

BUILD YOUR NETWORK, GROW OUR FUTURE

*A networking event to strengthen Connecticut's agricultural community
(This program is designed for farmers within their first 10 years of commercial production)*

Wednesday 2/19, 8:30 am to 1:30 pm [snow date 2/20]
Scout Hall Youth Center, 28 Abbe Road, East Windsor, CT

AGENDA

- 8:30 Registration/Coffee (BYO drink container please!)
- 9:00 Goals of the day, welcome from sponsors
- 9:15 Ice Breaker
- 9:30 **Guest Speaker:** Wes Hannah, Organizer & Communications, National Young Farmers Coalition - Why do networks matter? How are young farmers organizing? How do these networks engage service providers?
- 10:00 Flip Chart Activity & BREAK
- 10:30 Service Provider checklist
- 10:35 Protecting your investment – Insuring your business. Joint presentation by Joe Bonelli, UConn Extension, Bryan Hurlburt, Farm Services Agency, Lisa Coverdale, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- 11:00 Breakout - select **three** separate breakouts (30 minutes each). These are farmer-driven discussions to provide an opportunity for farmers to ask questions and share issues with service providers.

FINANCES	Access to credit, financial accounting and business management, insurance	Farm Credit East Farm Services Agency UConn Extension
CONSERVATION & PRODUCTION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	Pest management, weed management, soil health, sustainable agriculture practices, management of natural resources	CT Agriculture Experiment Station CT NOFA Natural Resources Conservation Service UConn Extension
LAND ACCESS	Farm seeking, farm linking, farmland evaluation	CT Dept. of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service UConn Extension/American Farmland Trust
MARKETING & SALES	Farmers Market coupons, WIC checks, 10% Campaign, CT Grown branding	CitySeed CT Dept. of Agriculture CT Dept. of Public Health UConn Extension
LEGAL ASPECTS	Registering farm business, state & local regulation, FSMA	CT Dept. of Agriculture CT Farm Bureau Association

- 12:30 LUNCH
- 1:30 WRAP UP - What is most exciting? What feels most pressing? Announcements.
- 2:00 – 3:30 *OPTIONAL opportunity to meet one-on-one with service providers!*

Planning Committee:

- Bryan Hurlburt – USDA Farm Services Agency
- Jiff Martin – UConn Extension
- Joseph Bonelli – UConn Extension/CT Risk Management Education
- Lisa Coverdale – USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Maggie Saska – Community Farm of Simsbury
- Susan Mitchell - New CT Farmer Alliance

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS EVENT, BUT PLEASE RSVP SO WE HAVE ENOUGH FOOD! RSVP BY 2/14 TO: nancy.barrett@uconn.edu

This Program is a cooperative effort of New CT Farmer Alliance, the University of Connecticut Extension System, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, and the Risk Management Agency/USDA.

New Connecticut Farmer Alliance

