine Debris, NFWF Fishing for Energy and NFWF Sound Futures Fund grant programs, our Marine Program continued to clean up derelict lobster pots throughout Suffolk waters. In 2013, we recovered 4,674 derelict lobster traps. We are proud to announce that 11,751 have been recovered since the inception of the program.



## Assisting Farmers with Hops Cultivation

CCE Agriculture Program assisted in a new venture this year—helping farmers learn how to best grow and harvest hops. CCE experts shared their expertise on producing high quality hops, a crop that lends aroma, bitterness and flavor to beer and can take three years to reach full productivity. The expanding craft-beer industry in the region has led to a dramatic increase in hops cultivation.



## Learning at Our Backyard Farm

Through a grant from National Grid, youth at the Suffolk County Farm in Yaphank spent time in The Backyard Farm. This new educational garden offers students an interactive educational facility to connect with sustainable agriculture and understand how it can lead to a healthier lifestyle.



## Expanded Access to Local Weather Data

With grants from the Long Island Sound Futures Fund, the Long Island Community Foundation, and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Specialty Crop Block Grant, Cornell Cooperative Extension's (CCE) Agriculture Stewardship program has expanded Suffolk County's access to real-time, local, and historic weather information.

CCE secured funding to establish a network of weather stations that provide information for the region's valuable agriculture industry. The stations are owned, maintained and serviced by CCE. Each station collects weather data specific to the location's microclimate.



# Helping Grandparents

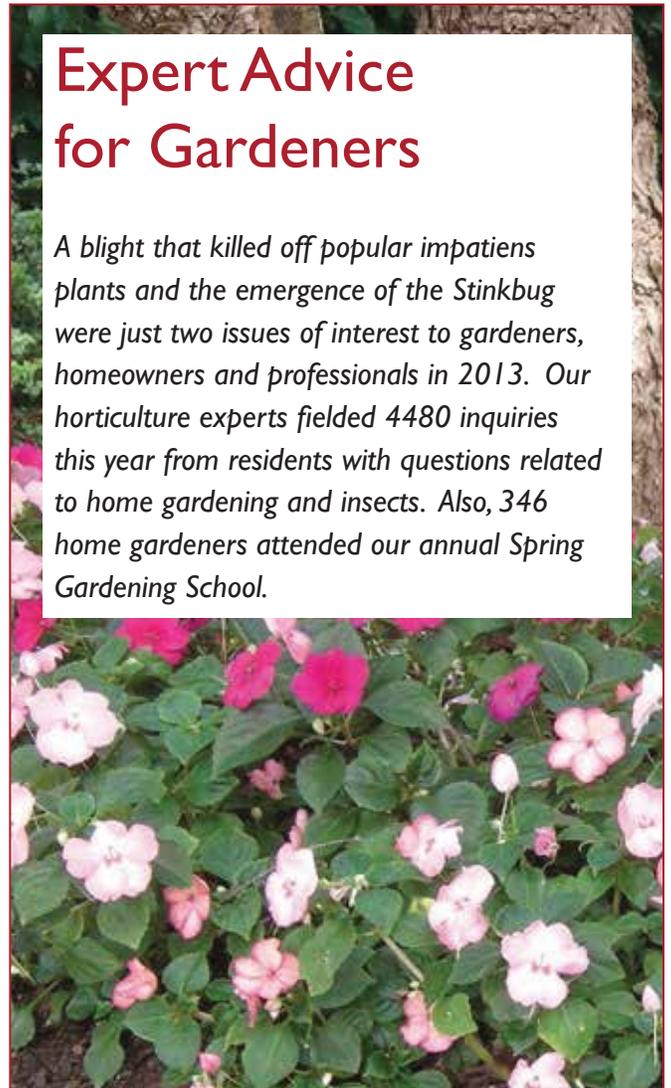
With a grant of \$60,000 awarded by Pritchard Charitable Trust, the Family Health and Wellness program provided assistance to dozens of grandparents and other relative caregivers through "Parenting the Second Time Around" (PASTA), Cornell University's award winning curriculum for grandparents raising grandchildren.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, 29,591 children live in grandparent-headed households in Suffolk County. As part of PASTA, grandparents will be offered support, advice, workshops, and as the program winds down, reunions with other participants and mentoring.



# Expert Advice for Gardeners

*A blight that killed off popular impatiens plants and the emergence of the Stinkbug were just two issues of interest to gardeners, homeowners and professionals in 2013. Our horticulture experts fielded 4480 inquiries this year from residents with questions related to home gardening and insects. Also, 346 home gardeners attended our annual Spring Gardening School.*



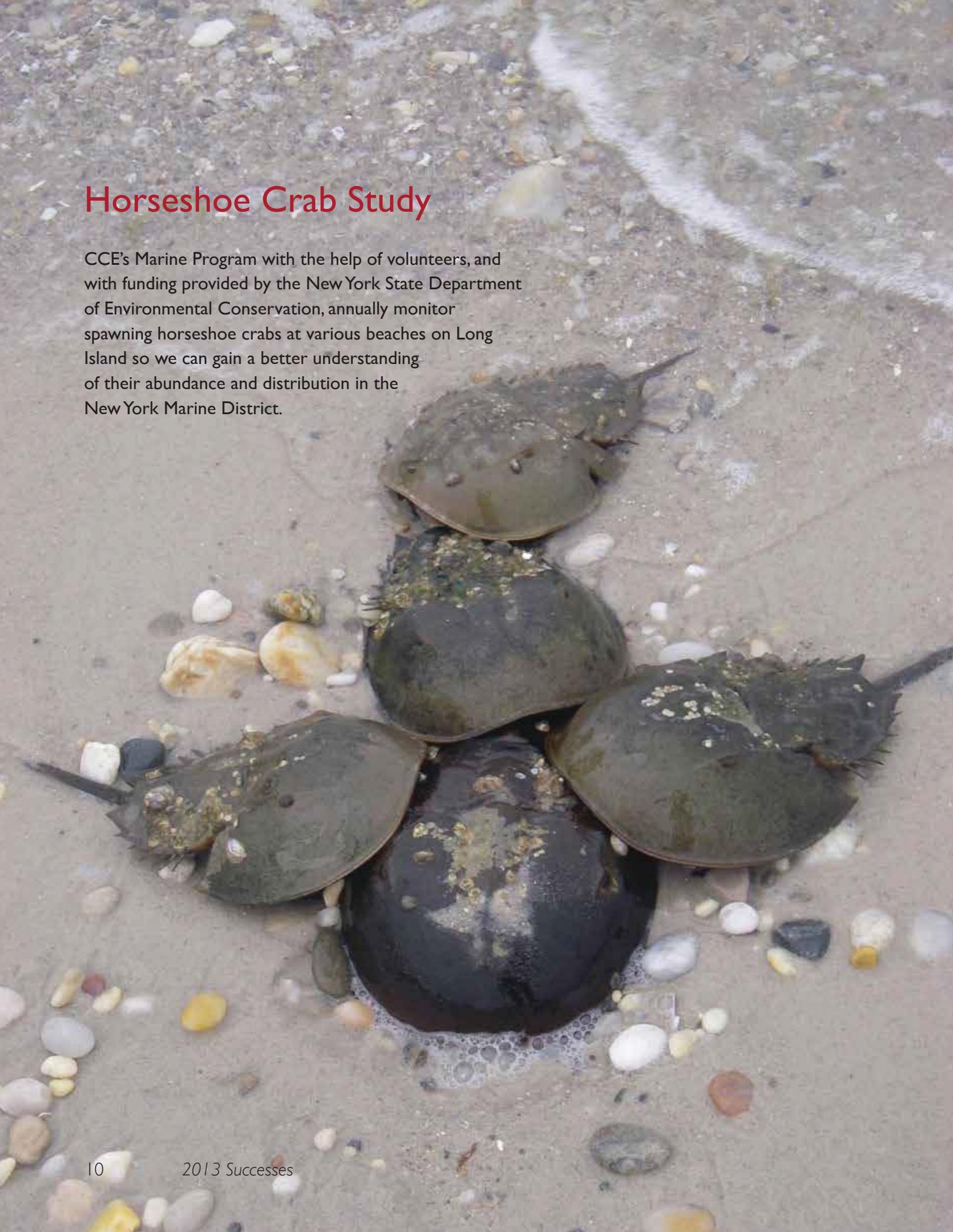
# 3rd Annual Grown on Long Island Day

The third Annual Grown on Long Island Day countywide farmers market was held last summer at the Suffolk County Farm and Education Center in Yaphank. Staff from all four of CCE's program areas set up educational tables for the public, offering information on nutrition, the environment and all of our ongoing programs.



## Horseshoe Crab Study

CCE's Marine Program with the help of volunteers, and with funding provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, annually monitor spawning horseshoe crabs at various beaches on Long Island so we can gain a better understanding of their abundance and distribution in the New York Marine District.



# New Parenting and Wellness Blog

Child development and nutrition experts from CCE's Family Health and Wellness program launched a blog aimed at bringing parenting and wellness advice to families. Our professionals offer guidance on a variety of topics including positive discipline, bullying, cooking with children, physical activity and more.

[blogs.cornell.edu/ccesuffolkfhw](http://blogs.cornell.edu/ccesuffolkfhw)

*Our FHW experts reached over 22,000 residents in 2013 through workshops, outreach and social media.*



## Robotics

Suffolk County 4-H teams competed in a FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) robotics competition in December. Both our 4-H teams won first place awards at the Qualifying tournament--the Robot Crafters won for Robot Design and Strategy; and the Pioneers won for Research.

FIRST inspires young people's interest in science and technology. Teams develop strategy, build robots and compete.

# Learning and Playing with more than 3,000 Campers!

More than 3,000 campers joined us this year at our overnight and day camps in Peconic, East Hampton, Yaphank, Babylon, Southold and Northport. Our camps focus on environmental education through fun and hands-on learning.



# Creating Healthy Places in Suffolk

In 2013, we continued to promote healthy community improvements throughout Suffolk as part of our Creating Healthy Places to Live, Work and Play in Suffolk, a grant provided to us by New York State Department of Health.

As part of Creating Healthy Places, our Family Health and Wellness Program helped develop and sustain school and community gardens and farmers markets throughout the county, worked on bike trails, playgrounds and worked with businesses to help them offer healthier options to their customers. For example, the Riverhead Supermarket worked with us on a makeover intended to attract customers and increase the sale of fresh produce and water.



## Bolstering Eelgrass Beds

With the help of volunteers and funding from Long Island Sound Futures Fund, Suffolk County, and other sources, our Marine program staff restored vital eelgrass habitats in Suffolk waters through the Marine Meadows Program. In 2013, we held 11 workshops with 310 participants. We recorded 1,332 volunteer/workshop participant hours and prepared 30,830 shoots of eelgrass for restoration planting.



# Sustainable Vineyards



*Alice Wise, CCE Sr. Resource Educator, Viticulturist, has been working with industry colleagues for over 10 years to develop a sustainable viticulture program. The guidelines were fine-tuned recently to reflect environmental and economic challenges facing the industry. The Long Island Sustainable Winegrowing program advocates specific farming practices which are then verified by a third party certifier. Four decades ago, one 17-acre vineyard started on Long Island. Now, there are over 2,000 acres of grape vines, 56 wine producers, 42 wineries open to the public, 500,000 cases of wine and 1.3 million tourists annually.*



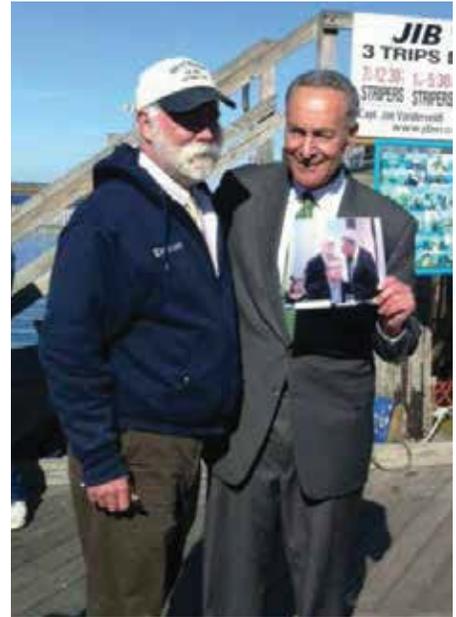
# Restoring Shellfish Populations

Our experts continue to restore the local shellfish populations through our publicly supported shellfish hatchery which produces clams, oysters and scallops used to seed local waters. We work with large numbers of volunteers across Suffolk County through our SPAT (Suffolk Project in Aquaculture Training) program. This work is important because shellfish not only filter the water—helping improve water quality—but they contribute millions of dollars in economic benefit to Suffolk County residents.



# Staff Accomplishments

(Right) We joined U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer and others to testify before the Senate Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard during a hearing in Washington DC. Marine program senior educator Emerson Hasbrouck testified in support of Schumer's proposal which would offer flexibility into commercial fishing industry limits.



(Left) Our popular canning and preserving workshops had sold out programs that garnered a good deal of attention. Family Health and Wellness educators Maryann Birmingham and Gerry Lake were featured in a N.Y. Times article and were awarded 'Educator of the Year' honors by the Cornell Cooperative Extension Metropolitan Region.



(Right) CCE Executive Director Vito Minei awarded Assistant Bookkeeper Caryn Yakaboski a meritorious service award for 40 years of service.



(Left) CCE educator Tracy Marcus earned the FIOS honor for "Outstanding Educational Program" for her marine education camps in Babylon—specifically for CCE's Sea Explorer's Camp, Shark Week.



(Right) CCE Agricultural Stewardship Coordinator Rebecca Wiseman was honored by Legislator Al Krupski for her leadership role in New York Agri-Women, which supports women in agriculture here on Long Island.

# Jazz Under The Harvest Moon

CCE held its first annual Jazz Under the Harvest Moon fundraiser at the Baiting Hollow Golf Club. The event was attended by supporters and staff who enjoyed local wine and seafood under September's Harvest Moon.



# Community Support

*Thank you to all of our friends and supporters.*

## **\$20,000 and over**

Education Foundation for Suffolk County Extension, Inc.

## **\$10,000 to \$19,999**

Graham Family Charitable Foundation  
Don Thompson

## **\$5000 to \$9999**

Timothy Hogue  
Moore Charitable Foundation

## **\$2000 to \$4999**

Andrew Sabin Family Foundation  
Barrier Beach Preservation Assoc, Inc.  
Flora and Irwin Garsten  
Richard J. Rudden

## **\$500 to \$1999**

Albert H. Schmitt and Sons  
Asberine Alford  
BAE Systems  
Bayport Flower Houses  
Tim Blenk, Tim Blenk Tree Care  
C J Van Bourgondien, Inc.  
Gina & Mark Cappiello  
Farm Credit East  
Lou Giancontieri  
April Gonzales  
April Gonzales Garden Design, Inc.  
Bruce and Catherine Herlich  
Jericho-Brookville Lions Club  
George LaMay, LaMay Tree Service  
Mike McInerney  
Vito and Lorraine Minei  
Richard and Nancy Olsen-Harbich  
Bob and Jackie Rogers  
Thomas W. Roush  
Herbert Strobel  
Alice & Jack Van de Wetering  
Westchester Community Foundation  
Charles Gamper Fund

## **\$250 to \$499**

Ronald Bush  
Kevin Cantwell  
Marilyn P. Corwith  
Eddy and Janny Creces, Koppert Cress USA  
John P. Daley  
Dawn House Movers  
DeLalio Sod Farms Inc.  
James Eustace

Connie and Rex Farr, The Farm  
Maureen Fiorello  
Joe Gergela, Long Island Farm Bureau  
Linda Gianelli  
Mary C. Golden  
Carol Ann and George Hochbrueckner  
Laura Hunsberger  
Clair Jernick  
Barbara Jordan  
Al and Mary Krupski  
Long Island Arboricultural Association  
M. DeLea and Sons  
Charles and Ursula Massoud  
Paumanok Vineyards  
Patrick McAsey  
Montauk Brewing Company, Inc.  
Dale D. Moyer  
Nassau-Suffolk Civil Engineers, Inc.  
Nawrocki Smith LLP  
Robert Nolan, Deer Run Farms LLC  
Douglas Pantazis  
Paumanok Oyster Company, Inc.  
John Prechtl  
Professional Landscape Association of Rockland County  
PW Grosser Consulting  
Charles F. Scheer, Jr.  
Suffolk County American Legion  
Suffolk County National Bank  
Town and Gardens Ltd.  
Darlene Widirstky  
Leila Zogby

## **\$100 to \$249**

William and Eva Andes  
Maureen Arma  
Jean Coakley  
Community Landscapers of Suffolk  
Vincent Daley, Farm Family Insurance  
Mark Davis, Bianchi-Davis Greenhouse  
Angela DeVito  
Eastport Feeds  
Casey Fenton  
Jeffrey M. Fetter  
Glover Perennials  
Mike Hagerman, Academy Printing Services  
Hampton Community Health Care  
Jane Hollander  
Jackson Dodds & Co., Inc.

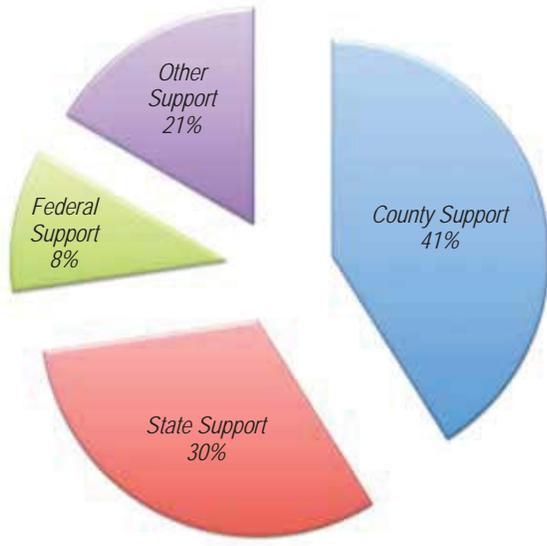
Joel Itzkowitz, Construction Consultants LI  
Tim and Donna Jahn  
LaCorte Farm and Lawn Equipment  
Peter Landre  
Gary Loesch, H2M Group  
Andrew Lowry  
Annette Maillard  
Timothy and Cynthia Maran  
Neely McCahey  
Collette Morgan  
Old Westbury Gardens  
Desmond O'Sullivan  
Nassau-Suffolk Landscape Gardeners Assoc.  
Brian Parker  
Cindy Philbin  
Cheryl Pufahl  
Michael Reilly  
Remi Wesnofske, Inc.  
Ross School  
Jeff Rottkamp, Jacob H. Rottkamp & Son, Inc.  
Albert and Dorothy Schmitt  
Susan Simons  
Salvatore Spizzirri  
Suffolk County Community College  
Talmage Farm  
Three Harbors Garden Club  
John C. Tuthill  
George Tvelia  
Carole Vande Velde  
VerDerBer's Nursery  
James Wojcik

## **Foundation Support**

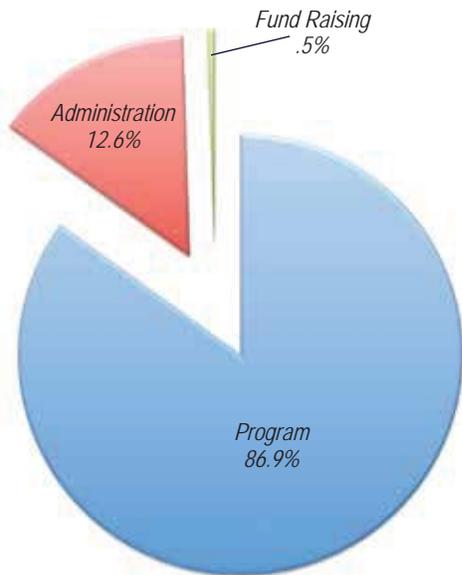
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
Bloomingdale's Fund of the Macy's Foundation  
Captain Planet Foundation  
Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation  
Empire State Development  
Family Service League  
Friends of Long Island Horticulture  
Long Island Community Foundation  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
National Grid  
New York Wine and Grape Foundation  
Pritchard Charitable Trust  
Seattle Foundation

# Financial Support

## 2013 Annual Resources Support



## 2013 Functional Expenditures



### County

Annual Appropriation . . . . .	2,604,624
Other County Support . . . . .	2,123,813
Other County/Value of Building Space . . . . .	1,013,502
<b>TOTAL COUNTY SUPPORT (41%). . . . .</b>	<b>\$5,741,939</b>

### State . . . . .

County Law 224 Formula . . . . .	231,416
Special Projects: Funded by the State through Cornell University . . . . .	23,626
Special Projects: Funded by the State Direct to Suffolk Extension . . . . .	390,996
Fringe Benefits . . . . .	3,470,777
<b>TOTAL STATE SUPPORT (30%) . . . . .</b>	<b>\$4,116,815</b>

### Federal

Smith Lever . . . . .	22,000
Expanded Food and Nutrition Program (EFNEP) . . . . .	115,237
Special Projects: Funded By Federal Funds through Cornell University . . . . .	89,516
Special Projects: Funded By Federal Funds Direct to Suffolk Extension . . . . .	947,596
<b>TOTAL FEDERAL SUPPORT (8%) . . . . .</b>	<b>\$1,174,349</b>

### Other Sources of Support. . . . .

Enrollment Fees, Program Participation Fees . . . . .	1,577,353
Sale of Equipment, Income from Publications, Dividend Income, Interest, Facilities Use, Fundraising, Miscellaneous Sources . . . . .	225,354
Restricted and Unrestricted Contributions . . . . .	229,226
Special Projects: Funded through Cornell University . . . . .	18,130
Special Projects: Funded by Local Agency or other Sources . . . . .	824,943
<b>TOTAL OTHER SOURCES OF SUPPORT (21%). . . . .</b>	<b>\$2,875,006</b>

**GRAND TOTAL OF ALL SUPPORT . . . . . \$13,908,109**

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 2013, 1,189 volunteers contributed 29,392 hours valued at \$650,740. Included in the accounting records is the value of donated materials and supplies, as well as equipment and facilities usage, with a value totaling \$85,116.

# Site Locations

## 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*  
c/o The Town of Babylon, Buildings and Grounds,  
999 N. Indiana Ave., Lindenhurst, NY 11757  
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, 9:00 am to Noon  
FAX: 631-727-7130

*Western Suffolk*  
Bayard Cutting Arboretum, Montauk Highway  
P.O. Box 463, Oakdale, NY 11769-0463  
Lab Hours: Tues. - Fri. -- 8:30 am to 4:30 pm  
Hort Info Line: 631-581-4223; Tues. - 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  
631-852-8627 • FAX: 631-852-8628  
Nature Center: 631-852-8629

## Sport Fishing Education Center

P.O. Box 373, Ocean Parkway, Babylon, NY 11702  
631-587-2873 • FAX: 631-587-2392

## 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

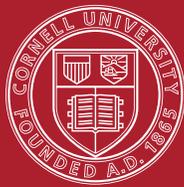
3690 Cedar Beach Road, Southold, NY 11971  
631-852-8660 • FAX: 631-852-8662

## Western Suffolk Marine Education Program

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

Visit us at our website: [www.ccesuffolk.org](http://www.ccesuffolk.org)





Cornell University  
Cooperative Extension  
of Suffolk County

*Strengthening Families and Communities*

*Protecting and Enhancing the Environment*

*Fostering Economic Development*

*Promoting Sustainable Agriculture*

