

Sustainable Agriculture Educator/Land Protection Specialist
Position Description
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County/Finger Lakes Land Trust

Position Title: Sustainable Agriculture Educator

Classification title: Association Community Educator

Association Name: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County

Supervisors: Peter Landre, Executive Director, Ag Program Leader, Yates County
Andrew Zepp, Executive Director, Finger Lakes Land Trust

Date: August 1, 2009 or until suitable candidate found

Term: Position funded 50% by CCE Yates and 50% Finger Lakes Land Trust

General Responsibilities:

Under the leadership and guidance of Executive Director/Ag Program Leader (APL) of CCE and the Executive Director of the Finger Lakes Land Trust (FLLT), the Sustainable Ag Educator/Agricultural Land Protection Specialist will coordinate and implement land protection and sustainable agriculture programs. Activities will include participation in the Finger Lakes Sustainable Farming Center program, Yates County Ag and Farmland Protection Program, and other land protection efforts identify by CCE and FLLT within Yates and other Finger Lakes counties. Additional general agriculture programs include oversight of the Yates County Master Gardener Program.

Program delivery (40%)

- Develop and deliver presentations for diverse audiences on sustainable agriculture and land protection.
- Write newsletter articles and electronic articles on topics related to sustainable agriculture and land protection for CCE and FLLT.
- Work with farmers, landowners, FLLT, SWCD, county and NYS Dept of Ag and Markets to complete land protection projects.

Program Development (40%)

- Work with landowners to develop proposals for the county and state farmland protection implementation program (FPIG).
- Develop educational materials for the CCE, FLSFC and FLLT web sites.
- Plan and support the development of workshops and conferences sponsored by CCE, FLSFC and FLLT

Program Management (20%)

- Assist APL and FLLT executive director in administrative and program management activities, as assigned.

- Help plan and participate in Finger Lakes Sustainable Farming Center steering committee meetings to plan project activities.
- Participate in Yates County Ag and Farmland Protection Board meetings.
- Organize Master Gardener program and attend monthly meetings.
- Assist APL and the FLLT executive director in preparing reports for funding agencies.
- Use CCE Yates County office procedures/policies for communication, documentation, work requests, and schedule availability.
- Assist in preparing proposals for continued program funding.
- Prepare impact statements, progress reports, and news releases as directed.

Professional Improvement

- Attend relevant in-service education and subject area education programs.
- Develop professional improvement goals on an annual basis as part of the CCE Annual Performance Management review.

Reporting Relationship:

- Supervision and guidance from Executive Director of CCE Yates and FLLT Executive Director.

Degree and Experience Requirement:

Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, Natural Resources, or related area
 Experience with land protection and/or sustainable agriculture desirable
 Experience developing and delivering educational programs

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Ability to communicate effectively in oral, written, and electronic formats
- Demonstrated writing ability
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Organized and detail oriented
- Ability to work with diverse audiences
- Ability to seek out and initiate contacts with resource people at Cornell and in the industry as needed
- Ability to work with both academic and industry team members
- Familiarity with electronic technology
- Familiarity with farming practices
- Familiarity with land protection
- Familiarity with best management practices
- Ability to work occasionally outside of normal working hours

Other Requirements:

- Appropriate and reliable transportation for calling on producers and industry partners.
- Valid driver license

APPLICATIONS will be reviewed beginning on 8/1/2009, or until an acceptable pool of applicants has been identified.

Send letter of intent, resume and completed CCE application to: Cornell Cooperative Extension of Yates County, Attn: Sustainable Agriculture Educator, 417 Liberty Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527

****Individuals who bring a diverse perspective and are supportive of diversity are strongly encouraged to apply. EOE.**