



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension



HELPING NEW YORKERS MAKE INFORMED ENERGY CHOICES

CCE ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Energy-related issues are already affecting families, farms, and communities all across New York State. And most of the economic, societal, and environmental issues affecting the future well-being of New Yorkers have an energy underpinning. Whether the local discussion is prompted by Marcellus shale, renewable wind energy, carbon tax credits, changing weather patterns, the development of biomass fuel production, the reduction of household or business energy costs, or land and water use decisions, the discussion is occurring.

Cornell Cooperative Extension, a long-trusted resource, is being asked to help, so CCE is making new investments in energy and climate change programming to address the energy concerns of families, farms, and communities. We have developed a comprehensive, cross-disciplinary approach that integrates research, policy formation, and outreach education to help New Yorkers make informed energy choices.

CCE's Energy and Climate Change Programs will increase and promote:

- energy literacy for youth, households, farms, businesses, and communities
- informed decision-making on complex issues related to energy, water, land use, and climate
- stewardship of viable energy and natural resources
- local production and use of fuel and energy where feasible and sustainable

As part of Cornell, New York's Land Grant University, Cornell Cooperative Extension is charged to respond to Federal and State priorities, and to work with other agencies and partner organizations on a local and regional level.

Federal

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture, "NIFA," was established by the 2009 Federal Farm Bill in part to serve the nation's energy needs by supporting exemplary research and extension education in two priority areas: Climate Change and Sustainable Energy. CCE will actively pursue available federal and other external funding to support additional research and programming in these important areas.



New York State

All New Yorkers benefit from efforts which stimulate innovation and use energy more efficiently. In late 2009 New York State adopted a new Energy Plan that “sets forth a vision for a robust and innovative clean energy economy that will stimulate investment, create jobs, and meet the energy needs of residents and businesses over its 10-year planning horizon.” Cornell Cooperative Extension’s energy and climate programs align with the New York Plan’s objectives. We work with citizens and businesses to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to changes in our climate. Our comprehensive efforts range across broad areas and will include, for example: managing new pests, preparing for new drought and flood patterns, addressing energy-related affordability concerns, reducing health and environmental risks associated with the production and use of energy, and developing in-state energy supply resources.

Besides providing education on use and production of energy, CCE is involved in energy at the policy level as a member of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority’s NYS Energy Policy Institute. We have provided formal and informal input to a number of New York State initiatives and participate in NYSERDA’s current Agriculture Energy Efficiency Program.

Partnerships

Partnerships are key. CCE will fully capitalize on the research and resources of Cornell University and its Agricultural Experiment Station and with the NYS Ag Experiment Station. It will build on existing relationships with state agencies, other universities, statewide organizations, and—importantly—local people.

Cornell Cooperative Extension Energy and Climate Change Program Impact

CCE is working to help New Yorkers in families, on farms, and in communities learn more about:

- energy production, consumption, impacts, and alternatives
- reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- adapt to changes in our climate
- prepare for opportunities in a new energy future

Whether managing new pests or preparing for new drought and flood patterns, reducing home and business energy costs, or providing research knowledge about biofuels and renewable sources, Cornell Cooperative Extension’s Energy and Climate Programs help New Yorkers make informed choices to make better energy outcomes for all.

Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Learn more about Cornell Cooperative Extension at www.cce.cornell.edu